



Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026

PRELUDE

The Day of Resurrection (arr. Craig Curry)

Jazz Team

WELCOME

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

C O Lord, our God, we give you thanks for the gift of baptism.

P O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the new life you raise up in us.

C Empower us to be living signs of your new heaven and new earth as we join your work in the world.

P Blessed be God, who calls us Beloved, + Jesus who bears the cross, and the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us confess our sin and acknowledge our brokenness in the presence of God and one another.

Kneel or sit. Silence is kept for reflection.

P Steadfast and faithful God,

C you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the path to join your work in the world; In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P Beloved in Christ, God's grace stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright (ELW 384)

- 1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!
- 2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.
- 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.
- 4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise

GREETING

P The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

(Sing BOLD line responsively with the cantor)

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,

Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;

for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,

Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;

that we may live out truth and justice and grace,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,

Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;

for life and for love, for our work and our play,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,

Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;

that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,

Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,

and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,

**for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O Lord God,
C you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

R Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 1

Cantor: O Lord, into your hands, I commend my spirit.

Refrain O Lord, into your hands, I commend my spirit.

C ¹ In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;
deliver me | in your righteousness.

All ² **Incline your | ear to me;
make haste to de- | liver me.**

C ³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag | and my

stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.

All ⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,
for you are my tow- | er of strength.**

Refrain **O Lord, into your hands, I commend my spirit.**

C ⁵ Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, | God of truth.

All ¹⁵ **My times are | in your hand;
Rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute
me.**

C ¹⁶ Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love.”

Refrain **O Lord, into your hands, I commend my spirit..**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸ and “A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

R Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!

Christ is risen, alleluia!

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Andrew Kitzing

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Jesus, I Have Promised (ELW 810)

1 O Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me,
my master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide.

- 2 Oh, let me feel you near me;
the world is ever near.
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer
to shield my soul from sin.
- 3 Oh, let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will.
Now speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
now speak and make me listen,
O Guardian of my soul.
- 4 O Jesus, you have promised
to all who follow you
that where you are in glory
your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
oh, give me grace to follow,
my master and my friend.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

APOSTLES' CREED

- P** God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,

**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS (*Sing as opening and closing of the prayer*)

Lord Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST IS SHARED

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

NOISY OFFERING

OUR OFFERINGS ARE GATHERED

Our gratitude is expressed in gifts for the church's mission and the world's needs. Music invites us to reflect.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Jazz Team

P To God be the glory.

C **Amen.**

OFFERTORY HYMN

At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious king,
who has washed us in the tide
flowing from his wounded side. Alleluia!
Father, who the crown shall give,

Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, your name we praise.
Alleluia!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Risen One,
C **you call us to believe and bear fruit. Make the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
P It is indeed... *(here the minister continues with the proper preface, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

P We pray in confidence in the words Jesus gave us:
C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION

P Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
Grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION MUSIC

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (arr. Matt Hyzer)

Spencer Janssen, trombone; Paul Runyan, baritone

COMMUNION HYMNS

I Received the Living God (ELW 477)

Refrain

I received the living God,
and my heart is full of joy.

I received the living God,
and my heart is full of joy.

- 1 Jesus said: I am the bread,
kneaded long to give you life;
you who will partake of me
need not ever fear to die. *Refrain*
- 2 Jesus said: I am the way,
and my Father longs for you;
so I come to bring you home
to be one with us anew. *Refrain*
- 3 Jesus said: I am the truth;

come and follow close to me.
You will know me in your heart,
and my word shall make you free. *Refrain*

- 4 Jesus said: I am the life,
far from whom no thing can grow,
but receive this living bread,
and my Spirit you shall know. *Refrain*

You Are the Way (ELW 758)

1 You are the way; through you alone
can we the Father find;
in you, O Christ, has God revealed
his heart, his will, his mind!

2 You are the truth; your word alone
true wisdom can impart;
you only can inform the mind
and purify the heart.

3 You are the life; the rending tomb
proclaims your conqu'ring arm;
and those who put their trust in you
not death nor hell shall harm.

4 You are the way, the truth, the life;
grant us that way to know,
that truth to keep, that life to win,
whose joys eternal flow.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. Holy One,

C through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia! (ELW 364)

- 1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!

- 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo,
and in its conquest his might did show. *Refrain*
- 3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear.
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
Only the graveclothes are lying there." *Refrain*
- 4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.

Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*

- 5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain*

SENDING WORDS

P Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Jesus Shall Reign (arr. Bradley Sowash)

Jazz Team: Saxophone: Kristi & Dakota Fisher

Trombone: Spencer Janssen

Baritone: Tony Anderson, Paul Ruyan

Bass: Bennett Bacon

Drums: Martha Tanner

Lead Pastor: Erin Heidelberger

Associate Pastor: Andrew Kitzing

Cantor: Kristi Fisher

Livestream: Kathleen Simley

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