May 4, 2025 The Third Sunday of Easter 10:00 AM

In the book of Acts, we learn the history of the early church. Its stories not only tell of the church's rapid growth, they also illustrate the conflict that happens as people learn how to be a community. Conflict still happens in the church today.

As we navigate it, we remember how Jesus taught us to live with and for each other, and to let that be what guides us.



Welcome to Worship!

As we prepare for worship, please silence your mobile devices. We invite you to a time of silence and focus.

Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church

WELCOME TO WORSHIP: It is our joy to welcome you to worship today, in-person and from wherever you may be viewing. We give thanks for whatever brought you, and pray that you may experience the love of God surrounding you and upholding you as we gather to give thanks to God through Word and Sacrament.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available to use in the Sanctuary for worship. They are located in the Sound Booth; ask the Sound Booth operator if you would like to use one.

WORSHIP IS LIVESTREAMED in the Faith and Family Center (located near the entrance doors to the large parking lot). Anyone is welcome to worship in that space.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN WORSHIP! Like Jesus who welcomed children to his ministry, Saint Andrew's welcomes children to our worship services. Re-usable activity bags (for readers and non-readers) with books, stickers, crayons, paper, and a snack are available from the usher/hospitality team; please return the bags following worship.

- "Younger Disciples Tips" are in the bulletin with ideas to engage children in worship.
- "A Time for Younger Disciples" during worship invites all God's children to listen to a message.

Health Practices in place to help reduce the spread of viruses and illness:

- Mask wearing is optional. Anyone who wishes to mask is welcome to do so.
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building.

For other activities, events, meetings check our website: https://SALC.church

VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING IN PROGRESS

Saint Andrews livestreams and records its worship services to YouTube.
Video and Audio recording is currently in progress. It is possible that
video footage and/or audio conversations of worshippers in the Saint Andrew's
Sanctuary may appear on the YouTube livestream/recording.

GATHERING

Worship leaders will say text in light print. **Congregation will say/respond with bold text.**

PRELUDE

"Hymn to Joy" Will Simpson, organ tune by Beethoven arr. Albert L Travis

WELCOME Pastor Lara

Please stand as you are able.



Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, \pm one God, who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sins.

Silence for reflection.

To you, O God,

all hearts are open and all desires are known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, + God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. Eternal God,

enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Grant us your help in times of conflict; and amid all that seeks to destroy your community, lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

Please be seated.

A TIME FOR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Pastor Lara

WORD

In the early church, as Jewish people from all sorts of backgrounds join the disciples to follow Jesus, they learn how to work together to become one community.

A Reading from Acts:

Acts 6:1-7:2a, 44-60

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen.

But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law, for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Then the high priest asked him, "Are these things so?" And Stephen replied: "Sister and brothers, mothers and fathers, listen to me.

"Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the pattern he had seen. Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the peoples whom God drove out before our ancestors. And it was there until the time of David, who found favor with God and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob. But it was Solomon who built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands; as the prophet says,

'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? Did not my hand make all these things?'

"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it."

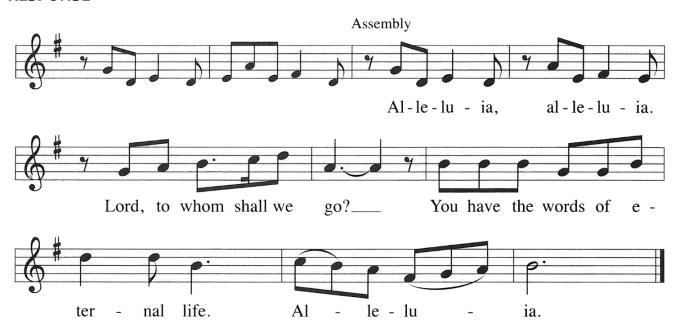
When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Humanity standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.

Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE



SERMON Pastor Lara

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Beloved, God's Chosen



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Trusting in God's baptismal promises, we affirm our faith using the words of the Apostles' 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.

Younger Disciples Tip ~ Prayers/Offering: Invite children to write down who they want to pray for this week and one way they can serve their family/community.

THE PRAYERS

After each petition, the leader will say, "God of grace". Your response is, **hear our prayer.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet people around you as you are comfortable.

Please be seated.

^{*} here, "catholic" means the wholeness of the church in all times and places.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Lara

OFFERING: Our ushers will be passing offering plates. We welcome your gifts to support the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church. There are envelopes in the pews, or you can give online using the QR code.



OFFERTORY MUSIC

"Nocturne" Opus 9 no. 1 Emma Lu, piano Frederic Chopin



Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY VERSE



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Jesus, our risen Savior,

you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

MEAL

GREAT 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 the Lord our God.

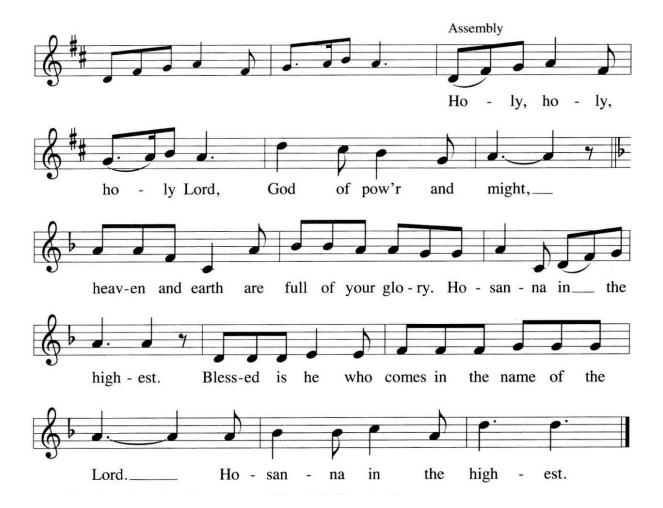
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



SANCTUS



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, blessed and broke it and shared it with his friends, saying, "Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After they had eaten, Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and shared it with his friends, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

We pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

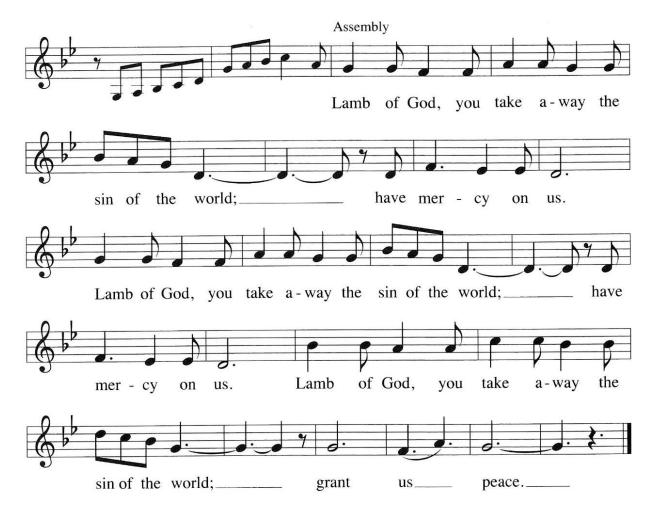
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

We wait silently as the participants who are worshiping online are communed.

LAMB OF GOD



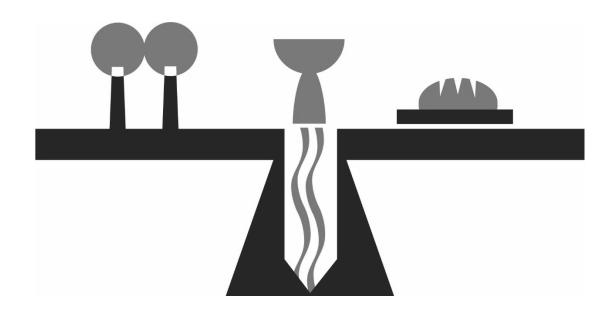
COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion is received around the altar rail. You are invited to kneel or stand as you feel comfortable. Please follow the directions of the ushers and use the hand sanitizer provided.

Bread is placed in the hands.

Red wine and White grape juice are offered by individual cup. Please ask if you would like a gluten-free option.

If you wish to be communed in your seat, please let one of the ushers/hospitality team know.



COMMUNION HYMN

The Day of Resurrection!



Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us prayer together. Living God, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.

Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

Amen

SENDING

Younger Disciples Tip ~ Blessing: Mark the sign of the cross on your child's forehead as a reminder of this sending blessing.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope \pm bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Let All Things Now Living



SENDING

All children and youth are invited to come forward to participate in the sending.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"Italian Concerto" Movement 3 "Presto" Emma Lu, piano

Thank you to all who are assisting in worship today:

Stella Neiman and Mike Oswalt, Greeters

Pastor Lara Forbes, Preaching and Presiding Minister
Dr. Will Simpson, Director of Music
Elaine Koga, Accompanist
Amy Baro, Assisting Minister
Jean Wahlstrom, Lector
Melanie Grad, Acolyte
Mark Davis and Art Gurtel, Ushers
Malinda and Zoe Elien, Altar Guild
Susan Hegedus, Livestream Video
Peter Cornwell, Audio

LITURGY and MUSIC: Unless otherwise noted, liturgy, liturgical music, and hymns are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and All Creation Sings (ACS), and Scripture readings are from New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV) Liturgy and NRSV text from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress; streamed/reprinted with permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006660. All rights reserved. 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. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under OneLicense.net #A-718073. All rights reserved. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under CCLI #2042297 and #CSPL048062. All rights reserved.

YOUTH NEWS: Get those calendars out and plan to be part of the upcoming spring/summer Youth & Family activities! Go to the ELF website (www.elfpnw.org) for more information and registration! Or email Doug Johnson at doug@salc.church.

- **Sunday, June 1, 4pm-6:30pm;** Bunco and Burritos Fundraiser! Cost: \$20 per person. This event supports the Tiny House Build happening in late June. Look for ways you can support this event and plan to attend!
- Youth Retreat; August 11-14. Rising 6th graders graduated 12th graders are invited to attend. Cost: \$150, scholarships are available!
- Vacation Bible School: VBS will be held at three Eastside locations:
 - Mt. Si Lutheran Church July 14-18
 - Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church July 21-25
 - St. Luke's Lutheran Church August 11-15 Which location/date works for you???

May Dates to Remember:

May 18: Sunday Brunch Bunch. Plan to stay after church for good food and conversation. Challenge: Meet three new people! (Sherry needs volunteers!)

Also the Sophia Way Community Brunch; 12:00 PM, Salt House, Kirkland.

May 20: O.W.L.S.: The historical society of Issaquah will be here to enlighten and inform us of local history and their museums.

May 22-25: Our youth will be attending May Youth Weekend at Holden Village! Prayers are welcome for the journey over the mountains!

May 26: Memorial Day – the office is closed.

May 31: Backpack Brigade 5 K

Calendar for the Week

Sunday, May 4

9:00 AM Discipleship Forum,

Sunday School (pre- $K \sim 5^{th}$ Grade)

10:00 AM Worship

Monday, May 5

10:00 AM Health & Wholeness Committee

1:00 PM Staff Meeting

3:00 PM ELCC communications mtg.

7:00 PM Executive Committee

Tuesday, May 6

8:30 AM Tuesday Morning Men

9:30 AM Dorcas Circle

10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study

Wednesday, May 7

10:00 AM W.E.B.S.

Thursday, May 8

Friday, May 9

Office is closed.

Saturday, May 10

Sunday, May 11

Mother's Day

9:00 AM Discipleship Forum. Tanzania Mission

Team

10:00 AM Worship

The Reverend Lara Forbes, Lead Pastor

pastor@SALC.church

The Reverend Timothy T. Weber,

Shared-Time Pastor timwebertt@yahoo.com

Dr. Will Simpson,

Director of Music Ministries

will@SALC.church

Doug Johnson,

Director of Youth and Family Ministries

doug@SALC.church

Sherry Grindeland, Fellowship Coordinator

sherry@SALC.church

Kurt Lutterman, Facilities Manager

kurt@SALC.church

Kathy Fisher, Communications Director

kathy@SALC.church

Vanessa Wilkie, Handbell Choir Director

Elaine Koga, Choir Accompanist

Soren Lester, Facilities Set-up

Ann Thorpe, Sunday Church School Coordinator

Joan Tweten, Kitchen Team

We welcome your support of our mission and ministry. Use the QR Code to give to SALC.





We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.



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