



RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMC

NEW LIFE + FOR NOW + FOREVER   

1735 E Main Street - Mankato, MN 56001 | 507-345-4455

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | Sunday, April 28, 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE INVOCATION *and* GATHERING PRAYER

P: We gather under the sign of the cross, and in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: Life-giving God, through the blessed gift and sacrament of Holy Baptism, you abide in us, even as we abide in you. Through this holy and mutual abiding, you give us life in Christ and strengthen and nurture our faith just as a vine gives life to its branches. Help us to grow in Christ so that we may be sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: *Where Charity and Love Prevail* (see back of bulletin)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN

P: The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence, drawing near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find help in times of need. Christ, the light of the world, has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Gracious God,

C: We confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and

forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You, who were lost, are found. Hear the good news of the Gospel: in accordance to the command of our Lord Jesus, and by his authority alone, I forgive you the entirety of all your sins.

C: Amen.

THE HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music. The first system is for Soprano and Alto, with lyrics: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, Lord God of". The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics: "hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The third system is for piano accompaniment, with lyrics: "san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes". The fourth system continues the piano accompaniment with lyrics: "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the". The fifth system concludes the piece with lyrics: "high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The score includes various musical notations such as treble clefs, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and dynamic markings like *div.* and *unis.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-39

Philip's journey led him to a road between Jerusalem and Gaza where he encountered an Ethiopian eunuch reading scripture from the prophet Isaiah. Philip seized the opportunity to explain the scripture to the Ethiopian and preach the Good News concerning Jesus to him.

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who

was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 150

Praise the Lord in all ways, in all places, and at all times. The psalmist proclaims "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."

R: Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!

C: Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!

R: Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

C: Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

R: Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

C: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:1-11

The message here continues John's theme of love. Again, the emphasis is on actions that display love as the hallmark of divine love. No matter how eloquently we speak of love, if our actions are the antithesis of our words, then God's love is not in us.

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of

God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.⁴ Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.⁵ They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them.⁶ We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL READING: John 15:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 15th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in

me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON: Connected to Christ

HYMN OF THE DAY: Day by Day.....RECLAIM No. 210

OFFERING PRESENTATION

As the usher brings forward the offering, please stand to sing:



Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

C: And also with you.

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in this peace and in community with one another, let us confess our faith:

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

CHOIR ANTHEM: God Shall Direct Thy Paths (by Greg Gilpin)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends with the words "Lord, in your mercy." Respond by saying, "Hear our prayer."

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN: Leaning on the Everlasting Arms.....RECLAIM No. 208

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, loving and serving in the name of our crucified and risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch

Keyboardist: Wendy LaFavor

Reader: Helen Meschke

Ushers: Brad Matthes and Doug Mayer

Greeters: Myrna Chamberlain and Karen Junker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Worship! Resurrection Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and cross-focused member congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. Members and visitors are encouraged to sign the **friendship pad** at the end of your pew.

Mankato & North Mankato ACT on Alzheimer's presents Singing Hills Chorus *"Travelin' Tunes Concert"* on Saturday, May 11th at 1:00pm at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mankato. General admission tickets are \$10. Email katoactonalz@gmail.com for more information on tickets. A reception will follow the concert.

Resurrection Lutheran's **National Day of Prayer worship service** will be held this Thursday, May 2, 2024 at noon. Special guests, The Mankato Riverblenders, will sing throughout the service. Please join us as we offer petitions for our American families, churches, businesses, educators, military members, government officials and media.

Join the ladies of Resurrection Lutheran Church for our first annual **Women's Retreat** to be held on Saturday, May 18th from 9:00am to 3:30pm. The theme *"Bloom Where You're Planted"* will help participants find contentment and peace through whatever situations they encounter in life. More information can be found on registration flyers in the narthex. Come enjoy uplifting worship, engaging speakers, and inspiring fellowship!

Birthdays this week: Ni Aivo Rakotondrainibe (29th), Bob Kellogg (29th), Carol Severson (1st)

THIS WEEK AT RESURRECTION LUTHERAN

Sunday	April 28	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship/Sunday School
Monday	April 29	10:00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	May 1	Noon	Lectionary Lunch
		1:00pm	Women's Bible Study
		2:30pm	Worship Committee Meeting
		5:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
		6:30pm	Book Discussion
Thursday	May 2	8:00am	Men's Bible Study
		Noon	National Day of Prayer Service
Sunday	May 5	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship/Sunday School

Where Charity and Love Prevail



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known: let all con - ten - tions cease.



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn,
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek: be his our on - ly peace.

- 5 For love excludes no race or clan
that names the Savior's name:
his family embraces all
whose Father is the same.
- 6 We now forgive each other's faults
as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well
in Christian gentleness.

Text: Latin hymn; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

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