

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 29, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Worship from home remotely, led from Zion's Lutheran Church

**Welcome friends and guests:** It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

**Worship Service:** In God's Boundless Diversity, we are all made in God's image! If you are visiting or new to our faith family, please fill out the guest card and put it in the offering plate so we have a record of your presence today. Come back and worship each Sunday. *We continue to be mindful of the different ways people are health compromised that may not be known.* So please continue to practice healthy community habits such as stay home when you are sick, wash hands, observe social distancing. Masks are at the discretion of each individual.

**Holy Communion:** The Sacrament is offered to all worshiping with us. Zoom congregants, have your bread/wafer and juice/wine ready. Those worshiping in person may come forward for the sacraments or, cross your arms across your chest for a blessing instead.

**Fellowship:** Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for snacks, coffee, etc. and good conversation.

**Other Information:** Large print bulletins are available from our ushers. Restrooms are in the Fellowship Hall adjoining the sanctuary. Our ushers can direct you. ~Gathering~

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

## Call to Worship

The Spirit of God bids us, "Come." Let everyone who hears within their hearts "Come." Hear the whole earth rejoice and the coastlands sing of our God's steadfast love.

## We come to rejoice in the Holy One, our God. We give thanks for God sets us free!

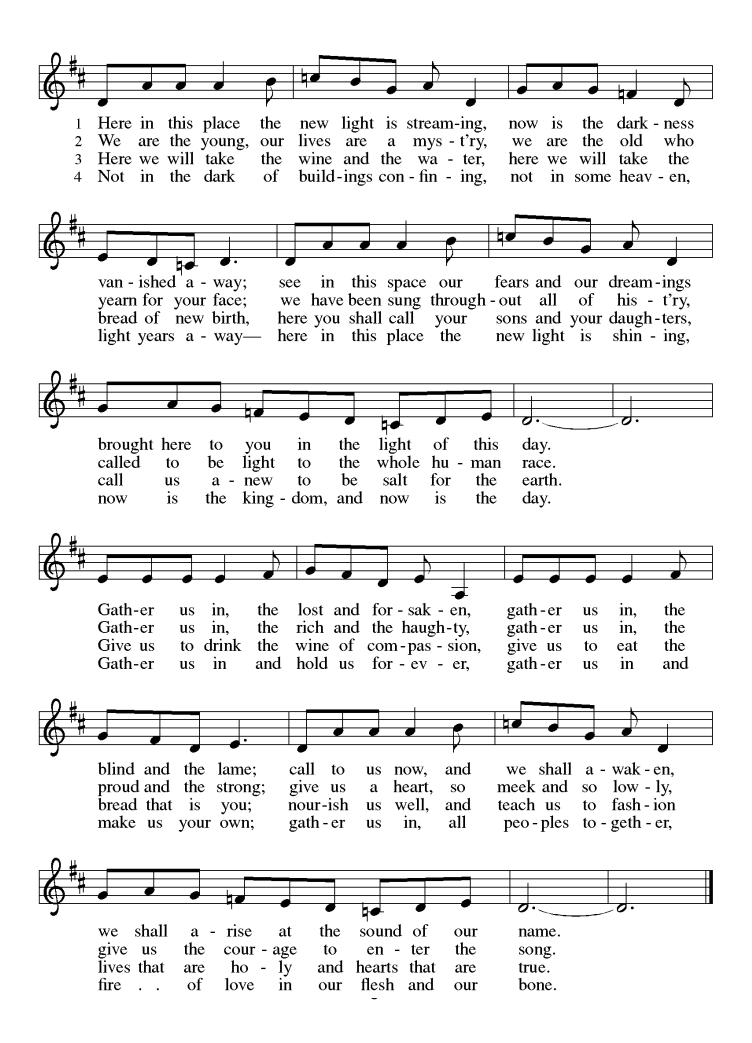
Let everyone who is thirsty for the Spirit "Come." Let anyone who wishes "Come," and receive the water of life as a gift.

We come to rejoice in the Holy One, our God. We give thanks for God's steadfast love that brings joy to our hearts in the night, lights our lives like the dawn, and sets us free. Amen.

## **Opening Prayer**

Let us Pray. Most wonderful God, before your glory we are like vagabonds, and compared with your seamless love ours love is as rags. Yet you have chosen to exalt us, and treat us as your own children in the family of the church. Grant, we pray, that your whole church, in every race and denomination, may sing its praise with one harmonious voice, and serve the world with one inclusive love. Let our worship and mission, our fellowship and our attitudes, witness to your love and declare your glory. Through Christ Jesus our redeemer. **Amen**.

Gathering Hymn: #532 Gather Us In (next page)



## 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.

### **Confession & Forgiveness**

Enslaved to sin, we cannot see the lives we lead, God of Glory. Each day, and every day, there are those times when we ignore you and your dreams for us. Each week, and every week, we find the time to ridicule others, when we could have affirmed them. Each moment, and every moment, though we do not want to admit it, we seek our own way rather than following your path of joy and obedience. We come asking forgiveness for our foolish lives, Eternal Blessing. Deliver us, and break the chains of sin and death which hold us captive. Open us to that grace you offer, and give us the gift of the Spirit so we may live as people of the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### Words of Assurance

In the beginning was God, and at the end will be God, and in every moment in between, there is God: creating, redeeming, and sustaining us. And through Christ, gracious love is poured into our empty souls; through the Spirit, peace becomes the gift we can share with those around us. Thanks be to God.

Kyrie (next page)



#### **Prayer of the Day**

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ 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.

#### **Children's Time**

Children of all ages, please come forward

#### First Reading: Acts 16:16-34

A reading from Acts

<sup>16</sup>One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup>While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation."

<sup>18</sup>She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.<sup>19</sup>But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup>When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup>and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." <sup>22</sup>The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup>After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup>Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. <sup>25</sup>About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup>When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." <sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup>They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

<sup>32</sup>They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup>At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup>He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

## Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

## Psalm: 97 (Read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.

# <sup>2</sup>Clouds and darkness surround the Lord, righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.

<sup>3</sup>Fire goes before the Lord, burning up enemies on every side.

# <sup>4</sup>Lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

<sup>5</sup>The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth.

## <sup>6</sup>The heavens declare your righteousness, O Lord, and all the peoples see your glory.

<sup>7</sup>Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Bow down before the Lord, all you gods.

## <sup>8</sup>Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O Lord.

<sup>9</sup>For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

## <sup>10</sup>You who love the Lord, hate evil! God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

<sup>11</sup>Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the honest of heart.

## <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name.

### Second Reading: 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

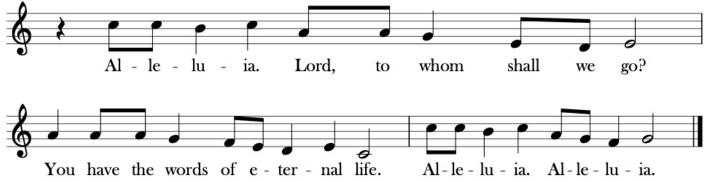
A reading from Revelation

<sup>12</sup>"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. <sup>13</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." <sup>14</sup>Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. <sup>16</sup>"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." <sup>17</sup>The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. <sup>20</sup>The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! <sup>21</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

## Thanks be to God

## **Gospel Acclamation**



## Gospel: John 17:20-26

The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord. [Jesus prayed:]<sup>20</sup>"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup>that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup>The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, <sup>23</sup>I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. <sup>24</sup>Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup>"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup>I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

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

### Sermon – Jeff Smith

Hymn of the Day: #720 We Are Called (next page)



### **Prayers of Intercession**

Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love.

God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

O God, whose beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them: Give us grace to entrust your beloved children of Uvalde, Texas, to your everlasting care and love, and bring them fully into your heavenly kingdom. Pour out your grace and loving-kindness on all who grieve; surround them with your love; and restore their trust in your goodness. We lift up to you our weary, wounded souls and ask you to send your Holy Spirit to take away the anger and violence that infects our hearts. Make us instruments of your peace and children of the light.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians, including those in Ukraine. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by mourning, illness, depression, or constant worry especially...Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymnwriters. Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence. Accompany us at Zion's during our congregational time of transition, grant us the peace that passes all understanding that only you can give us. Surround us with your peace.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

#### Amen.

#### Peace

Let us greet one another as a sign of God's peace and of our shared friendship and love for one another and for all who seek you. The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** 

~Meal~

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## Offering

Today's 5th Sunday Offering supports ACTS, our ministry to help those in need locally.

An offering is gathered for missions of the church. You also can give using check or cash (mail to 510 Pine Street), or online at: <u>https://tithe.ly/give\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1334741</u>



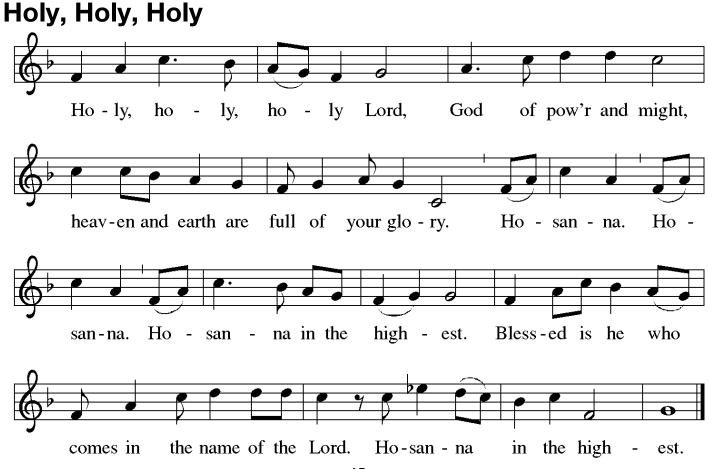
### **Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

## **Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.** 

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

## We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

## We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

## We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

## Christ has died.

## Christ is risen.

### Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.** 

### Lord's Prayer

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**

Everyone is welcomed at God's table.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

#### **Distribution of Sacrament of Holy Communion:**

**Communion Hymn:** *I Pray That They All May be One*, special music. by Melodie Langosa

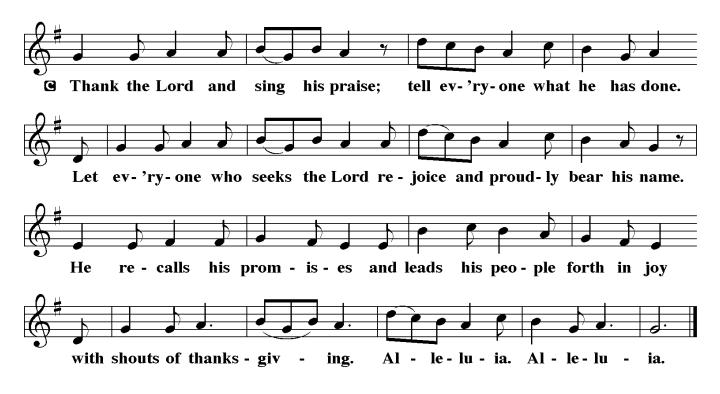
**Communion Hymn #496** *One Bread, One Body* (next page)



#### **Communion Blessing**

May the body & blood of Jesus, strengthen us, preserve us, and unite us in Love. **Amen.** 

Song of Thanksgiving (next page)



#### **Communion Prayer**

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

~Sending~

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

#### Announcements

#### **Blessing & Benediction**

Go now in peace, for Christ has called you to live in peace among your brothers and sisters in Christ. Go now in courage, for Christ has called you from the places of your life to be agents of redemption and partners in healing. Go now in joy and thanksgiving, for Christ is our light! Go now as one body, to love and serve God as you love and serve the world! **Amen.** 

Sending Hymn: #453 Baptized and Set Free

1 We at - ed, are peo - ple cre cho - sen by God. 2 We and we're nour - ished, and freshed. are fed filled re -3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter. all liv ing things, 4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song. Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love. hun - ger Then our re turns and a - gain we are blessed. by life the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings. and that sing loud A11 are wel - come! We gath - er to and strong. Je - sus o - pened door Sin has pow - er more. the no For what - ev - er the need. God is great - er in deed: we jour - ney toward home, may your pres-ence be known: As Not en-slaved, but free! will set From now on, all be a foun-tain bring-ing heal-ing, and whole-ness and more. to end-less o - cean, al-ways deep - er than all of our need. ev - er - flow - ing, now pre-cious riv - er, home. car - ry us one in wa - ter, bap - tized and free! one in Je - sus, set

#### Dismissal

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord... In the name of Christ. Amen.

#### ~Announcements~

#### Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 29, 2022

Worship Leaders: Jeff Smith, Julie Wersal, and Carol Smith Zoom Leaders: Sharon Sorenson & Ernie Parker Music: Connie Pallone, Melodie Langosa, and Sharon Sorenson Ushers: TBD

Communion: Jo Moss and Hailey Bearden

Flowers: Presented by Carol Schulzkump in remembrance of her mom's birthday on May 29 and for the anniversary of daughter Katy and wife Nicky's anniversary, also on the 29th.

- Sunday Morning Bible Study will resume on June 12. •
- Fellowship time follows morning worship and is in the Fellowship Hall.
- Bread & Belonging Our high school/college ministry is on summer hiatus.
- Thank you to our many 5 Loaves volunteers who helped prepared and/or deliver more than 225 meals to 103 families in the Trinidad area. We are looking for a volunteer who can help with the advance work for 5 Loaves each month, if you can help please let Jo Moss know.
- Women's Bible Study has begun a new series on the Psalms. The next session is at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 3, in person in the Fellowship Hall downstairs and on Zoom. Any questions can be directed to Becky McNeil or Carol Smith. All are welcome! To Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83136424723?pwd=TkxsQVIIMmo2bVISekN0dGZqbz F1Zz09 -- Meeting ID: 831 3642 4723 -- Passcode: 865505 (or call 1-312-626-6799).

- Next Sunday, June 5, is Pentecost Sunday and in celebration of this time, we are encouraging everyone to wear red.
- Consider sponsoring the flowers that beautify our worship space, contact Lynn Chase or sign up on the Flower Chart at the back of the Sanctuary. For a donation of \$25 you may choose to take the arrangements with you or let the flower team deliver the flowers to those who are sick, in hospice, or in need of cheer. Once you sign up, place your check in the offering plate.
- If you have not done so, consider serving as Fellowship Time Host (bring food/clean up). Sign up on the calendar near the kitchen entrance.
- Copies of Portals of Prayer are available in the Sanctuary and large print versions are on the front table in the Fellowship Hall.
- SAVE THE DATES: We will celebrate outdoor worship (weather permitting) on the last Sunday of each summer month -- June 26, July 31, and Aug. 28, as well as Sept. 11, for God's Work Our Hands Sunday.

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Call to Worship: from *Free Indeed*, written by Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson. Posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways Archive at <u>http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship/worship-ways/</u>.

Opening Prayer: by Bruce D. Prewer, ©B.D. Prewer 2000 & 2012 at http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocC/C35east7.htm. Confession and Forgiveness (adapted), Words of Assurance: by Thom Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies, (c)Thom M. Shuman at http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com.

Prayer of Intercession Addition (adapted): by West Texas Episcopal Bishop David Reed, © Episcopal News Service 2022 at https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2022/05/24/west-texas-bishop-david-reed-request-prayers-after-uvalde-elementary-school-shooting/.

Blessing & Benediction: written by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley, and posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website at <u>http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship/worship-ways/</u>.