

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

May 22, 2022

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Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share.
We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways.
Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?
Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.
Amen.

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 452 Baptized and Set Free

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! (*three times*)

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.**

NOW the FEAST

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

Refrain

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

Refrain

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

Refrain

God; to make all things new.

PRAYER of the DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let's Pray Together.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

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

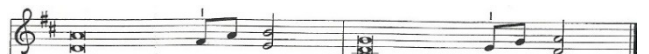
FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 67

Responses Sung Tone 1



¹May God be merciful to [|] us and bless us;

may the light of God's face [|] shine upon us.

²**Let your way be known [|] upon earth,**

your saving health a- [|] mong all nations.

³Let the peoples praise [|] you, O God;

let all the [|] peoples praise you.

⁴**Let the nations be glad and [|] sing for joy,**

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- [|] tions on earth.

⁵Let the peoples [|] praise you, O God;

let all the [|] peoples praise you.

⁶**The earth has brought [|] forth its increase;**

God, our own [|] God, has blessed us.

⁷May God [|] give us blessing,

and may all the ends of the earth [|] stand in awe.

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22:5

¹⁰And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1}Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 14:23-29

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 14. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "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. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe." Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ Come to the Water (hymn attached pg. 10)

Please stand

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

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace, especially, Nicole, Pastor Karen and Dave, Steven, Cheryl, Ed, Mark, Sam & Dorothy, Karri, Skip & Don, Bonnie, Judi, Karen, Milo, Ruth, Don, Irene, Shirley, Judi, Bishop Lozano, Carrie, Evelyn, Jack & Marjorie, and Joyce.

Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people. Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died. When we meet together at your river of life. God, in your mercy,
hear 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

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING & PRESENTATIONS

OFFERING PRAYER ~ Please pray together.

Let us pray. **Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

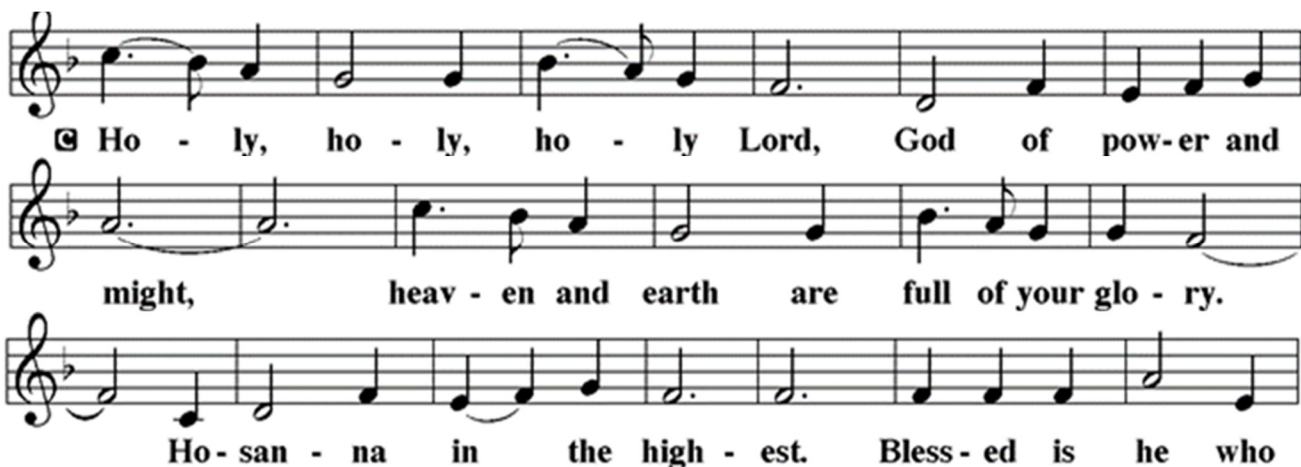
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:

SANCTUS





EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

THE 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

The risen Christ dwells with us here.
All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

COMMUNION ~ *At Abiding Hope all believers are welcome to share Holy Communion at the table of the Lord. After receiving the bread, you may receive wine from the chalice poured into individual glasses or you may choose pre-poured grape juice as an alternative. Gluten free wafers are also available upon request.*

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen**

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.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN ~ *I've Got Peace Like a River*

1 I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er,
2 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain,
3 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean,
I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul;
I've got joy like a foun-tain in my soul;
I've got love like an o - cean in my soul;
I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er,
I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain,
I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean,
I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul.
I've got joy like a foun-tain in my soul.
I've got love like an o - cean in my soul.

PASTORAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our ☩ Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER ~ Please pray together.

Let us pray, **We give you thanks, O God, that you make your home with us, bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal. Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here, that we may wipe away tears, tend to those in mourning and pain, seek the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 807 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

POSTLUDE

GOSPEL MESSAGE ~ Lifelong Learning

Graduates walk across the stage in cap and gown, receiving diplomas or degrees and pausing for pictures. The celebration marks the end of a time of learning and a transition to a time of doing. New jobs require orientation and more practical learning, but soon the employees are proficient at their work. The sheet metal apprentice becomes the expert journeyman. The accountant sees no more surprises in tax preparation. The retail worker masters the merchandise, the computer system, and dealing with difficult customers. This movement from learning to knowing is not limited to work. We learn about civic issues and come to know where we stand. We learn about our faith and come to solid beliefs about our values. We learn about ourselves and who we are as people and settle into a sense of our own identity. One could call this process of learning and knowing through experience "lifelong learning."

Jesus gives us an image of the Holy Spirit as teacher. But the Holy Spirit is not just any teacher; the Holy Spirit can teach us everything! The implication is that lifelong learning is less about information and more about what it means to be human, less about training and more about our relationship with God. How do we experience the teaching of the Holy Spirit? Perhaps it is in the surprises of grace where someone's generosity overwhelms us. Maybe it is in the nudges of knowing when an uncomfortable question opens up a place for us to reflect on our prejudices. Sometimes the font or table softens our heart in just the right moment to find a path for forgiveness. With this promise of the Holy Spirit Jesus also leaves the gift of his peace, that in our learning and growing we may also know the peace that "surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7).

COME TO THE WATER

John Foley, S.J.



1. O let all who thirst, let them come to the
 2. And let all who seek, let them come to the
 3. And let all who toil, let them come to the
 4. And let all the poor, let them come to the



1. wa - ter. And let all who have noth-ing,
 2. wa - ter. And let all who have noth-ing,
 3. wa - ter. And let all who are wea - ry,
 4. wa - ter. Bring the ones who are lad - en,



1. let them come to the Lord: with-out
 2. let them come to the Lord: with-out
 3. let them come to the Lord: all who
 4. bring them all to the Lord: bring the



1. mon-ey, with-out price. Why should you pay the
 2. mon-ey, with-out strife. Why should you spend your
 3. la - bor, with-out rest. How can your soul find
 4. chil-dren with-out might. Eas - y the load and



1. price, ex-cept for the Lord?
 2. life, ex-cept for the Lord?
 3. rest, ex-cept for the Lord?
 4. light: 7 come to the Lord.

PARISH NOTES ~ May 22, 2022

Please pray for: Nicole Woomer, Pastor Karen and Dave Parsh, Shirley Wolbach (Sheryl Williams' mother), Steven Elder (Judi Pacileo's granddaughter's husband hurt in a motorcycle accident), Cheryl Tufts, Mark Pacileo, Sam & Dorothy Elder, Karri Pacileo, Skip & Don Kleckner, Bonnie Gebhardt, Judy Nordin, Karen Shick, Milo Mariotti, Ruth Hinkson, Don Fuller, Irene Owens, Shirley Englert, Judi Pacileo, Bishop Lozano, Carrie Fiske, Evelyn Senger, Jack & Marjorie Wonner, and Joyce Hersperger.

Next Week, May 29 is World Hunger 5th Sunday: Abiding Hope council has designated each 5th Sunday as a time for members to contribute financial support to help meet the needs of a hungry world. **Pew envelopes are available in the narthex for cash and check donations.** If using a check, make it payable to Abiding Hope, indicating ELCA World Hunger in the memo line, and place your gift in the offering plate. **Thank you for your generosity.**

In-Person Worship: Sunday service is offered @ **8:30a and 10:30a.** The 10:30a service live-streams on Facebook, then posted to the **AHLC** web page. Please check parish notes or web site for any time changes.

Worship Time Correction: Sunday, May 29 (Memorial Weekend) there will be **TWO** services @ 8:30am & 10:30am

One Worship Service: Day of Pentecost, June 5th @ 9:30a.

Adult Choir: Wednesday May 25 @ 6:00p

KAFP Donations for Pentecost Sunday, June 5: Last day to place in offering plate is today May 22. Final to office tomorrow, May 23, 12noon. **Forms on the table in the narthex.**

Office Hours: Mon & -Tue 9:30a-3:30p, Wed 9:30a-12:30p. If office is not staffed, leave a message, your call will be returned. For immediate pastoral assistance, call Pastor Karen at 814-881-3266. Pastor is in the office on Tuesdays, 10:00a and by appointment.

KAFP Project Dignity Item: MAY- shampoo. Laundry basket in "cry room" for donations

Bethany Outreach: Doing some wardrobe cleaning out and updating? Remember your gently used clothing, shoes, household items, toys, children's items can be donated. All items are given out without charge. Thank you for your continued support. Analee Cree -814-397-6168.

Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to **donate flowers** for Sunday worship, the weekly sign-up form and request form are on the table in the narthex. A single arrangement may be purchased or two people may share a Sunday for the same week. The arrangements are **\$20.00 each.** Please place the **completed request form and payment** in the offering plate or to the office at least two weeks, but no less than one week prior to your chosen Sunday. Arrangement orders are called in on Monday.

Altar Flowers, this week, are given to the Glory of God,
In Celebration of Analee Cree's May 20th Birthday.
From Dear Friend ~ Karen Schumacher

**Altar Candles are given to the Glory of God,
In Memory of Gordon and Mark Wunch, from Carol Wunch**

ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as the Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. Your gifts will support Ukrainians and others. Gifts to "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries. There are several ways to donate: Drop your donation in the church offering basket marked for "EECR" (for Eastern Europe Crisis Response). Checks dropped off at the church need to be made out to Abiding Hope with EECR written on the memo line. *Mail your own check or money order to: **Lutheran Disaster Response, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**. Write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on your check memo line. *Give by phone at **800-638-3522** (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. CT) *Go online: <https://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response>

ECLA ~ Church and State Government:

What about how the church and the state relate to each other? ELCA is at work on a new social statement about civics and faith. Social statements establish the basis for the ELCA's public voice and policy decisions. **Join with other ELCA members for a virtual listening event** which will introduce what social statements are and how they're developed. Then, share your thoughts with task force members directly in breakout groups. Questions will be: What themes, ideas or topics do you think the task force needs to talk about or consider for the social statement? What is important for the task force to consider in creating an effective social statement? **Dates/time** for virtual event ..**Tuesday, May 24, 7-8:15pm CDT** and **Wednesday, May 25, 7-8:15pm CDT**.

CURRENT FUND REPORT

April Income:	\$ 8,173.00	Year to Date Income:	\$ 32,394.93
April Expenses:	\$ 9,595.28	Year to Date Expenses:	\$ 40,684.63
April Difference:	\$ -1,422.28	Year to date Difference:	\$ -8,289.70
		Year to Date Budget:	\$ 42,014

WORSHIP LEADERS ~ May 22, 2022

	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Videographer	X	Penny Gresh
Greeter/Coffee	Mary Randall	June Morey
Lector/Prayers	Lon Jenkins	Jacque Holmberg
Comm. Cups	Damian Santabene	Carol Whitbred
Comm. Wine	Marcia Santabene	Ed Whitbred
Comm. Tray	Mike Paris	John Holmberg
Presenter	Analee Cree	Jeanne Tropper
Presenter/Usher	Rick Penn	Dave Cuning
Usher	Volunteer	Andy Saska
Counters	X	Analee Cree & Andy Saska