**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church**

**Sunday, May 5 2024**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**10:00 A.M. Worship with Holy Communion**

Welcome visitors! We have a weekly email you can join to be notified about

upcoming events (aageorge27@sbcglobal.net), as well as a  
 website ([www.sov-lc.org](http://www.sov-lc.org)) and a Facebook presence.

A picture containing text, silhouette

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Normal print indicates Pastor

L: indicates Lay Reader

Bold indicates congregational response

**GATHERING**

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

**PRELUDE** *For the Beauty of the Earth* Concord Kocher

arranged by Barbara Baltzer Kinyon

played by the Bell Choir

**welcomE**

**Worship Announcements and Prayer concern sharing**

**Ringing of the church bell**

**confession and forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us

and all of creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

To you, O God,

**all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ☩ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** *God, We Gather as Your People*



**GREETING**

P: Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed**.

P: Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed!**

P: Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed!  Alleluia!**

**KYRIE**



**CANTICLE OF PRAISE** *Glory be to God*



**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

Let us pray. **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*

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

### A Reading from Acts 10:44-48

### 44While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. 45The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, 46for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” 48So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Word of God, Word of Life **Thanks be to God.**

### Responsive Prayer: Psalm 98

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.

### A Reading from 1 John 5:1-6

### 1Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. 2By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. 3For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, 4for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. 5Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 6This 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.

Word of God, Word of Life **Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 9“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. 11I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.  
12“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15I 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. 16You 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. 17I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

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

**SERMON** Pastor Gaeta

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *A New Commandment*



**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**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.

*A brief silence.*

**L:** Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**L:** You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**L:** Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**L:** Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**L:** Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation, that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**Shepherd of the Valley Prayer List**

**Those needing healing in body, mind or spirit:**

DJ Russell and parents, friends of Wayne and Kathy

Olivia, Pastor Gaeta’s friend

Annette, Denise’s mom

Joanne, Bodys’ neighbor

Tamara Howes, friend of SOV

Melanie Karl

Amber, Celia's friend

Verell Boaen

Ewan Rae, friend of Jeanne Iburg

Joanie Neihaus, Val's friend

Maureen Karr, Bob Nelson's friend

Lynne Nelson, Bob's ex-wife

Vincent Trotta, Karen's friend

Michael Trotta, Karen's friend

Art Rogers, Karen Sheldon's friend

Kit and Jen Bolton, friends of SOV

Bob Nelson

Ellen Baxendale

Karen Bergen, Cathy's mom

Sue Soto, Karen Sheldon's friend

Jane, Bill Roper's aunt

Cindy, friend of the Boyds

Dawn Weborg, Karen’s friend

George Heiter, Stefanie's father

Kassie Pinard, Wilsons’ friend

Nina Ward, friend of Jeanne Iburg

Cherylle Bowman, Fed member

Bette Eldredge, Denise's friend

Gail Korsman, Denise’s friend

Karyn, Dane's sister

Tom, Mark Imbibo's friend

Darin Simonson, Denise's brother

Mary Clement, Denise's friend

Sally Marshall, Denise’s colleague

Mary Johnson, Denise’s colleague

Anne Celino, Cindy's sister

Tyler Rysnik, Nancy's nephew

Thomas McInerney, father of Kerry Bielicki's friend Jen

Judy, prayers for transition

Sonia Hardgraves, Christine Anderson's daughter

David Scott, Nancy's friend

Barbara Krampitz, Dane’s mother

Elizabeth (Liz) Pearce Hunt, friend of Cliff Bailey

Amy Phillipo, Kerry Bielicki's friend

Carol Wolfe, friend of the Nelsons

Jerrlyn, friend of the Boyds

Michael LeMay, Cathy’s nephew

Chalisse Botero, Derek Karl’s niece

Zachary Nelson, Wilsons’ neighbor

Kim O'Brokta, Melanie Karl’s friend

Barbara Christopher, Boyds’ friend

Jane Detillion, friend of the Bailey family

**Ministries with whom we partner:**

ANSWER (Ayer Neighbors Supporting and Welcoming Every Resident)

Stone Soup Kitchen

Refugee Immigration Ministry (RIM)

The ELCA and the New England Synod

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry

The PACH Outreach

The Townsend Ecumenical Outreach

Common Cathedral - City Reach

**Those Serving in the Military, especially those who are deployed and their families**

**Other Prayer Concerns**

Campuses of higher education – for protestors, administration and all present

Election process for Bishop and other leaders of New England Synod

Global conflicts, especially in Gaza and Ukraine

Those seeking asylum

Devenscrest tenants facing eviction or unaffordable rent increases

**Prayers of Thanksgiving**

Mr. Regnault, Celia’s friend’s fatherAli, Celia’s friend

Britta Roper

Judy Grande, or much improved health

**Family and Friends of those who have died:**

Melissa McCarthy, Karen’s friend

Betty P., Cathy's coworker

Joe Roper, Bill's uncle

Kathy Huard, Nancy's sister

Nilda Barrera, Richard's aunt

Elke Mahlke, Britta's aunt

Kyle Sweeney, friend of Duhamels

**L:** Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace, **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.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ*

**offering prayer**

**L:** Let us pray. **Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**THe Great 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…**

**…. unending hymn:**

**HOly, HOly, HOly**

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**Eucharistic prayer with words of institution**

**…**Proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

**\*LORD'S PRAYEr** *(Whichever form or language you prefer)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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. | 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**

**Lamb of GOd**



**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

**post-communion Canticle**

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**Post-Communion Prayer**

**L:** Let us pray. **We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thrist are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**SENDING**

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

**BLESSING**

**sending hymn** *O God beyond All Praising* ELW #880

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISMISSAL**

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *My Jesus, I Love Thee* Gordon, arranged by Adoniram J. Gordon

played by the Bell Choir

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