

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

810-364-7081

1023 Michigan Ave. Marysville, MI 48040

Our Mission

Journeying together in love for God and for all people.

Our Vision

A world where all people will experience love
and know their value in the eyes of God.

Welcome to Worship!

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

The Unconditional Love of Disciple-Friends

Friend requests are a common feature of Facebook and similar digital platforms. When it comes to social media, "friends" are just a click away. But there is no automatic guarantee of accountability, warmth, relationship, or true belonging in a virtual community. In stark contrast, Jesus invites the disciples to become part of a community where selfless, sacrificial, unconditional agape love is the core criterion. The kingdom, or "kin-dom," of God is present wherever God's people are affirmed as children of God and siblings in Christ. But Jesus gives his disciples an additional identity: that of "friends."

In the new status Jesus confers on his disciples, the single most important criterion is love, including the readiness to lay down one's life for another. Jesus has just taught this lesson by example when he washed the feet of his disciples, including Judas Iscariot. The new commandment to love one another as Jesus loved us summarizes the whole of the gospel mandate. It is not an easy commandment by any human standards, but it is possible because Jesus himself showed us the way and forgives us when we fall short. The status of "disciple-friends" is not a request for the church, but a faith mandate.

How can we live as disciple-friends of Jesus in this world? When we believe, trust, obey, and follow the word, and the new commandment Jesus gave his disciples, a real new community is born. When we learn to embrace the other—those who are marginalized and "othered"—we partner with God in enabling the image of God to blossom to its fullest.

ELW = red hymnal

ACS = purple hymnal

Gathering

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

Prelude

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
The wellspring of grace,
Our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

...In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.
Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

...We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

ELW 656

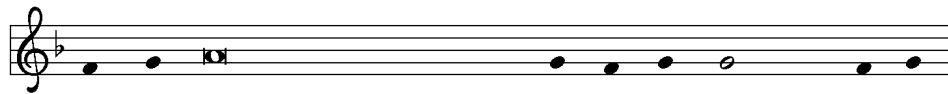
Greeting

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

Kyrie



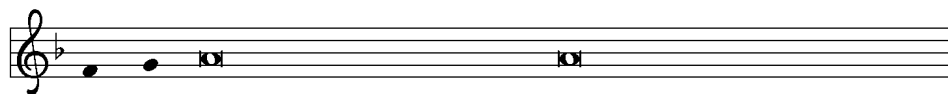
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



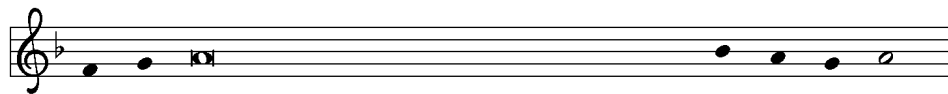
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



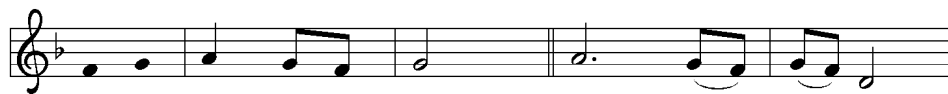
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Continues on next page

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

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

Choir

"There Will I Be"

by Craig Courtney

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

After the reading: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

All sing:

**My Jesus, my Savior,
 Lord, there is none like you.
 All of my days I want to praise
 the wonders of your mighty love.
 My comfort, my shelter,**

**tower of refuge and strength;
let ev'ry breath, all that I am
never cease to worship you.**

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.**

Spoken responsively:

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

All sing:

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.**

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

After the reading: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Pastor sings the proper verse:

Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

Repeat Alleluia.

Gospel: John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

Before the reading: The holy gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Mike Opfermann

Hymn of the Day

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 836

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

*We respond to each petition: God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

At this time, we share God's peace with our neighbors. Congregation is then seated for the offering.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

The Table is prepared as offering and worship record cards are collected and brought forward.

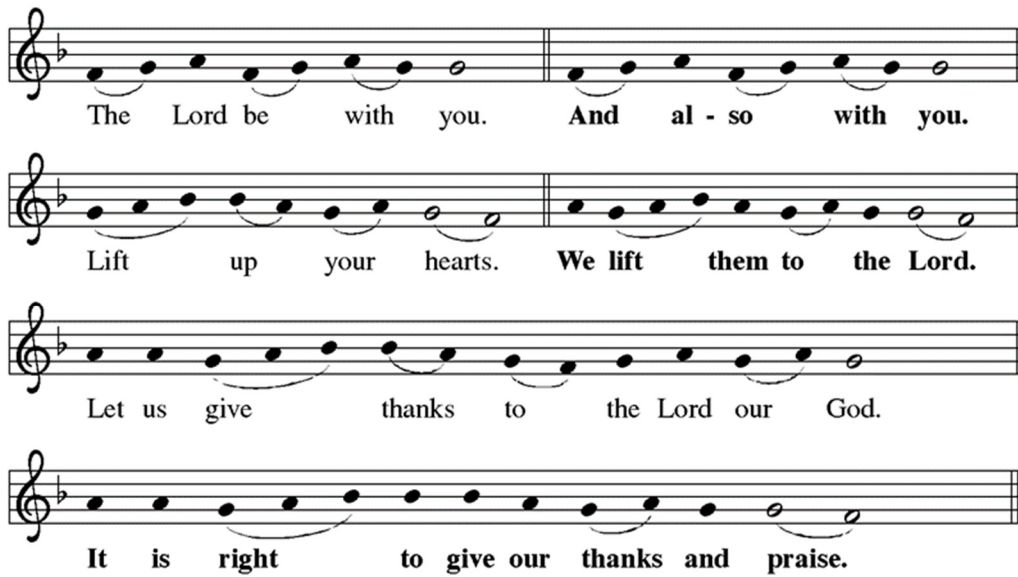
Offertory

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May 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

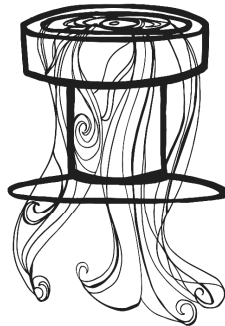


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...

...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

...To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

Thanks be to God.


Communion

All are welcome to Christ's table!

In this meal, we meet Jesus and the expansive life He brings. An usher will invite you forward to receive bread from Pastor. You can then receive red wine from the chalice or an individual cup. White grape juice is also available in individual cups. As you return down the side aisle, you may dispose of your cup in the basket. If you would like to receive communion from Pastor, but are unable to come up front, please let an usher know and Pastor will come to you.



Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Songs

I Come with Joy
One Bread, One Body

ELW 482
ELW 496

Table Blessing

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

Amen.

Song After Communion

Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Prayer after Communion

Shepherding God,
**you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
Amen.**

Sending

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

Sending of Communion

Announcements

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✝ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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Join us next Sunday:

Jesus prays for his disciples:

“Protect them in your name”





The Beacon: Pilgrim's Weekly E-news



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SERVING IN WORSHIP

	This Morning May 5	Next Sunday May 12
Musician:	Cindy Rogers	David Russell
Worship Assistant:	Rick Carlson	Sally McDonald
Worship Coordinator:	Sue Winzeler	Mark White
Usher:	Tom Roehl	Alex Merkau
Acolyte:	Keagan Mischka	Owen Jackson
Reader:	Sandy Roehl	Steve Kennedy
Communion Assistant:	Lynn Winzeler	Dennis Smith
Greeter:	Anita Varty	Robie Clearwood
Coffee Bar Attendant:	Rick Carlson	Fred & Jean Russell
Coffee With Luther Host:	The Opfermanns	Fred & Jean Russell
Altar Guild:	Tammy Bakko Jenna Jackson	Gale Smith Judy M. & Barb H.
Bread Baker:	Tammy Bakko	Judy McCarthy
Offering Tellers:	Fred R. & Doreen V. Jean R. & Mike M.	Tammy Bakko Ann Herrick

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are given in honor of Carleen Jordan's 55th birthday.

Stay Connected

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Pastor Mike: plcpastor@pilgrimchurchofmarysville.org
Michelle, Dir. of Music: plcmusic@pilgrimchurchofmarysville.org
Sheri, Office Manager: plcoffice@pilgrimchurchofmarysville.org

WIFI: PILGRIM Password: YouAreLoved

Next Week's Texts

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

