

Opening Hymn “Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing” #389

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

(Bible in pew) pg. 895

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

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

A.M.: Psalm 98

A.M.: Let us read the Psalm responsively.

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.M.: Let us pray

Lord God, we sing to you a new song, for your victory is ever new. In the resurrection of Christ you have given us a glimpse of your future, and in your victory over death you have shown us how we shall overcome the last enemy. As the seas roar and the hills sing together, we too will praise you for your great triumph, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Children Sermon

Gospel Acclamation “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” #172

A.M.: Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. 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. *Alleluia. (John 14:23)*

Holy Gospel: John 15:9-17 *(Bible in pew) pg. 878*

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. Amen.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras

Hymn of the Day “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love” #708

A.M.: Prayers of Intercession

A.M.: Let us pray

After each petition, please respond with “**Your mercy is great**”.

Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, your voice calls us to worship. Where discord bellows within the church, unite us in harmony. Where we lack direction, guide us in singing your song with our unique voices. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creative Lord, your melodies formed the earth and all that is in it. Receive the roar of the sea and the rhythmic clap of the rivers. Rejoice as the hills ring out in praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Holy One, you hear all our moans and groans. Where lament and the blues resound, send us to listen. Send us to comfort. Send us to build relationships rooted in your justice and peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Serenade the estranged and all who suffer alone. Accompany high-functioning addicts and the frightened who have no one to turn to. Give rest to overworked caregivers and people living with schizophrenia. Today we pray especially for Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Eternal Song, you call us to share our gifts for your glory. We thank you and praise you for our musicians and vocalists, choir directors and hymnwriters. Bless all who lead and all who sing in worship. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your goodness echoes through all time with the songs of the saints. Thank you for all the disciples who have mentored us through their gift of music. Keep your song within us this day and always. Let us pray by singing “Be Not Afraid”

“**Be Not Afraid**” (*sing twice*)

#388

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those
who are called to his banquet.

Invitation to Communion

A.M.: Now let us feast this Easter day
on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

Lamb of God

pg. 208

Communion Hymn **“Break Now the Bread of Life”** **#515**
“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”#492

Blessing After Communion

Prayer After Communion

A.M.: Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

Blessing

P: May God who has brought us from death to life
fill you with great joy.
Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Closing Hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” #631

Dismissal

A.M.: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A.M.: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: I will and I ask God to help me.

Postlude “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” John Hatton

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS014524. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. One License #A728091

Prayer Concerns: Thelma Bursik, Neil Coakley, Joella Corado (Maggie Westaby’s cousin), Jerrilynn Duxbury, Betty Jane Kettunen, Justin & Ashley Nickolai, Esther Osterby, Barb Peterson, Lucy Peterson, Dolores Riege, Pam (Rodney Riese’s wife), Dina Sarras, Kathrine Sylvia Sarras, Norm Winterhoff, April Winters (Jamie Rice-Heckendorf’s niece), Breanna Kurth, Meredith Westaby, Connor Rice (Jamie Rice-Heckendorf’s cousin), Ted and Kara Sanders, and Youa Xiong & Shelby Brod (Serenity Hulstrom’s Friends), and Jazel Qumsia. (Contact ILC office to update.)

A set of keys were lost. If found, please turn them into ILC office.

Today is Noisy Offering. Social Concerns uses the money to help feed the needy in our area. If you are willing to help with the next Community Dinner on June 17 served by ILC, contact Marge Warner.

A movie for children will be today starting at 11am. Pizza, snacks and drinks will be provided. See Maggie Westaby with any questions.

ILC semi-annual meeting will be held in fellowship hall immediately following worship service on May 20.

First Communion Candidates will be received on May 13 during worship service. We will have communion today and May 13. ILC will not have communion on May 20.

Synod Assembly 2018 Service Project will be “Blast Off for Books”. Purchase a book(s) for a child in need by helping the National Youth Gathering collect 100,000 books for students pre-K through 6th grade in Houston. All books must be new or gently used. The book list and all information needed are in the Gathering Room. Please complete the little form with your information and drop in the slotted box. A tally of purchases or cash/check will be taken to the synod meeting May 18th. Online purchases thru Amazon, dropping off books at ILC or making a monetary contribution are due at ILC on May 13. Join in helping the youth meet their goal.

Windows into Palestine Festival, Minneapolis, May 16-19. This festival celebrates the art, culture, & people of Palestine. This collaboration between Bright Stars of Bethlehem, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Lord of Life Lutheran Church & Christmas Lutheran Church of Bethlehem will include art exhibits, documentary film screening, cooking demonstrations and more! Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb will be presenting at several of the events. All details on bulletin board.

Interested in pancakes today? St. Paul’s UCC, 426 Washington St., Wausau, will be hosting a fundraiser for the Open Door. Today till 12:30 pm. Adults - \$7, Ages 4-12 - \$4, under age 4 are free. The mission of the Open Door is organized to provide charitable and educational services to meet the immediate needs of individuals who are incarcerated and/or who have been released from jail or prison.

Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Address is: c/o Moruti (Pastor) Rev. G.M. Nkale, P.O. Box 160, Motswedi 2870, Republic of South Africa. Email for Pastor: nkalesto@gmail.com

Attendance For 4/29/18 73

Coffee fellowship today is hosted by Linda Hulstrom, Judi McGill, Marge Warner.

SERVING US TODAY

Worship Leader	Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras
Assisting Minister	Maggie Westaby
Ministers	All Members of Immanuel
Pianist	Marino Taylor
Acolyte	Layne Heffner
Communion Assistant	Maggie Westaby
Head Usher	Dan Westaby
Reader	Vern Diestelhorst
Greeters	Joan Winterhoff & Mary Meyer
Nursery	Deb Case
Video Recorder	Jamie Rice-Heckendorf
Presentation Manager	
Altar Guild	Deb Palmer
Contact Person	Dolores Riege

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun.	May 06	9:00a	Communion Worship Service, Noisy Offering
		10:15a	Coffee Fellowship
		11:00a	Movie for kids
Mon.	May 07		-----
Tues.	May 08	5:30p	Handbell Choir Practice
		5:45p	TV Worship CH 980
Wed.	May 09		-----
Thurs.	May 10	7:30a	Men's Discussion Group
		9:00a	Quilters
		9:15a	TV Worship CH 980
Fri.	May 11		Church Office Closed
Sat.	May 12		-----
Sun.	May 13		Blast Off for Books Due at ILC
		9:00a	Communion Worship Service, First Communion Candidates
		10:15a	Sunday School
		10:15a	Coffee Fellowship