

# *Triune Lutheran Church*

PEACE

I leave with you.

MY  
*Peace*

**DON'T** let your

**HEART**

be Troubled,

**Neither** let it be **Fearful.**

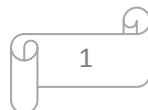
JOHN 14:27

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



*We thank you for joining us here  
at Triune Lutheran Church, a  
family united by our Risen Lord,  
Jesus Christ!*



In order to make you feel more at home, here are a few notes about the service. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. We hope to make your time here as meaningful as possible!

## *Worship*

- The \* by the headings throughout the service indicate when we invite you to stand, as you are able.
- The light print will be spoken by the pastor or another worship leader, while we encourage you to speak the **bold print**.
- The hymns are chosen from our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) hymnal, which is the red book directly in front of you in the pews. You will find the hymns in the last two-thirds of the book with the bold numbers on the top of the pages.
- We welcome all the baptized to join us in the Lord's Supper, where we believe Jesus is present "in, with, and under" the bread and wine as his body and blood. After the organist and assisting minister commune, you will be invited to come forward up the non-organ side aisle to the pastor, who will give you bread (gluten-free wafers also available upon request). You are encouraged to keep the bread in your hands and then dip it into the chalice of wine for intinction. You may also come forward to receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded. You may return to your seat up the center aisle. If you are unable to come forward, the elements will be brought to you.
- For visitors, if you so choose, we encourage you to fill out a card available at the center-aisle end of the pew to learn more about us.

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, O Living One,  
for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly.  
All life is sustained by you, our Source of new life.  
We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
who frees us from sin and raises us up to that new life.

Here, at this font, we touch the river of the water of life,  
bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God.  
Here, death is washed away forever.  
Here, we are grafted into the tree of life,  
with leaves for the healing of the world.

Holy Spirit, pour out yourself on all those gathered here,  
into this community, and throughout all creation.  
Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions.

Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen!**

**\*GATHERING HYMN**

“Word of God, Come Down on Earth”

ELW 510

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Bountiful God, you gather your precious children into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by you as the Holy Spirit, we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior and Lord, now and forever. **Amen!**

**FIRST READING**

Acts 16:9-15

<sup>9</sup>During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” <sup>10</sup>When 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.

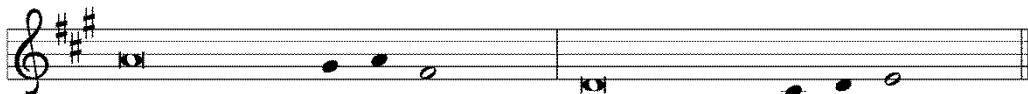
<sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for

some days. <sup>13</sup>On 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. <sup>14</sup>A 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. <sup>15</sup>When 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

Psalm 67



- <sup>1</sup>May God be merciful to | us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face | shine upon us.
- <sup>2</sup>**Let your way be known | upon earth,**  
**your saving health a- | mong all nations.**
- <sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise | you, O God;  
let all the | peoples praise you.
- <sup>4</sup>**Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,**  
**for you judge the peoples with equity and guide**  
**all the na- | tions on earth.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples | praise you, O God;  
let all the | peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup>**The earth has brought | forth its increase;  
God, our own | God, has blessed us.**

<sup>7</sup>May God | give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.

## SECOND READING

Revelation 21:10,22-22:5

<sup>10</sup>And 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.

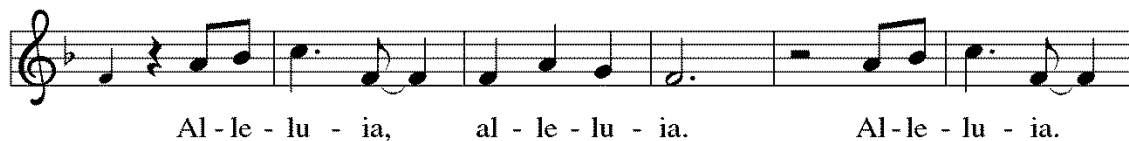
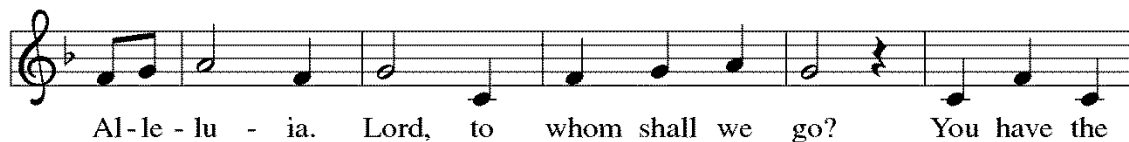
<sup>22</sup>I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup>The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But 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.

<sup>22:1</sup>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 <sup>2</sup>through 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. <sup>3</sup>Nothing 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; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And 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!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*GOSPEL

John 14:23-29

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

<sup>23</sup>Jesus 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. <sup>24</sup>Whoever 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.

<sup>25</sup>“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But 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. <sup>27</sup>Peace 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. <sup>28</sup>You 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. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

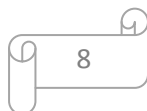
This is the holy Gospel of our Lord!  
**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## **SERMON**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

“I want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

ELW 815





## **\*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**

Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Holy Spirit, convince us daily that you have called us to proclaim the good news of your grace. Let all who love you proclaim your word of life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Feed us with the bounty of your creation. Bless the earth with enough rain and sunshine for the flourishing of orchards, gardens, and fields. Give us thankful hearts as we share the fruit of the land with all who hunger. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The leaves of your tree of life are for the healing of the nations. Bring an end to civil war, genocide, terrorism, and violence. Overcome divisions of race, politics, and religion. Mend relationships across borders and across oceans. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Our hearts are troubled and afraid. Visit us again with your peace. Comfort those facing uncertain futures: those who are unemployed or underemployed, those in difficult relationships, those with chronic pain, those waiting for news about their health, and those who are sick, including including Bev Deitrick, Paul Loede, Hazel Schwab, Trudy Weidman, Mardell Weiss, Dave & Clara Wilcox, Jenny Bennett, Cathy Gallagher, Dianne Handlovics, Richard Jakubcin, Matt Loede, Mary Phillips, George Tomaselli, those serving in the armed forces and as first responders, and all those we name in our hearts...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for all who have died in service to nation. Inspire us to walk in your light and to live for the sake of freedom and justice for all your precious children. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Open the gates of salvation to all who are written in your book of life. Lead us into the city that needs no light of sun or moon, where you will be our light forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen!**

## \*PEACE

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always!  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### \*OFFERING HYMN

“Thine the Amen”

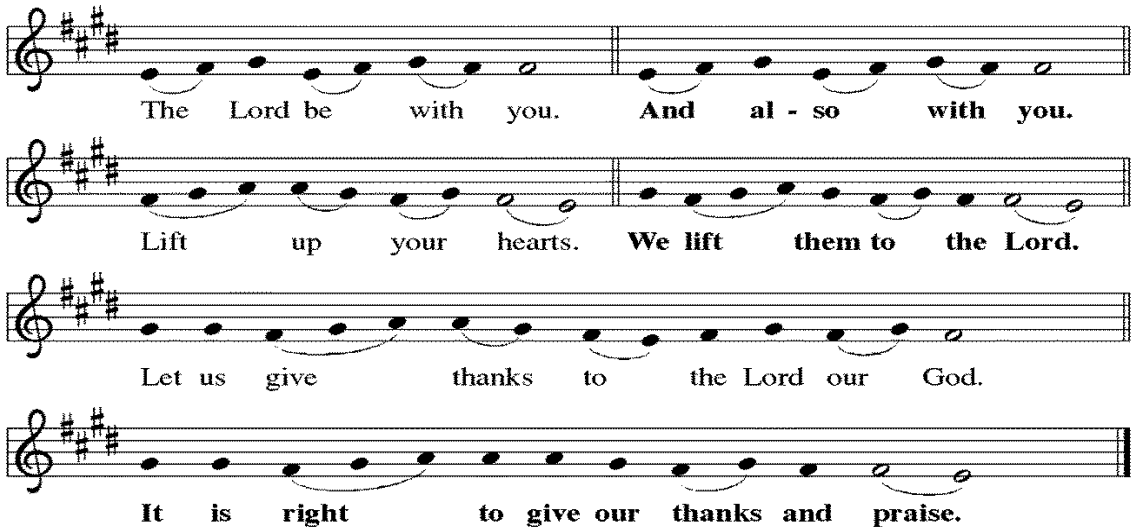
VERSE 1

ELW 826

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,  
as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore,  
meet us now in this meal.  
Nourish us to follow you,  
using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary,  
for the sake of new life for all. **Amen!**

### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

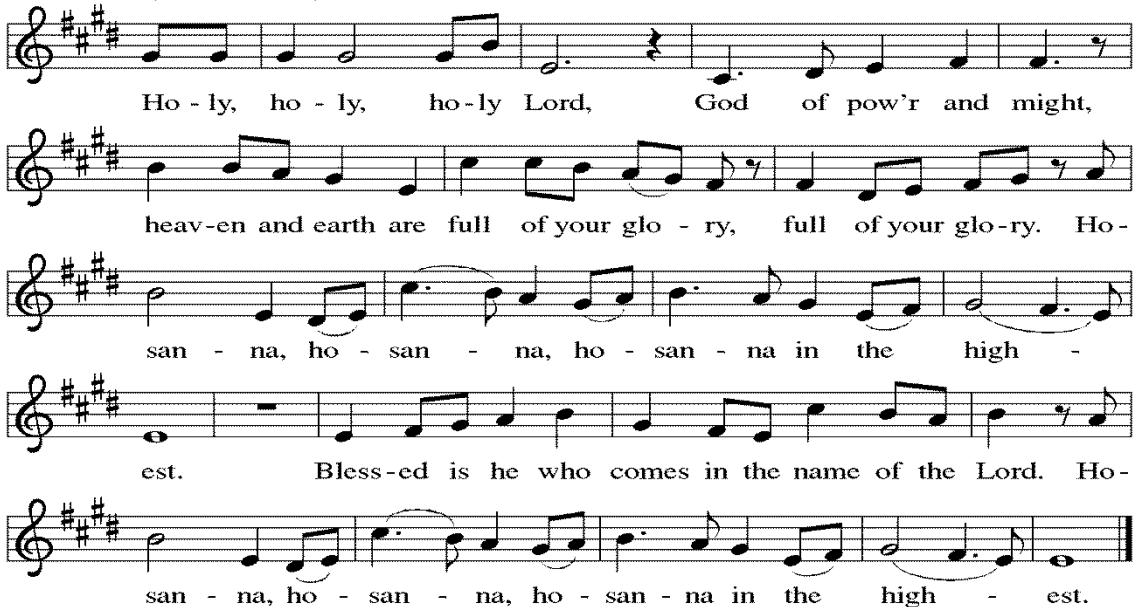
## \*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our  
sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in 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:

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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.

Holy Spirit, breathe on us and on this bread and cup:  
carry us in your arms from death to life,  
that we may live as your precious children,  
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
both now and forever. **Amen!**

### **\*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

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,  
gives everyone a place at this welcome table.

Alleluia! Come to the feast!

**Thanks be to God!**

## \*COMMUNION HYMN



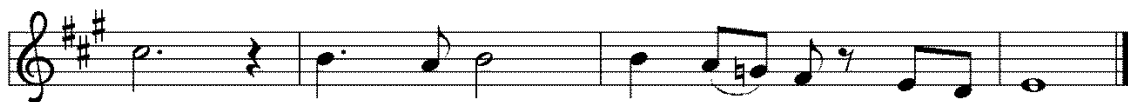
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



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, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION



## **\*COMMUNION PRAYER**

Living God,  
you have greeted us in our brokenness  
and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us.  
Risen to new life with you,  
send us now to bear your healing love  
into the wounded world,  
in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.  
**Amen!**

## **\*BLESSING**

The blessing of the living God,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
surround and sustain you,  
keep you from harm,  
and fill you with courage into life everlasting!  
**Amen!**

## **\*SENDING HYMN**

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

ELW 888

## **\*DISMISSAL**

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world!  
Go in peace. Share the good news!  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

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Ministers: ***All People***  
Pastor: ***Maria Bernardo***  
Organist: ***Edith Schatt***  
Worship Leader: ***Dale Kirk***  
Office Manager: ***Jan Piskac***

The Eternal Light for May is from the Schwab's.  
The Flower bouquet is from Victoria Gorow  
in loving memory of Ed Uhler.

***With Wreaths upon Our Heads***



The Rev. Howard Thurman in his book *Jesus and the Disinherited* (New York/Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1949) tells a story of coming upon an older man planting a grove of pecan trees. The small arbors were maybe 3-feet high, and he asked the man why he didn't plant larger, fuller trees so as to be able to eat some of the fruit before he died.

The man, in his wisdom, noted that for his whole life he'd eaten of trees he didn't plant. Why then should he not plant trees for people to eat from long after he is gone? "Besides," he went on, "the man who plants because he will reap the harvest has no faith in life."

My own sordid views and relationship with war is put aside, for just a bit, on Memorial Day because Memorial Day is not about war but about funerals. And if there is one thing that I understand, it's burial. I have buried too many in my short pastorate, young and old.

Memorial Day is about the buried.

We miss this, of course, because culture sometimes tends to lump all of these nationally flavored days of remembrance into one-note celebrations of military and might.

But Memorial Day is not that; Memorial Day is unique among them.

Memorial Day is the day we go to those groves of graves that we've planted in times of war to honor those who never saw the fruit of their labors: the reluctant and the willing, the conscripted and the volunteer, the known and the unknown. We place flowers and wreaths at these graves—the wreath being an especially appropriate marker. In ancient times, it was often a sign of victory, but on the grave, it takes on a different role. The never-ending circle reminds us of the eternity of God's "Kairos" time, to which we entrust the fallen, while the flowers that adorn it speak to the transitory nature of our own "chronos" time.

The staggering equality that death puts upon a humanity so often obsessed with status is tragic and humbling and worth taking a day to ponder—especially when death comes in times of conflict. In a way, Memorial Day could be a catalyst to learning war no more, as the prophet pleads (Isaiah 2:4). When held alongside the immense tragedy, the immense gratitude felt on this day might just be enough to attune our hearts toward faith in life and the God who gives life.

As I walk the grave groves on this Memorial Day, I'll do so with no small measure of love for those who've planted with their lives a harvest that I feast on in my civic life. And I pray not-so-silently that we don't have to plant anymore groves like this in the world.

The God whose resurrection and redemption promises continually orient me toward faith in life reminds me that I don't glory in the death of anyone. Rather, in weekly worship I celebrate the fact that we will one day rise to meet our Savior, trampling death under our feet.

That is God's victory, but we reap the harvest. And then it will be with wreaths upon our heads rather than on our graves.



*Tim Brown is a pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Raleigh, N.C., and a frequent contributor to Living Lutheran. He blogs at Reluctant Xtian.*

This is the last week to donate pocket-sized Kleenex, combs and men's deodorant in honoring Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, by helping the residents of the largest men's shelter in the state of Ohio, run by LMM at 2100 Lakeside in Cleveland. The collection box is in our hallway!

