

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

Central Lutheran Church: Called to Share God's Love.

We're glad you are here! Help us welcome you by signing a Welcome to Worship pad.

Please give the name of each person attending worship, including children.

Visitors, may we have your complete address?

Children 5 years and under are welcome in our worship services or in the nursery in room 4.

GATHERING .
PRFI LIDE

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

arr. Marilynn Ham

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

You may face the baptismal font as the service begins. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of † the One who was, who is, and who is to come. Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

The offering plate is located on a table at the center back of the Sanctuary. We welcome your donations to support Central's ministries and beyond via cash, check, card via the Square app on the tablet at the table, or at our website at centluth.org. You are invited to make your contribution during a hymn or the passing of the peace. The offering plate will be delivered to the altar at the offertory time. Thank you.

OPENING HYMN ELW # 593

"Drawn to the Light"



GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Atar flowers today are given by Ken & Vickie Helm in honor of their 51st wedding anniversary.

KYRIE ELW SETTING THREE

ELW pp. 138-39

- In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
 Lord, have mercy.
- □ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
 ↓ Lord, have mercy.
- For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
 ↓ Lord, have mercy.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE ELW SETTING THREE

ELW pp. 140-41

- ☐ Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. refrain
- Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. refrain
- ☐ For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING Acts 16:9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY JUNE 1

Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26

⁹ 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." ¹⁰ 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.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² 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. ¹³

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. ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ 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 67



¹ May God be merciful to ¹ us and bless us; ∥ may the light of God's face ¹ shine upon us.

² Let your way be known | upon earth, || your saving health a- | mong all nations.

³Let the peoples praise [|] you, O God; || let all the [|] peoples praise you.

⁴ Let the nations be glad and ¹ sing for joy, ∥

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- tions on earth.

⁵Let the peoples | praise you, O God; | let all the | peoples praise you.

6 The earth has brought | forth its increase; | God, our own | God, has blessed us.

⁷ May God [|] give us blessing, || and may all the ends of the earth [|] stand in awe.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

¹⁰ 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.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ 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. 24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ 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.

^{22:1} 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 ² 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. 3 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; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 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 ELW SETTING THREE Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

ELW p. 142 Please stand.

GOSPEL John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

The holy gospel according to Saint John. Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ 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. ²⁴ 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.

²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ 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. 27 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. 28 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. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Galbraith

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW # 412

"Come, Join the Dance of Trinity"



- 1 Come, join the dance of Trin i ty, be fore all worlds be gun— 2 Come, see the face of Trin - i - ty, new - born in Beth - le - hem;
- 2 Come, see the face of Trin i ty, new born in Beth le hem; 3 Come, speak a - loud of Trin - i - ty, as wind and tongues of flame
- 4 With in the dance of Trin i tv. be fore all worlds be gun.



the in - ter-weav-ing of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, blood-ied by crown of thorns out side Je - ru - sa - lem. then a peo - ple free at Pen - te - cost to tell the Say - ior's name. set of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, we sing the prais - es



The u - ni - verse of space and time did not a - rise by chance, is meant for The dance of Trin - i - tv hu - man flesh and bone: We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth; love and hope set free. Let in - ter-weave, by rise and



but as the Three, in love and hope, made room with in their dance. when fear con-fines the dance in death, God rolls a - way the stone. go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move! to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trin - i - ty.

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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

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We Ask Your Prayers for:

Alaska Native Lutheran; Immanuel Korean Presbyterian; Amazing Grace Lutheran, Anchorage; Rev. Sean Avery, Gary Bergman, Wendy Bergman, Jan Beverlin, David Bjorkquist, Al Boecker, Joe & Lisa Boecker, Lori Boecker, Yvonne Boecker, Harlan & Ella Braun, Erik Bryant, Maria Bulkow, Betsy Cooper, Kathy Earhart, Dixie Foley, Shannon Foley, Danny Harris, Skyler Harris, Arlen Hattel, Dianne Hillemeyer, Mark Johnson, Nick Klescewski, Pete Kropidlowski, Dee Lambert, Donna Luiten, Arne & Norma Mjolsnes, Kurt and Anne Pasch, Marlene Rapp, John Rogers, Kristina Slater, Lynn Soiseth, Lucile Sorenson, Remi Thrasher, Lee & Jackie van Horn, Andrea Vancil, Bob Voris, Bobbi Whitmire, Mark Wohlgemuth, Mary Wolter, Kallen Young, Kariana, Michael, Hope

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING

The offering plate is located on a table at the center back of the Sanctuary. We welcome your donations to support Central's ministries and beyond via cash, check, card via the Square app on the tablet at the table, or at our website at centluth.org. Thank you.



OFFERING PRAYER Please stand.

Let us pray. Risen One, 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.

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right. . . .

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ELW SETTING THREE

ELW p. 144

 □ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Lord gives us a meal and gives us a prayer. We pray together:

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.

† Invitation to the Meal †

This is not Central's table, not a Lutheran table; this is God's table, and you are all welcome.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table, whether you are a member or a guest. Today we commune in a walking style. If for any reason you would prefer to receive a blessing in lieu of receiving communion, please hold your hand over your heart. You are invited to take time for prayer at the altar rail after taking communion. Gluten-free wafers are available on the tray at the first pew.

Votive candles are available to light in memory of loved ones in the stand on the left side of the altar. Please use the Oil Candle Lighter. It is the small metal box with two removable metal wands. Each wand has a wick on one end that is kept moist with oil from inside the box. Light the wick end of the wand from an already lit votive candle. After lighting a new votive candle, blow out the flame on the wand and place it back into the container, which will re-wet the wick with new oil. Please do not let the wick burn for a long time, as it will use up the oil in the wand and the wick will actually start to burn (which we do not want). Please do not pick up the votive candles to light them. Let each worshipper re-light and extinguish the wand at their turn; do not pass the burning wand to another person.

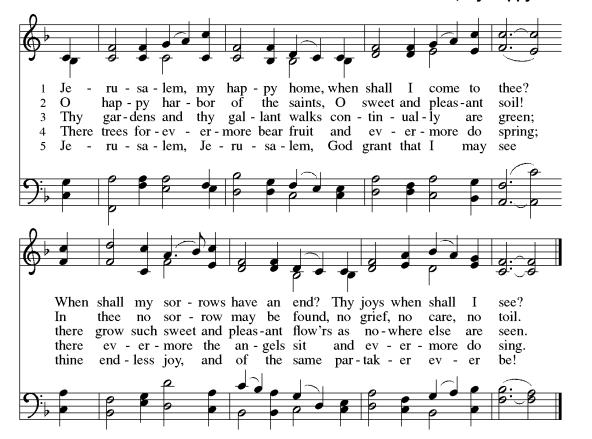
LAMB OF GOD ELW SETTING THREE

ELW p. 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW # 628

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"





The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace and peace. **Amen.**

SENDING ____

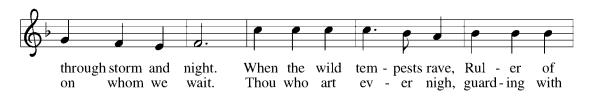
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Living One, 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 ELW #891

"God Bless Our Native Land"







BLESSING

Please face the baptismal font

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Tune and Aire"

by Henry Purcell arr. Jeremiah Clark

Donations welcomed:

Clean clothes, SOCKS, winter gear, usable shoes & boots, backpacks, blankets & more for Helping Hands Clothing Closet

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Called to Share God's Love

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VISION

Living out God's Grace and Love through Worship, Learning, Fellowship and Service

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CORE VALUES

We are a congregation that

- is open to all,
- values a community of all ages,
- is grounded in scripture and sacrament.
- nurtures individual gifts,
- believes that everyone has something to offer,
- values involvement in the greater community,
- supports all in the challenges and celebrations of their lives, as God meets us where we are.

Thank you to our worship leaders today:

Worship leader: Rev. Mark Galbraith

Choir Director: Tai Wai Li

Musician: Debbie Pankow

Assisting Minister: Keith Padden

Lector: volunteer

A/V Wrangler: volunteer Projectionist: volunteer

Worship:

Sundays 9:30 am worship service

Study:

The Early AM Study meets via zoom at 7 am Tuesdays through May 27 to study Desmond Tutu's book God is Not a Christian and Other Provocations, then takes the summer off.

The **Divine Drama** adult ed LAST class meets Weds 5/28, Noon to 1:30 pm

Book Group is reading Unsheltered: A Novel, by Barbara Kingsolver. Discuss with friends on Monday, June 23, at 4:30 pm.

Ladies, our monthly *Gather Bible study* meets at 2 pm 2nd Mondays, next is June 9. Bring a *Gather* magazine or share ours.

Fellowship:

LSSA Golden Connections invites all seniors 55+ to join us Wednesday, June 18, at Lutheran Social Services of AK (1303 W. 33rd) at 11:30 am for a Welcome *News*: Summer event. RSVP at http:// www.lssalaska.org/gc or 907-272- 0643.

Central Seniors and friends - coffee klatsche every Wednesday at 8:30 am at Kaladi Brothers Coffee on Brayton Drive.

Join our multi-generational group of pickleball players. We play most Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall, often 4:45 -6:15 pm. Text Christi at 646.710.0805 for details. All skill levels welcome.

Come by Central at 6:30 pm this evening for the Alaska Children's Choir concert free will donations invited.

Serve:

Needed: volunteer available 1-3 pm some Tuesdays or Saturdays for Clothes Closet

Year-round, we collect shelf-stable **foods** for LSSA Food Pantry. Our May focus will be PB&J.

THANK YOU to Sandy McKinney, Birte Eliasen, Becky Schaeffer, Debbie Pankow and Dahna Graham for the Brass Band reception. THANK YOU to Birte Eliasen and Steve Lambert for opening up the Anchorage Farmers Market hospitality booth on the first day of the Market. THANK YOU to God for answered prayers: Preston of ANLC is working some of Rey's hours to keep our facility neat and stocked during Rey's vacation, and Facebook followers of the Anchorage Farmers Market Carissa and teen sons Ricky and Willie are taking on the signs & set up worker position. THANK YOU to Shayla Marshall and her coworkers for providing the May 22 evening meal to Clare House

Our Anchorage Farmers Market resumes May 17, 9 am—2 pm Saturdays. Central office manager Kathy Freeman is looking for donations of cookies and bars each week, and for **smiling faces** to volunteer once a month at our hospitality booth.

This Friday, May 30, we host the **4 pm** memorial service for long-time member Jan Adasiak, followed by a reception. (Yep, cookies welcome!)

Saturday, June 7, we celebrate with the Muller family — all welcome to the 2:30 pm Muller-Posposil wedding and tea & cake reception

Sunday 5/25

9:30 am WORSHIP SERVICE with Rev. Mark Galbraith (Sanctuary) or via centluth.org

11 am KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel, Community Room)

2 pm ANLC WORSHIP SERVICE (Sanctuary)

6:30 pm Alaska Children's Choir Concert (Sanctuary)

Monday 5/26 Memorial Day holiday / Church office closed

Russian tutoring meets most days in rooms 3 - 4

Tuesday 5/27

7 am Early AM Study with Deacon Linda Bender via zoom.us

9 am Messenger newsletter deadline for June edition (Church office)

1 - 3 pm Helping Hands Clothing Closet open (HH Closet)

4:45 - 5:45 pm Pickleball (Fellowship Hall)

no Call Committee today

Wednesday 5/28

8:30 - 10 am Coffee Klatsch @ Kaladi Bros. on Brayton

Noon - 1:30 pm The Divine Drama study (Cordova Room) and via zoom.us

2 pm KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel)

Thursday 5/29

10 am - 1 pm Log Cabin Quilters (Fellowship Hall) by 3 pm Volunteers deliver evening meal to Clare House evening Juneau-Douglas HS track team sleeps over

Friday 5/30

2 pm KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel)

4 pm Jan Adasiak Memorial service, reception (Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall)

evening Juneau-Douglas HS track team sleeps over

Saturday 5/31

9 am - 2 pm Anchorage Farmers Market (upper parking lot)

9:30 - 10:30 am WW Meeting (Community Room)

11:30 am - 1:30 pm NAMI (Community Room)

evening ANLC member baby shower (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday 6/1

9:30 am WORSHIP SERVICE with Rev. Mark Galbraith (Sanctuary) or via centluth.org

11 am KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel, Community Room)

2 pm ANLC WORSHIP SERVICE (Sanctuary)

Worship online via centluth.org

free will donation concert open to all

Bible studies & meetings Zoom.us meeting ID 963 8911 9335