

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Jean Welch – “Here I Am, Lord,” arr. Carter

GATHERING

**Call to Worship and Confession*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Silence for Reflection and Confession

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Call to Worship – “Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord”* (piano)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see You, I want to see You.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see You, I want to see You.

**To see You high and lifted up, Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love, As we sing holy, holy, holy. Repeat**

Coda: As we sing holy, holy, holy.

We sing holy, holy, holy.

We sing holy, holy, holy.

I want to see You. Repeat coda

I want to see You.

**Greeting and Prayer of the Day*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

**Sharing Christ's Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children's Sermon

Hymn of Praise – “Alleluia” (organ)

to the tune of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (ELW 836)

Alleluia, Alleluia, hearts to heaven and voices raise.

Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.

He who on the cross as Savior for the world's salvation bled.

Jesus Christ the King of Glory now is risen from the dead.

WORD

Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Reader: Carol VanderKloot

¹Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:* Mark 9:34-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.'

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: "Martin Luther, a Faithful Servant"

Song of the Day – "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" ELW 504 (organ)

1 **A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!**

**With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

- 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!**

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time

“Blessings,” arr. Galbraith
Kelly Hartz, solo

Stewardship is about our grateful response to God's grace for us. How do you respond? If you would like to financially support our ministry together, you can place a donation in an offering box or through our website. If you would like to support our ministry together through service, you can find a list of ministry teams online or on our ministry team menu. Consider joining a ministry team, or starting a new one, today!

–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–

**Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Words of Institution*

P: 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.

**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.

Communion Songs

“Great is Thy Faithfulness” ELW 733 (organ)

- 1 **Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

*Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

- 2 **Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain**
- 3 **Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain**

“Make Me a Servant” (piano)

**Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “These Are the Days of Elijah”* *(piano)*

**1. These are the days of Elijah, declaring the word of the Lord;
and these are the days of your servant, Moses, righteousness being restored.
And though these are days of great trial, of famine and darkness and sword,
still we are the voice in the desert crying, ‘Prepare ye the way of the Lord.’”**

*Refrain: Behold, he comes riding on the clouds,
shining like the sun at the trumpet call;
lift your voice, it’s the year of jubilee, out of Zion’s hill salvation comes.*

**2. These are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh;
and these are the days of your servant, David, rebuilding a temple of praise.
These are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in the world,
and we are the lab’ers in your vineyard, declaring the work of the Lord. *Refrain***

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song Credits

“Open the Eyes of My Heart,” words and music by Paul Baloche. CCLI#973583

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“Make Me a Servant,” from **Songs for Praise & Worship**, Word Music, © 1992. CCLI#973583

“These Are the Days of Elijah,” from **The Source**, Kevin Mayhew Limited, © 1998. CCLI#973583

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Hallie Mayner
Greeter: Judy Dillard
Reader: Carol VanderKloot
Usher: Liddy Stark
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Sabbatical Pastor: Paul Schwartzkopf
Music Director: Jean Welch
Organist: Sandi Watts
Pianist: Jean Welch
Drummer: John Demien
Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Monica Proefrock
Chancel Committee: Kim Heise
Coffee Hosts: Hallie Mayner & Liddy Stark



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	Carol VanderKloot
Louis Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Cole Street	
Marilyn Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Melissa Street	

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Gaylon Martin	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, April 28, 9:30am: Worship **Friends from Faith Card Ministry**
10:45am: Sunday School + Book Club with Glen VanderKloot

Wednesday, May 1, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Saturday, May 4, 8:00am: Cooking for 9:00am Men's Breakfast

Sunday, May 5, 9:30am: Worship **Pastor Adam's return**
10:45am: Potluck
4:00pm: Bells in Motion Concert

Wednesday, May 8, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

News Updates

Save the date!

May 5th is going to be a day full of joyous reunions, heartfelt gratitude, and meaningful reflections as we welcome back Pastor Adam and the Dichsen family AND celebrate Pastor Paul and Ann Schwartzkopf's contributions to our Faith Family. Also, some members of Faith will share their sabbatical experiences and aspirations for the future.

After the 9:30 service, a **potluck lunch** will be served. After all, what better way to look ahead than with family, food, and faith by your side? See you all at 9:30 am for the service! Don't forget to **sign up for the potluck on the counter outside the sanctuary**.

Sunday School

Calling all kids! After worship, fellowship, and snacks, we will gather for music and then head to our classes. We have two classes this year, one for pre-K through Kindergarten and the other for early elementary. If you have questions or are interested in helping, contact Patty Nelson at 217-653-3105.

Book Discussion – today

If You Want to Walk on Water, You've got to Get Out of the Boat, by John Ortberg will teach you how to move beyond fear to discover God's unique calling for your life! Glen VanderKloot will lead discussion **today** in the Justice Room at 10:45am.

Peter may have been the first one out of the boat, but Jesus' invitation to walk on water is for you as well. But walk on water? What does that even mean? This book helps you answer Christ's call to greater faith, power-filled deeds, and a new way of knowing how to discern God's call, transcend fear, risk faith, manage failure, and trust God. Relating the story in Matthew 14 to life today, teacher and bestselling author John Ortberg invites you to consider the incredible potential that awaits you outside your comfort zone.

Out on the risky waters of faith, Jesus is waiting to meet you in ways that will change you forever, deepening your character and your trust in God. Books are available for \$10 in the gathering area on the cabinet under the working cross.

Friends From Faith

A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn: on the last Sunday of each month — everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **Today**, you can visit the tall white table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Men's Breakfast

Come and connect with other men as we share our faith and enjoy some good food on **Saturday, May 4**. At 8:00, we hang out in the kitchen, helping to cook, drink coffee, and visit. At 9:00, we sit down for some conversation and discussion on a specific topic.

Bells in Motion Concert at Faith

Bells in Motion will be presenting an *Out of this World* concert on **Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 pm**. This is a free concert, but a donation would be appreciated. Some of the music they will be ringing is the Star Trek theme, Star Wars medley by John Williams, music from Lord of the Rings, plus other favorites such as *Fly Me to the Moon*.

If you want to be entertained and mesmerized by awesome bell ringing, you need to come to this concert. The kids and grandkids will love it as well.



Neighbors in Need Outreach

Neighbors in Need Outreach is today at 12:00pm at Go Church (767 S. West St.). They will be serving a hot meal and giving away sleeping bags, socks, towels, and hygiene items.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

Join us on **Wednesday, May 8th** at 6:00pm at El Patron for some delicious food and fun conversation. Please RSVP to Monica Proefrock at 217-737-0475 by Sunday, May 5th if you're planning to join us.

Discipleship Group

Join our monthly discussion at 10:00am on **Wednesday, May 15**, in the Faith Library. We will explore the Bible, enjoy some tasty treats, and continue to strengthen our relationships. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Doorbell Dinners

Our next times to deliver are **May 27-31**. A sign-up sheet is available in the gathering area on the counter by the Coffee Sales. May 27 is Memorial Day, but we will still deliver meals that day.

Youth Group Help Wanted

One of the hats worn by Pastor Adam is youth leader. In his absence, we are looking for people willing to lead an event, host a meal, or lead a youth Sunday school class. If you are interested, please let Kelly Hartz know. We have a wonderful group of youth, and you would be blessed by your time with them!

Summer Youth Camps

Performing Arts Camp (PAC) at Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on June 14-15, 21-22, and 28-29. Cost is \$50/camper.

Fire in Our Hearts (FIOH) at Green Pastures is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on July 8-12 and 22-26. Cost is \$135/camper.

If needed, scholarships are available.

Registration link: <http://www.greenpasturesretreatcenter.org/registration>.

For more information call: 217-584-1374

Email: contact@greenpasturesretreatcenter.org

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Contribution Envelopes for 2024 are available in the office.