



The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
300 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette
743-2931 www.osluth.org
Pastor Randy Schroeder

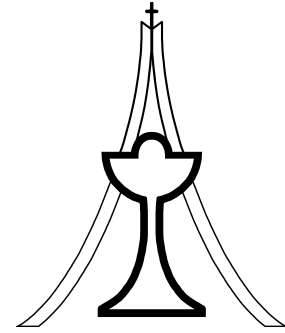
Purdue Lutheran Ministry
330 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette
743-2398 www.plm.org

May 16, 2021

All are welcome here
All people of faith, All people of doubt
All people of any origin, race, ability, sexual orientation or gender expression
All people who seek a compassionate community

All are welcome here
Welcome to worship, Welcome to pray
Welcome to learn, Welcome to give thanks
Welcome to serve God and neighbors

All are welcome here
All are redeemed by a gracious God



Invitation to Holy Communion (livestream) with Our Saviour Lutheran Church

(Please read before worship begins)

This is an invitation and not an expectation. As a called and ordained pastor of the ELCA, my responsibilities are to share the Word and Sacraments, so they are available to you, the Body of Christ. If you wish to participate; you are welcomed and loved. If you believe Holy Communion should take place only in church or only in the live presence of a person ordained in Word and Sacrament, you are welcomed and loved even if you are not participating in livestream Communion. If you are visiting today, not knowing what to do, know through God you are welcomed and loved. This decision is personal and spiritual and only you can make it. I feel called to give you the option.

I cannot say what Communion is any better than Luther, so I'll let him say it. In the Small Catechism Luther writes the following, and more in The Sacrament of the Altar.

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine, for us Christians to eat and to drink, instituted by Christ Himself.

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

This is shown by the words: "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins." In the Sacrament, forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

It is not the eating and drinking that do these things, but these words: "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins." These words are, along with the bodily eating and drinking, the main thing in the Sacrament. Anyone who believes these words has what they say: that is, the forgiveness of sins.

- As we travel this wilderness of COVID-19, it is right and proper for us to participate in the Eucharist as we are gathered as the church in person, as well as live streaming. Holy Communion takes place in the assembly of the Body of Christ.
- Live Stream Communion is new territory for us as we navigate our new context. After reading Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, after much prayer and discernment, I believe this technology should be used in such manners to share God's grace, love, forgiveness and acceptance.

- As we assemble in person or live stream, when confessions are heard and forgiven, as the Word is proclaimed, it is proper for Communion to take place as we are then sent out as the Body of Christ for the world. I ask you to only commune as the live Word is spoken and not commune to the recording of this service.
- Please use bread and wine or a gluten free option and grape juice. Please prepare a plate and cup prior to service to have and share. If you have one and not the other, know that God is fully present in both elements and only one is necessary.
- God is the One working through the spoken Word in the mystery of communion. We don't fully know how, rather we know Jesus said, "Take, eat; this is My body," ... "Take this and drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." God is the source of love infused into us through the Spirit as we partake of the Eucharist. We don't understand it fully; we fully believe Christ is there fulfilling His promises of forgiveness, life and salvation.

Remember: All Are Welcome – Hospitality fills God's Table – Everywhere!

Pastor Randy

The Gathering

Prelude Music

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing, setting, Mark Sedio
Come Now, O Prince of Peace, setting, Kenneth L. DeJong
Nettleton I. Prayer II. Praise, Arr. Rebecca Groom te Velde

Call to Worship

(John 17:18— written by Thom Shuman, and posted on his excellent [Lectionary Liturgies](#) blog. Visit that site for many other excellent worship resources.)

P From comfortable pews, from tricycle seats, from easy chairs in front of TVs:

C **God gathers us in
to give us the words
to proclaim the gospel.**

P At kitchen sinks, at laptops and blackboards, at nursing stations:

C **Christ calls us to share
in serving all creation.**

P In communities gathered to pray, in memories of those who served, in families grilling in the backyard:

C **The Holy Spirit fills us
with God's joy.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,

like streams that revive our souls,
 like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
 Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
 Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
 Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
 Make us one, risen Christ.
 Cleanse our hearts.
 Shower us with life.
 To you be given all praise,
 with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God,
 now and forever.

C Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 843: *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
 praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
 Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
 Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
 Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
 from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
 Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813
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Greeting

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.**

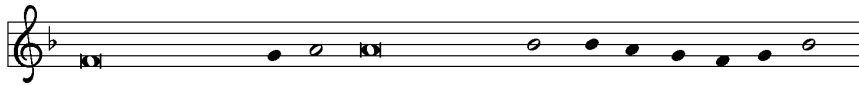
Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, 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 uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



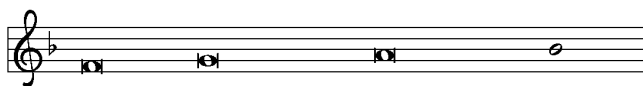
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



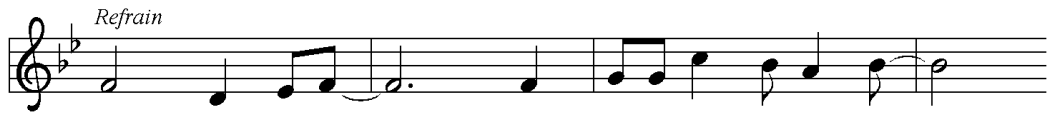
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.




A - men.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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*




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. *Refrain*



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

- P Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

The Word

- L A reading from the book of Acts.

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

L The word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
²Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.
³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.
⁴It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
⁶For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed

L A reading from 1 John.

1 John 5:9-13

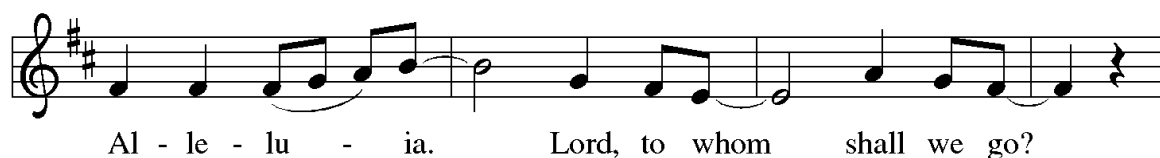
God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

L The word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

John 17:6-19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

P The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

“Made Your Name Known”

Pastor Randy Schroeder

Hymn of the Day: ELW (red), hymn 247: *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ŭi - im - gŭm
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
Text and music © Geonyong Lee

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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

A Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

A Holy God, in Christ Jesus the joy of the church is made complete. Root the church in your Word and unify us as Christ's body. Send us into the world as your loving people, ready to testify to your Spirit at work. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Mighty God, the world is your handiwork, displaying your creative impulse. Seas teem with life, forests reach up to praise you, and the mystery of life lies deep in the soil. Guard and keep this world for the well-being of all your creatures. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Gracious Sovereign, those who follow your ways are like trees planted near streams of water. Establish the leaders of nations and all in authority in your grace and truth. Strengthen them, so that the people they serve will have abundant life. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

- A Generous Savior, you befriend those who are sick, suffering, poor, lonely, outcast, rejected, or sick. Grant healing and love to all in need, especially Candy, Jason, Fil, Shirley & Eric C, Rosalie, Jeff, Denise, Pr. Judy, Barb, Donna, Helmut & Carol, Kim, Alex, Victoria, Jennifer, Jeanette, Ben S, Dorothy, Suzanne, Mike M, Kari, Philip B, John, Shelby, Tamzin, Cheryl, Sandy, Judy and all the friends and family of Herb, and Eric M. Give them tangible signs of your steadfast love. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A Creator God, here in this community we share the gift of praying, learning, and supporting one another. Give us thankful hearts as we claim the gifts that are unique to us and keep us from being envious of others with different gifts. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A Saving God, your wonderful promise is the gift of eternal life in Jesus. Through the witness of those who have died in you, strengthen us now in this gift of life. We cherish the memory of your saints. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- P In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C **Amen.**

Peace

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C **And also with you.**

The Meal

This is an invitation and not an expectation. As a called and ordained pastor of the ELCA, my responsibilities are to share the Word and Sacraments, so they are available to you, the Body of Christ. If you wish to participate; you are welcomed and loved. If you believe Holy Communion should take place only in church or only in the live presence of a person ordained in Word and Sacrament, you are welcomed and loved even if you are not participating in virtual Communion. This decision is personal and spiritual and only you can make it. I feel called to give you the option.

- Please have your wine and bread ready for the Meal. It would be best to use grape juice or wine and a small portion of bread or gluten free option for the Eucharist.
- Please participate by lifting the bread and the wine as the pastor lifts the bread and wine.
- If everyone in the family is healthy please take the time to commune each other; presenting the bread first and saying, “the Body of Christ given for you” and then the wine/juice saying, “the Blood of Christ shed for you.” If you’re not feeling well, please commune yourself as you are able.
- The elements (bread and juice or wine) should be consumed in their entirety or returned to the earth as once they are consecrated they are the Body and Blood of Christ. Please do not throw Jesus in the trash or down the drain.

Offering: Please feel free to send your regular tithe in the mail, drop it off to the church office or if you have not checked out our website and "Your Offering Made Easy" tab, this could be your opportunity. (John Mills is available to answer any questions about the Vanco Online giving option if you wish to contact him. His email address is john_r_mills@icloud.com)



Offertory: ELW (red), hymn 362, verses 2 and 4: *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.
Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

Offering Prayer

A God of love,
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.
Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.
C **Amen.**

The 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 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:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
 Your mercy is everlasting
 and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
 Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
 Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
 Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
 Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
 to the land of milk and honey.
 Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
 Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
 Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
 we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P O God of resurrection and new life:
 Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.
 Bless this feast.
 Grace our table with your presence.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
 Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
 Breathe new life into us.
 Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P With your holy ones of all times and places,
 with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars,
 we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

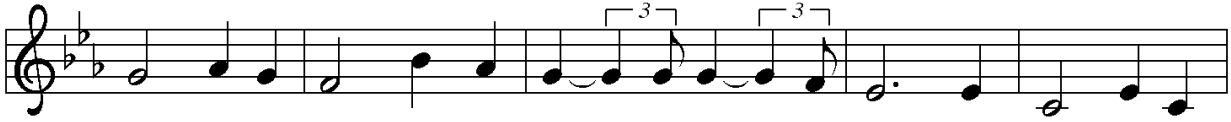
Invitation to Communion

P So come to this table, which now extends into our homes, you who have faith and you who would like to have faith; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed; come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

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, grant us peace.

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen,
keep and unite us, now and for ever.

C **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A Wellspring of joy,
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

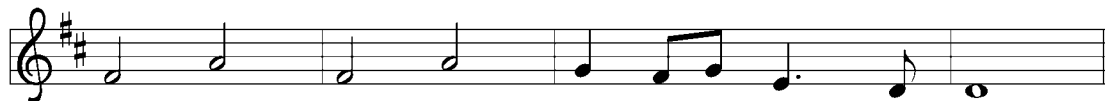
C **Amen.**

The Sending

Sending Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 744: *Lord, Be Glorified*



1 In my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
2 In our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
3 In your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
4 In your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;



in my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
in our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
in your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
in your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick

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Benediction

(based on John 16:7-15, Psalm 1— written by Peter L. Haynes, and posted on the **Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren** website. <http://rockhay.tripod.com/>)

P May God protect you through your time of trial.

May the love of Christ,

seen in what he did, and

heard in what he said,

fill you with joy and hope.

May the Holy Spirit advocate for you,

leading into all truth,

lighting the way of faith, and

strengthening you to follow Jesus,

so that you will become

like a strong, young tree,

growing deep and

bearing much fruit.

C Amen.

Dismissal

A Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

A Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

Please stick around; the Zoom meeting will continue for a virtual “Coffee Hour.”

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Blessing of the Graduates

Introductions

Reading

Leader: Dear graduates: At this special time in your life we are eager to show you how delighted we are that you have reached this milestone in your life. As fellow members of this community of faith we rejoice with you and want you to know of our pride and excitement as you move from this accomplishment into the next phase of your life. We also want you to know that wherever you go and whatever you do, you are going forward with our prayers for God's continued guidance, power, protection, and strength.

Prayer

Leader O Lord Jesus Christ, when you welcomed the children your invitation included each one of us. Your guiding hand has continually been upon these young men and women. You have sustained them. You have shared in their laughter and wiped away their tears. In times of confusion you have offered direction. In times of sorrow you have offered hope. In times of doubt your Holy Spirit has lifted them up. Grant, O Savior, to each of these graduates the knowledge of your continued presence as they go forth into the future. Bless them and keep them. Guide their steps. Hold them in the hollow of your hand. Bless them and keep them now and forever.

C Amen.

Leader Members and friends of Our Saviour Lutheran Church, will you promise to keep these graduates and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they go forth into the future?

C We will.

Leader Will you, as fellow believers in Jesus Christ, promise to help these young men and women as need and opportunity arise?

C We will.

Leader May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord watch over you and keep you safe.
May the Lord guide your every step.
May you always know of our unending love for you.

C Amen.

Pastor Randy is available for pastoral care. Please contact him at: 260-402-4476 or by email: randy@osluth.org

Worship Assistants Today: Beth Dana (Musician), Robert Hershberger (Assisting Minister), Dee Hershberger (Lector), Emily Ohland (Cantor & Audio/Visuals), Cindy Modlin Adams & Carrol Grady (Ushers), Bob Nielsen (Livestream production, Audio/Visuals)

The next Pints with a Pastor this month will be tomorrow.

Wednesday Zoom with Kiddos meets every Wednesday at 4:30 P.M.

Final Wednesday Evening Prayer for the Easter Season: May 19, 7:30-8:00 P.M. via zoom

The next Social Justice Discussion will be May 27 at 7:30pm via zoom and will cover the documentary *The 13th*. Here's a link to the film: <http://www.avaduvernay.com/13th>

A trip to the Holy Land is being planned for members and friends of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Our Saviour Lutheran Church is invited. We will travel in January 2022, departing Tuesday the 11th and returning Thursday the 20th. This is truly the trip of a lifetime for one's faith and spiritual growth. We will travel to sights such as Nazareth, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee, Qumran, Masada, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem. There will be time each evening for devotions and planning for the next day.

Pastor Jim Lichtenberger, a retired ELCA pastor and member of Holy Trinity, is leading this trip. The cost will be \$4297, which includes air fare out of Indianapolis, hotel, tips (except for lunches), two meals a day, and present fuel costs. Recommended travel insurance is extra. If you are interested, please contact Jim at 476-1318. If you want to see a video about this trip, go to this link. <https://youtu.be/TQgvSMYNFnA>

Thrivent Announcement: Spring has sprung! Now is a wonderful time to reach out and do a service project. If you are a Thrivent member you are able to lead a **THRIVENT ACTION TEAM**. Action teams make it easy to bring a team of volunteers together to make a difference in our community. Who you help is up to you. You can hold a fundraiser, plan a service project or organize an educational event. It's your choice—and your chance to let your creativity and generosity shine. Thrivent will help make it happen by sending you a kit with “Live Generously” T-shirts, banners, and other cool stuff to help you get your project started. We'll even include a Community Impact Card loaded with \$250 seed money. Thrivent Action Teams are much more than a volunteer program. They are an invitation to live generously right here, right now. Just a few ideas for a project include, helping a church member with yard work or small repairs, church property spring clean-up, do a fundraiser for a family who is going through a difficult time, etc. For other ideas or for more information on how to do this, **contact Mary Prill at Thrivent Financial, 765-449-8888**. We are here for you!

In-person Worship Guidelines: As we welcome you back into the worship space we ask that you:

-“sign-up” and let us know you are coming to OSLC for worship. Because we have limited space and wish to keep healthy distancing, we are welcoming 25 individuals or 13 family units per Sunday. The sign-up will also allow us the capability for any contract tracing, if necessary.

- call Sandra at 219- 984- 9964 or sign up at <https://www.osluth.org/> to reserve your spot,

-are well and have no signs or symptoms of illness,

-wear a clean double layer mask-even if you have been fully vaccinated,

-have not traveled to a high-risk area in the last ten days,

-maintain a 6-foot physical distance from anyone outside their family or friend “bubble”, and sit in pews with bulletins and/or communion cups only.

-wash hands often or use hand sanitizer.

-Those who perceive themselves or know they are at high risk for COVID-19 are asked to consider worshipping via Zoom for their own safety. See CDC Medical Conditions and Covid-19.

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html

-refrain from singing loudly; Please feel free to hum or sing quietly under your mask.

-receive communion at your seats using individual pre-packed communion, which will be provided, with instructions.

Please be patient as we do our best to engage folks worshipping on-line as well as in-person. We have not attempted this type of Hybrid Worship before, and we are doing our best to provide a meaningful worship experience for all. During the months of May and June expect a combination of live and recorded music. More live music will be introduced as we live into the technical side of streaming live.

Thank you for your willingness to return to a “new normal” of worship at OSLC. We are forever changed by God's love and our worship will be forever changed as well. You have been blessed and have been a blessing to me, my family and each other. No matter what form our “hybrid” worship takes, the promise of God's love and forgiveness; God's word and life will be proclaimed in our gathering, our hearing the word, our invitation to the meal, and our sending to all nations.

Peace, Pastor Randy