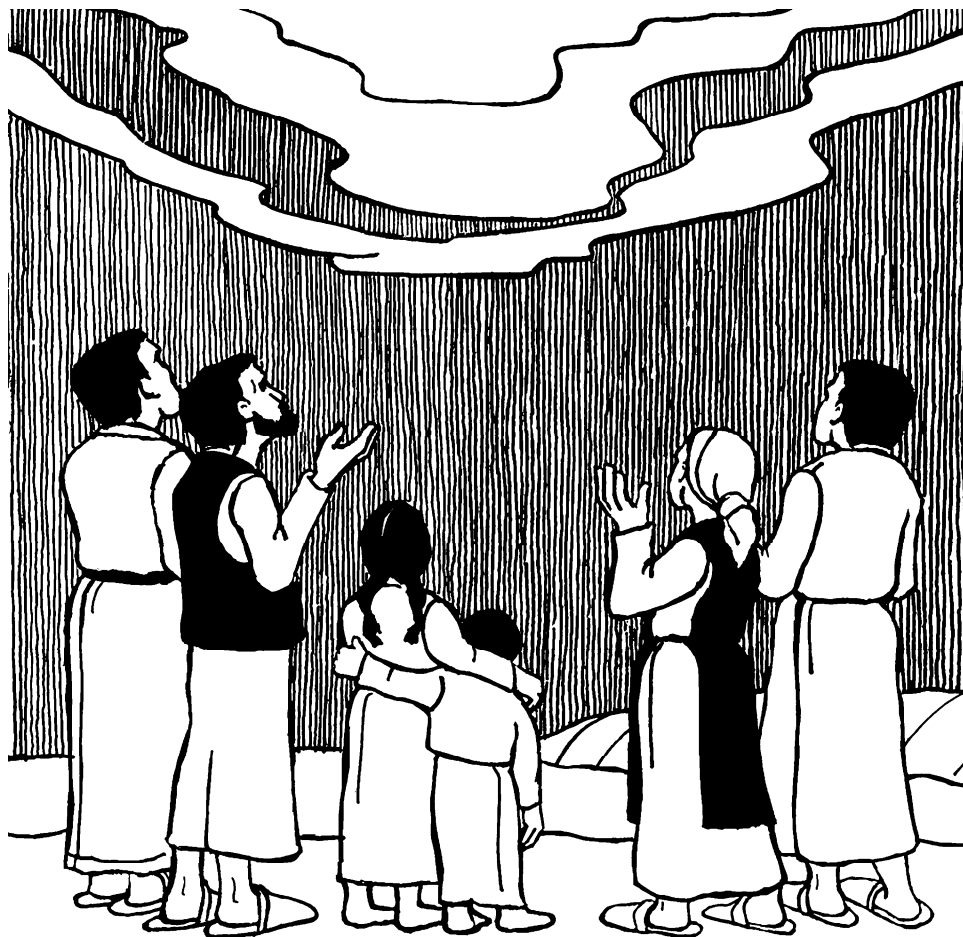


# Ascension of Our Lord

May 12, 2024



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

3600 Hampton - St. Louis, MO 63109

Worship God, welcome all to nurture a community of harmony, healing, and justice.

*Welcome to worship! We're delighted you are here!*



Gethsemane Lutheran Church is a *Reconciling in Christ* Congregation. **You are welcome here.**



We ask all members, guests, and visitors to please fill out the **attendance slip** in your worship folder and place it in the offering plate.



Please **silence** phones and other devices during the worship service. Sharing that you're at Gethsemane on social media is encouraged! "Check in" using hashtag: #glcstlCheckIn.



The presence, energy, and noise of **children** are always welcome in worship at Gethsemane. The sound of a child in worship is music to our ears. We welcome and encourage kids to move and play. Additional space to move and Wiggle Bags are located in the narthex entry area.



**Postures** are a way in which we engage the body in worship. These movements (sitting, standing, making the sign of the cross) are optional; please engage in them only as you are comfortable or able.



**Holy Communion** is offered to all who seek the presence of Christ. This is a welcome table.



Gethsemane Lutheran Church wishes to acknowledge and honor the Osage, Quapaw, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówiŋ, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo peoples upon whose ancestral homelands we gather for worship, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place—this land—and call it their home.

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Minister: Pastor Cheryl Walenta Gorvie  
Office Manager: Kimberly Elliott  
Connections Coordinator: Gretchen Jenson  
Music Director: Dr. Aria Thomé  
Organist: Amy Crousore  
Council President: Gary Borkowski

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**Church Office – (314) 352-8050**

[office@gethsemanestl.org](mailto:office@gethsemanestl.org)

[www.gethsemanestl.org](http://www.gethsemanestl.org)

### *Now the Feast and Celebration*

*In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.*

## GATHERING

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**PRELUDE:** *Andante* from *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*

*W. A. Mozart,  
arr. by Hal Hopson*

*The congregation may stand as comfortable.*

### OPENING LITANY:

**P:** The God who created space and time, journeyed with us in human form, and travels with us still, be with you all..

**And also with you.**

**P:** What should we pack as we begin our journey?

**What should we bring along?**

**P:** The word of God to illumine our path.

**The light of Christ to show us the way.**

**P:** The gifts of the Spirit to share with those we meet.

**The love of God to be our compass and guide.**

**P:** Let us pray. God of our salvation,

**you are the source of all our beginnings. As we plan for our journeys, strengthen us through your word. Orient our lives toward Christ, the bright Morning Star. Send your Holy Spirit as our companion along the way. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### GREETING:

**P:** 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.**

**KYRIE:**

*Assistant:* *Congregation: Refrain*



In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,

*to Verses*




Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

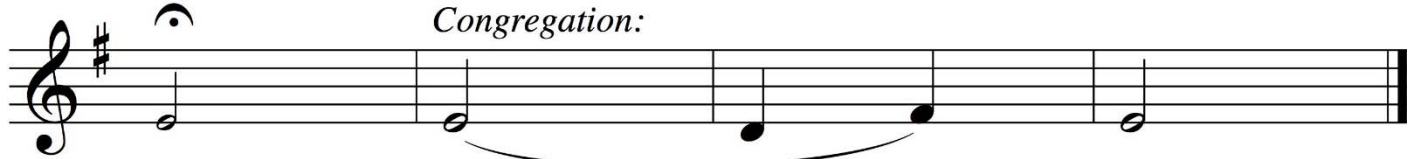
*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*



Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*



God. A - men.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE:

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion




sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

*Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

*Refrain*



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

*Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**AM:** Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

*The congregation is seated.*

## WORD

---

### THE FIRST READING: ACTS 1:1-11

*Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world, and that the disciples will be accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.*

Luke writes: <sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering Jesus presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the dominion of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, Jesus ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," Jesus said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by divine authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When Jesus had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

<sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "You Galileans, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: PSALM 47

*The choir will lead the singing of the Psalm with the congregation singing the bolded lines.*

<sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, | all you peoples;  
shout to God with a | joyful sound.

<sup>2</sup>**For the LORD Most High is | to be feared:  
a great king over | all the earth,**

<sup>3</sup>who subdues the | peoples under us,  
and the nations un- | der our feet;

<sup>4</sup>**who chooses our inheri- | tance for us,  
the pride of Jacob, | whom God loves.**

<sup>5</sup>God has gone up | with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound | of the ram's horn.

<sup>6</sup>**Sing praises to | God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our | king, sing praises.**

<sup>7</sup>For God is king of | all the earth;  
sing praises | with a song.

<sup>8</sup>**God reigns o- | ver the nations;  
God is en- | throned on high.**

<sup>9</sup>The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the | God of Abraham.  
The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is high- | ly exalted.

## SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 1:15-23

*The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.*

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know God, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which God has called you, what are the riches of God's glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of God's power for us who believe, according to the working of God's great power.

<sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and seated him at the right hand of Power in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and might and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And God has put all things under the feet of Christ and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is the body of Christ, the fullness of the one who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand as comfortable.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Repeat optional*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter:  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53

*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>44</sup>Jesus said to the eleven and those with them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you— that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup>Then Jesus led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them; he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is seated.*



# CHILDREN'S SERMON

## SERMON

*The congregation may stand as comfortable.*

### HYMN OF THE DAY: *Before the Ancient One, Christ Stands*



1 Be - fore the An - cient One, Christ stands, en - robed in cloud and  
2 Who was, who is, and is to come as ser - vant lived in  
3 Now in the lat - ter days you call, O Christ, and plead the



bright as snow, five wounds im - print his side, feet, hands, and  
hu - man sphere; com - pas - sion was his di - a - dem; his  
prem - ise clear, that pow - er grasped is none at all, and



thorns, the gar - land on his brow. Yet thrones and  
glo - ry was the gen - tle tear; hu - mil - i -  
serv - ing shows your Spir - it near. As na - tions



pow'rs fall to the knee and weave a song of maj - es - ty,  
ty, his pur - ple garb; the heal - ing hand, his roy - al orb.  
clash and wis - dom wanes, as glo - ries tempt and greed sus - tains,



for what the world ad - mires as gain is not the es - sence  
Such love drew ire and ire drew death, but God has proved the  
you bid us choose in ev - 'ry hour the pow'r of love, the



of Christ's reign, and strength is his, and name and  
tru - er strength, and through all space the host pro -  
great - est pow'r, that love may her - ald God's do -



might, be - cause he pit - ied hu - mans' plight.  
claims the name a - bove all oth - er names.  
main, and you, at last, may come to reign.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953-2021. Music: CHRIST CHURCH, MINNEAPOLIS, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950. Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 2008 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

**P:** Let us confess 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 Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. 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.**

## BLESSING

### THE PRAYERS

**AM:** Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

**AM:** ... God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

**P:** Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.  
**Amen.**

### THE PEACE

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also, with you.**

**P:** Let us share a sign of peace with one another.  
*The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: Peace be with you.*

*The congregation is seated.*

# MEAL

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**THE OFFERING:** *The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

**MUSICAL OFFERING:** *Agnus Dei*

Kinsey Lange

*The congregation may stand as comfortable.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

**AM:** Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider:* *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Detailed description: This block contains the first line of musical notation for 'The Great Thanksgiving'. It features a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. The first four measures are labeled 'Presider:' and the remaining four are labeled 'Congregation:'. The lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.' are written below the notes.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Detailed description: This block contains the second line of musical notation. It features a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps, and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. The first four measures are labeled 'Presider:' and the remaining four are labeled 'Congregation:'. The lyrics 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' are written below the notes.

*Presider:* *Congregation:*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

Detailed description: This block contains the third line of musical notation. It features a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps, and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. The first four measures are labeled 'Presider:' and the remaining four are labeled 'Congregation:'. The lyrics 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is' are written below the notes.

right to give God thanks and praise.

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth line of musical notation. It features a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps, and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. The lyrics 'right to give God thanks and praise.' are written below the notes.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

**P:** It is our duty and delight.... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**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.

## THROUGH CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, IN CHRIST

*Congregation:*

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the  
u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is  
yours, O God, now and for ev - er.  
A - men.

The image shows a musical score for a congregational hymn. It consists of four staves of music in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with the word 'Through' and ends with 'in the'. The second staff continues with 'u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is'. The third staff continues with 'yours, O God, now and for ev - er.'. The fourth staff concludes with 'A - men.'.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P:** Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave 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.**

## COMMUNION

**P:** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

*The congregation is seated.*

*All who seek the Lord are welcome at Christ's table to receive the gift of God's grace! Those not receiving the bread and wine are welcome to come for a blessing. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.*

## MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION:

### *Lamb of God*



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.



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



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

*O Christ, Our Hope*

Hymn# 604



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's  
2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den  
3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som  
4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us  
5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry



might-y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by  
of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to  
has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in  
of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by  
ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:  
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.  
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.  
mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.  
all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806-1876, adapt. Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561. Public Domain.

*Jesus Shall Reign*

Hymn# 434



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793. Public Domain.

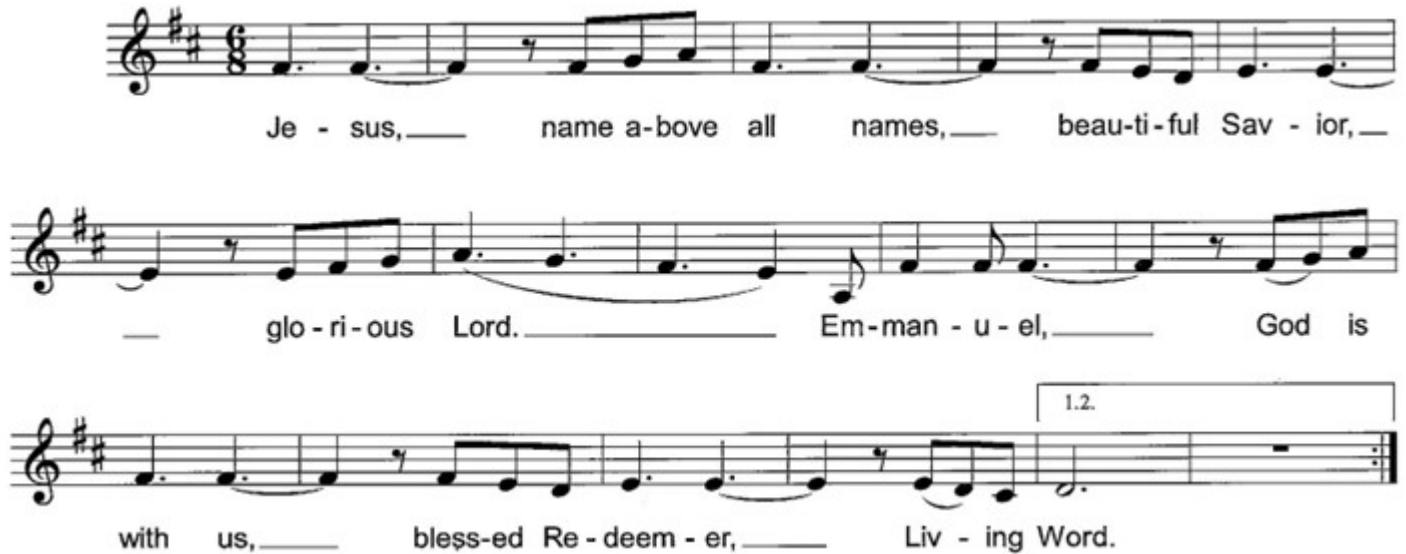
P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen**

*The congregation may stand as comfortable.*



## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

### *Jesus, Name Above all Name*



Je - sus, name a-bove all names, beau-ti-ful Sav - ior,  
— glo - ri - ous Lord. Em-man - u - el, God is  
with us, bless-ed Re - deem - er, Liv - ing Word.

1.2.

Text: Naida Hearn. Music: HEARN, Naida Hearn. Text and music © 1984 Scripture in Song, admin. Music Services All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #2634076.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**AM:** Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*These are ways we welcome all to nurture a community of harmony, healing, and justice.*

### BLESSING

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P:** The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.

**Amen**

SENDING HYMN: *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

Hymn# 579



1 Lord, you give the great com - mis-sion: "Heal the sick and  
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser-vice: "In my name bap -  
 3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,  
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa - ther, what they  
 5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,  
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,  
 this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,  
 do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure  
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness  
 life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new  
 dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the  
 all that you so free - ly give. May your care and  
 may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:  
 fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:  
 world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:  
 mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:  
 cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:

*Refrain*



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934. Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991. Text © 1978 and music © 1942, Ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

## DISMISSAL

**AM:** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE:** *Jesus Shall Reign*

John Hatton,  
arr. by Hal Hopson

Text: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953. From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SAS007854. Worship songs are reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953. Used by permission. Copyright ©2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. These materials have been prepared by Augsburg Fortress for provisional use. Citations from Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Scripture quotations based on Readings for the Assembly © 1995, 1996, 1997 Augsburg Fortress; NRSV Bible © 1989 and NRSV Bible © 2021 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Adapted and edited by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw. May be reproduced with a SundaysAndSeasons.com subscription for non-sale local use by worship leaders from September 1, 2022, through November 30, 2025.

We invite all **members, guests, and visitors**  
to join us for coffee and refreshments between services  
in the Walter Eckman Fellowship Hall downstairs.



Today's flowers were given by Kate Hartz  
in thankfulness for God's faithfulness in Betty's life.

<b>WORSHIP LEADERS</b>		
	<b>8:30am</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
GREETER	John Sandberg	Keith Paulson
USHER	Cayce Morice	Rob Schainker
USHER	Kim Elliott	Denise Buehrer
ASSISTING MINISTER	Rick Schuessler	Caroyn Schainker
LECTOR	Megan Yemm	Barb Johnson
CHILDREN'S SERMON	Chris Schmidt	
ALTAR GUILD	Nancy Luebke	
CAMERA	Linus Christian	N/A
BREAD BAKER	Yemm Family	
WINE	Olson-Fulton Family	
FELLOWSHIP HOST	Schmidt Family	
DONUT DRIVER	Cayce Morice	

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Summer Fellowship:** On May 26<sup>th</sup>, we will switch to our Single Summer Services schedule. Worship will start at 9:30am. If you are interested in hosting fellowship following one of the summer services (between Memorial Day and Labor Day), contact the office, sign up in the kitchen when you pick up your donut, or take a moment to indicate your interest on the weekly attendance form. Lemonade and coffee supplies will be provided. As host, you will be responsible for any additional refreshments. If we don't have a host, we won't have fellowship.

**Request of the Month:** In May, we are collecting deodorant and adult incontinence protection products. Items may be placed on the shelves of the collection unit located in the main hall next to the Council corkboard and family mailboxes. Items placed in the grocery cart will be placed in Gethsemane's Little Free Pantry.

**Thankful for Mothers and Mother Figures:** In today's bulletin, you will find a small slip of paper where you can write a brief statement of thanks about your mother or mother figure. Slips may be turned in with your offering or given to an usher after the service. Statements will be posted on the Sunday School bulletin board.

**The new Comfort Cabinet is up** and ready for your donations. Unlike the Little Free Food Pantry, the Comfort Cabinet's purpose is the distribution of nonfood items like hygiene items, medical supplies, and seasonal items. This cabinet was built to allow for more room for food in the pantry. The Little Free Food Pantry will remain our priority.

### Adult Forum:

**May 12<sup>th</sup> — Children's Church and Wiggle Bags:** We will discuss plans for the narthex, use of the stage room in the fellowship hall, and updating contents of the wiggle bags.

**May 19<sup>th</sup> — Committee Meetings:** The Social Action Team will meet in the library.

**May 26<sup>th</sup> — First Summer Single Service, No Adult Forum Scheduled**

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> — The Member Care Team has invited Amanda Henderson from the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging** to discuss the services provided by her organization. These services include chore and home repair help, transportation, food services, Medicare, and much more. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will meet in the fellowship hall at 11:00 for refreshments and the presentation.

**Vacation Bible School (VBS)!** All potty-trained four-year-olds to those currently in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend Vacation Bible School at Gethsemane, **July 29-August 2, 2024!** VBS will run from 9am-noon, and after care (aka VBS+) is from 12pm-5:30pm. The VBS+ portion will be run and supervised by Anja Walentik, a professional 1st grade teacher. Cost for VBS only (9am-12pm) is \$30/child or \$60/two or more children. Cost for VBS+ (9am-12pm PLUS 12-5:30pm) is \$100/child or \$200/two or more children. See the Friday e-newsletter or church website for more information and to sign up. We are accepting volunteer applications too! Current 6<sup>th</sup> graders to adults are welcome to apply.

**Project Sanctuary needs your support! What is Project Sanctuary?** Project Sanctuary is a monthly, breathwork and sound healing event hosted by trauma-informed practitioners for those marginalized communities who have experienced rejection by organized religion. The goal is to show these communities they are loved, accepted and worthy of God's full redeeming grace. Sessions are held in Gethsemane's sanctuary space. Facilitated by Aria Thome and other trained practitioners. **Why is support needed?** Project Sanctuary strives to offer the sessions at low to no cost to attendees. A grant from the Lutheran Foundation that provided the seed money for Project Sanctuary and helped cover costs is near depletion. As we find ways to support this mission, we ask for your support financially and by spreading the word about Project Sanctuary. Please consider a Project Sanctuary specific donation as part of your Sunday offering. A gift of \$45 covers attendance for 2 people but any amount is greatly appreciated. For more information about Project Sanctuary please visit the church website, click on ministries, and then select project sanctuary.

**Mallinckrodt Academy of Gifted Instruction (MAGI) end of year picnic is Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, and we need your help.** The picnic is from **4:45pm-8pm**. We are looking for people to purchase the supplies, set up the table (provided by Mallinckrodt), sit at the table, hand out/monitor the supplies, and clean up once the picnic is finished. If you are interested in any of these tasks, contact Gretchen Jenson or indicate your availability on the bulletin attendance form insert.

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar  
May 12 - 19, 2024**

Today	8:30 am 9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube Sunday School and Fellowship Adult Forum: Children's Church and Wiggle Bags Worship Service Vocal Choir Rehearsal
5/13 Monday	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
5/14 Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study
5/17 Wednesday	4:45 pm – 8:00pm	Mallinckrodt School Picnic June Messenger Information Due
5/19 Sunday Last Day of Sunday School & Graduate Recognition	8:30 am 9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:30 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube Sunday School and Fellowship Committee Meetings: Social Action in Library Worship Service Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Lunch Youth Gathering Meeting Vocal Choir Rehearsal

**Upcoming Dates to Consider**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday, May 20*	11:30 am	Women's Luncheon
Sunday, May 26	9:30 am	Return to Summer Single Services
Sunday, May 26	10:30 am	Worship and Music Committee Meeting

**Blood Pressure (BP):** First and third Sunday of each month in the fellowship hall.

**Women's Luncheon:** Fourth Monday of every month. \*Except for Holidays.

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

**Deanna Brooker: healing and strength**  
**Stephen Brown: healing and strength**  
**Garrett Finazzo: quick recovery from appendix surgery**  
**Mike Fenton: health management, patience, understanding**  
**Damien and Neil Gustafson: healing and strength**  
**Barb Johnson: increase in mobility and decrease in pain**  
**Lilie Niebuhr: healing and patience**  
**Sharon Salerno: healing and strength**  
**Tatum Family**  
**William Unsicker: recovery from surgery**

<b>Request for:</b>	<b><i>On Behalf of:</i></b>
My friend Jill (she is home with hospice resulting from stage 4 cancer); Becky (fight with endometriosis)	<i>Baster-Annis Family</i>
My close friend (recently impacted by mental health issues); my friend and family (as she fights breast cancer); the Brandner family (safety, healing, peace)	<i>Lily Bennett</i>
Family of Derek Anderson (comfort, peace)	<i>Boehlje Family</i>
Bev and Katie (being treated for cancer)	<i>Breed Family</i>
Arlene R., Lauren M., Pam M., Joyce R., (healing)	<i>Jean Chouquette</i>
Melrick (healing); Mark and Scott (grace); Mom and Dad (continued health); farmers of the world; city of St. Louis	<i>Cat Leonard</i>
Darlene's mom (comfort, strength)	<i>McElwee Family</i>
Pat Fulton (healing, strength); Ginny Olson (healing, strength); Alvera (good health, strength to focus on her health and good self-care) safe travel; those impacted by disasters; the people of Gaza and Occupied Territories; for peace with justice in our world	<i>Olson-Fulton Family</i>
Jessica Hoppe (health, strength)	<i>Penny Family</i>
Chris Sebcik (healing)	<i>Michael Rakey</i>
Courage and healing for family members	<i>Kate Schejbal</i>

## Gethsemane is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation Affirmation of Welcome

Christ's welcome knows no boundaries! Therefore, our welcome knows no boundaries and we invite all people to full participation in the life of the congregation.

We at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Saint Louis embrace...

People of any race or ethnicity...

People who are male, female, transgender, or any other gender identity...

People of any age...

People wherever they are, or wherever they have been, on their faith journeys...

People who are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated or partnered...

People who are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or any other sexual orientation...

People with a variety of political perspectives...

People who have, or had, addictions, phobias, abortions, or a criminal record...

People who are homeowners, renters, living with parents, or homeless...

People who are fully-abled, disabled, or of differing abilities...

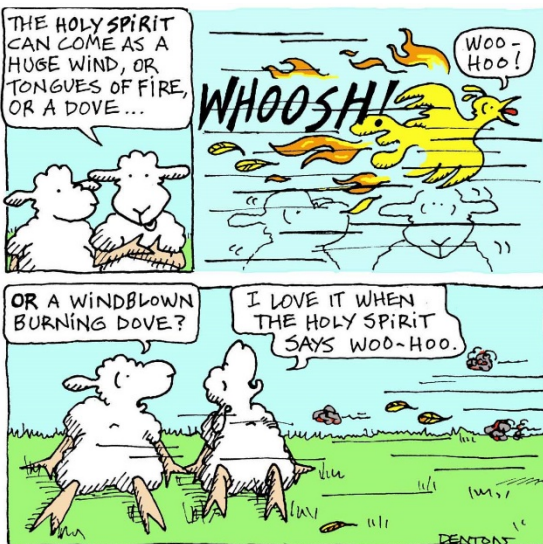
People of differing educational backgrounds...

People of any socio-economic condition...

People not mentioned above, all of whom are created and loved by God!

As we celebrate and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation, we pledge to ourselves and to all others that we will strive to live as a reconciling people in our life together and in our outreach to the world. We are committed to being a radically loving and welcoming community of faith.

**Sunday Funnies:** The Sunday Flock is printed with permission through Pastoral Center.




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Out of respect for the history of African American Spirituals used in worship, and the absence of royalties paid to the original songwriters or their descendants, our Music Director and Worship and Music Committee, with guidance from the Center for Congregation Singing and the Hymn Society have created a reparations model to direct royalty payments collected for use of this art.



Scan here to donate to Gethsemane's African American Spiritual Reparation project.

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