

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

May 15, 2022

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Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

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 720 We Are Called

GREETING

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

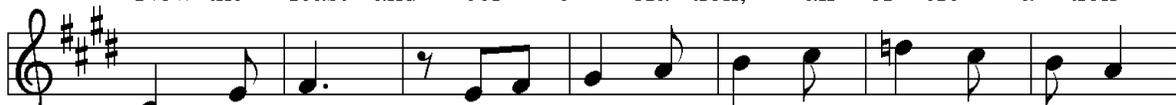
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

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



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



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



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*



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



God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

PRAYER of the DAY

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

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, 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 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 148

Responses Sung

Tone 1



¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD¹ from the heavens;
praise God¹ in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD,¹ all you angels;
sing praise, all you¹ hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD,¹ sun and moon;
sing praise, all you¹ shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heav-¹ en of heavens,
and you waters a-¹ bove the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
who commanded, and they¹ were created,

⁶**who made them stand fast forev-¹ er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not¹ pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD¹ from the earth,
you sea monsters¹ and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail,¹ snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do-¹ ing God's will;**

⁹mountains | and all hills,

fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰wild beasts | and all cattle,

creeping things and | flying birds;

¹¹sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,

princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹²young | men and maidens,

old and | young together.

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,

whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life." The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 13. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'

³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ WOV 664 *A New Commandment*

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.*

Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us. Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress especially, Pastor Karen and Dave, Shirley, Steven, Michael, 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. As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Give us a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of each person's identity, and bless us with a shared identity as your children, kindred of Christ. 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

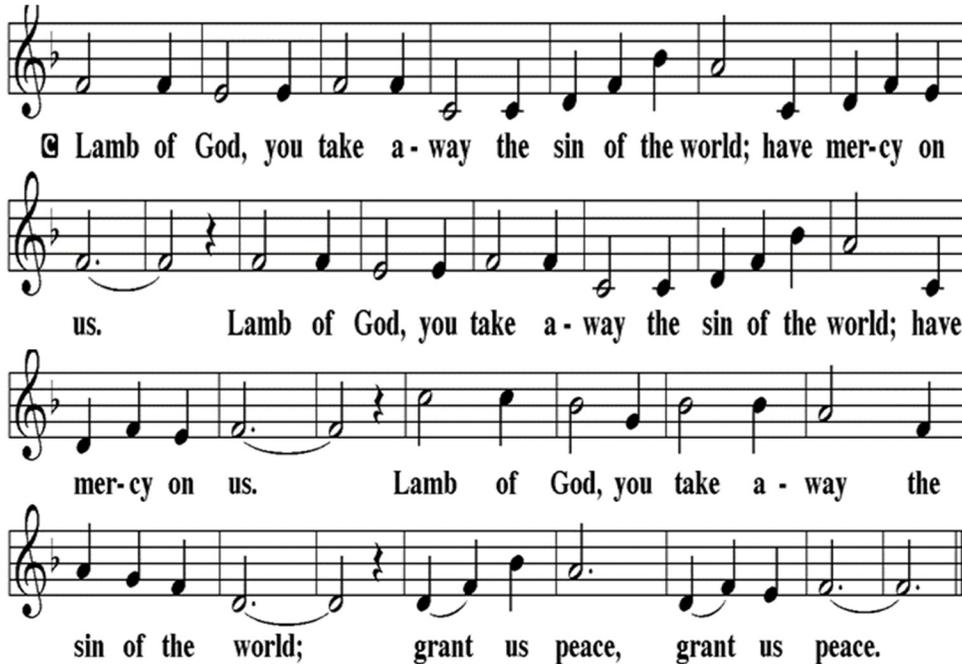
The risen Christ dwells with us here.
 All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

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 ~ Make Us One ~ hymn attached pg. 10

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 377 Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!

GOSPEL MESSAGE ~ We Are Found

As Jesus in today's gospel prepares the disciples for his imminent departure, he tells them that they will look for him but won't be able to join him where he is going. It will not be long before the women are at the tomb in the early morning, only to find it empty. We also look for Jesus, but perhaps we don't know that we are engaged in the search. We are constantly seeking purpose and answers, turning to self-help books, inspirational videos, exercise programs, and new ways of organizing our stuff. Billboards and magazine covers highlight our flaws while offering the next best solution to make us happy and well.

These opportunities can be compelling, and some of them will prove successful in managing some aspects of life. But these solutions don't turn up what we're really looking for: to be truly loved and known, secure and whole. We find this security only in the love of God. Yet, in this Easter season we are reminded that we do not need to seek Jesus; rather, Jesus seeks out and finds us. We cannot go where Jesus goes, leading the way through death to new life, but Jesus ultimately finds us wherever we are, even when we are most lost. The women found an empty tomb, but Jesus is not gone. The resurrected Jesus finds them!

In finding us, Jesus also directs our searching by giving us a commandment: "Love one another" (John 13:34). In seeking to love one another, we are reminded again and again that the great love of God has already found us.

PARISH NOTES ~ May 15, 2022

Please pray for: Nicole Wonner, Pastor Karen and Dave Parsh, Sheryl Williams, Shirley Wolbach (Sheryl Williams' mother), Steven Elder (Judi Pacileo's granddaughter's husband hurt in a motorcycle accident), Michael Haley (grandson of Peggy Kaeberlein), 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.

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.

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.

Happy Wedding Anniversary: Jeanne & Ed Tropper, 58yrs, May 9 and Don & Skip Kleckner, 72yrs, May 11. Congratulations and wishes for many more.

Geraniums Pentecost Sunday, June 5: Final day to place **request** in offering plate, **Sunday May 15**. Final, Final to the **office 12noon, Tuesday May 17**. **KAFP** final in offering plate, **Sunday May 22**. Final, Final to office **Monday May 23, 12noon**. **Forms** on the table in the narthex.

Election Day: Tuesday, May 17.

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.

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>

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

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 15, 2022

	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Videographer	X	Anda Saska
Greeter/Coffee	Mary Randall	Volunteer
Lector/Prayers	Lon Jenkins	Rick Penn
Comm. Cups	Volunteer	Michele Rion
Comm. Wine	Analee Cree	Penny Gresh
Comm. Tray	Lon Jenkins	Lois Kuhns
Presenter	Mary Randall	Kayla Miller & Emily
Presenter/Usher	Volunteer	Andy Saska
Usher	Volunteer	Volunteer
Counters	X	Lois Kuhns & Lon Jenkins