

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024**

Service of Holy Communion/The Rite of Affirmation of Baptism

PRELUDE

GATHERING

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!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. Your ark carried your creation through the flood and into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. 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 SONG

"Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

#383

1. **Christ is risen! Shout hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding, see a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**
2. **Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**
3. **Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing hosanna, ev'ryone!**

GREETING

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. 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 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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p.142

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
 Alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 15th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

OPENING REMARKS

Pastor Ann Marshall

CONFIRMANTS TESTIMONIES

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Pastor Ann Marshall

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

#805

1. **Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest your tents will be our home. Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong; and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.**
2. **Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace; for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums, but deeds of love and mercy the heav'nly kingdom comes.**
3. **Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears, for gladness breaks like morning where're your face appears. Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light; the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!**

RITE OF AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these young people, one with us in the body of Christ who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES- Council president- Gloria Setzler:

I present **Hudson Bauer, Viola Culler, Abecka Ruggles, and Addison Yetter** who desire to make public affirmation of their baptisms.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and this brother...We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Together with the whole church, I ask you to reject sin, profess your faith in Christ, and confess the faith of the Church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Confirmands (singly):

R: I do and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support this brother and these sisters and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new Birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in these young people the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYERS AND INVOCATIONS for each confirmand

Please stand. Let us rejoice with this brother and these sisters in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God And proclaim the good news to all the world.

Let us welcome our newly-confirmed sisters and brother.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

(brief silence)

Petitions end: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

OFFERING SONG

“Come to the Table of Mercy”

#481

**Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.
All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.
Come at the Lord’s invitation; receive from his nail scarred hand.
Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. 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 *(spoken)*

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

“Lamb of God”

p. 146

**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 peace.**

"Beautiful Savior"

#838

1. Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels in the sky.
4. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

"Jesus Loves Me"

#595

1. Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.
2. Jesus loves me! He who died heaven's gate to open wide;
he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.
3. Jesus loves me! He will stay close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

TABLE BLESSING

At the conclusion: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

At the conclusion: Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

At the conclusion: Amen.

SENDING SONG

"We Know That Christ Is Raised"

#449

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hal-le-lu-jah!
2. We share by water in his saving death. Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,
As living members of our Savior Christ, Hal-le-lu-jah!
3. The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hal-le-lu-jah!
4. A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing: Hal-le-lu-jah!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE