

# Order of Worship for May 2, 2021

## Season of Easter

**Prelude by Shirley Bergman**

**Welcome**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ,  
for these waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.  
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth,  
like streams that revive our souls,  
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.  
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.  
Make us one, risen Christ.  
Cleanse our hearts.  
Shower us with life.  
To you be given all praise,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN: *ELW #385 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing***

**GREETING**

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.**

## **DIALOGUE OF PRAISE**

O Lord, open my lips

**And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God

**That we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Praise to the blessed and holy Trinity, one God,

**who gives us life, salvation, and resurrection.**

Praise to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **First Reading: 1 John 4:7-21**

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

7Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the

Savior of the world. 15God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 17Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19We love because he first loved us. 20Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 21The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 22:25-31**

25From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

**26The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

**Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

27All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**28For dominion belongs to the Lord,**

**who rules over the nations.**

29Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

**30Their descendants shall serve the Lord,**

**whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

31They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

Psalm Song - "O Love! (Psalm 22)" by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Verse 1: O Love, you never turned away

O Love, you never turned away

We remember and return to you

O Love, you never turned away

Verse 2: O Love, you listened when we cried

O Love, you listened when we cried  
We remember and return to you  
O Love, you listened when we cried

Verse 3: O Love, you brought us through the pain  
O Love, you brought us through the pain  
We remember and return to you  
O Love, you brought us through the pain

Verse 4: O Love, your story is our life  
O Love, your story is our life  
We remember and return to you  
O Love, your story is our life

**GOSPEL: John 15:1-8**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.*

The Holy Gospel According to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 1“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 2He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #379 *Now the Green Blade Rises***

## **APOSTLE'S 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 power of 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**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Comfort all who mourn the loss of friends, mentors, and loved ones. Provide for the needs of all, especially those around the world who are struggling with the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, using waves or peace signs.*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

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.**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness

to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.  
Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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**

Friends of Jesus, receive nourishment for your journey. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Receive the body of Christ, given for you.  
Receive the blood of Christ, shed for you.

*All are invited to eat and drink the communion elements they have with them. If desired, individuals from the same household may serve each other.*

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Wellspring of joy,  
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.  
Satisfy the hunger still around us,  
and send us as joyful witnesses,  
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

#### **BLESSING**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom  
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.



The God of life,  
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN: *ELW #389 Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing***

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| <p><b>1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.<br/>The cross stands empty to the sky.<br/>Let streets and homes with praises ring.<br/>Love, drowned in death, shall never die.</b></p> <p><b>2 Christ is alive! No longer bound<br/>to distant years in Palestine,<br/>but saving, healing, here and now,<br/>and touching ev'ry place and time.</b></p> <p><b>3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,<br/>where color, scorn, or wealth divide,</b></p> | <p><b>Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,<br/>and lives, where even hope has died.</b></p> <p><b>4 Women and men, in age and youth,<br/>can feel the Spirit, hear the call,<br/>and find the way, the life, the truth,<br/>revealed in Jesus, freed for all.</b></p> <p><b>5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring<br/>good news to this and every age,<br/>till earth and sky and ocean ring<br/>with joy, with justice, love, and praise.</b></p> |
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## **DISMISSAL**

### **Postlude by Shirley Bergman**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

## **BY THE NUMBERS**

Attendance 4/25/21: 26

Check Register Balance 04/29/21

Current: \$8,550.58

Bank Loan: \$427.27+ interest

**Offering:**04/25/2021

Current: \$1,930

Benevolence: \$207

Improvement: \$85

Stained Glass repair: \$150

**Military members:** Jordan Leach is home from Sheppard AFB TX. Both he and Justin are at the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City, IA. If you know of anyone else serving in the armed forces, please contact the church office ([secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org](mailto:secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org)) or (827-6626). We'd like to remember them in our prayers.

**\*\*Pastoral Care:** Pastor Kristen is available for pastoral care by phone at 563-212-1366.

**EWALU Spring Work Day:** Saturday, May 1, Volunteers are invited to Camp EWALU to help with a variety of outdoor service projects. The day starts at 9:00 a.m. Sack lunch provided. Please RSVP to [camp@ewalu.org](mailto:camp@ewalu.org) or call 563-933-4700.

**Summer Food Program:** The churches of the Jesup Ministerial will once again be working together to provide food for area families through the Summer Food Program this summer. Every other week during the summer, volunteers will pack food that will be picked up by Jesup families in need. This year, we are asking that folks from American Lutheran collect instant oatmeal that can be distributed to the families. Typically we have around 15-20 families and they will get food 5 times this summer. Please bring oatmeal to the church and place it in the shopping cart in the entryway. And save the date-- ALC will be packing food and distributing food on July 21, 4:30-6:00pm at St. A's cafeteria.

**Graduate Sunday:** May 16 will be graduate recognition Sunday. We will be honoring our high school graduate at worship. We would also like to recognize anyone from the congregation who has graduated from anything else in the past year— college, tech school, etc. Please send any graduate information to Pastor Kristen or to Jessica at [secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org](mailto:secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org)

**Special Congregational Meeting:** I, Maureen Even, Council President, am calling a Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 23, 2021 after the 9:00 am worship service is completed. The purpose of the meeting will be to update the congregational members about the Pastor Share Contract with Zion Lutheran Church (Jubilee) and also to vote on replacing windows in the basement which would include the following areas: fellowship hall, pantry and stairwell in the basement. Quorum for the meeting is 25 congregational members. We hope you will be able to attend the informational meeting.

Thank you, Maureen