

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

3600 Hampton - St. Louis, MO 63109

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

Now the Feast and Celebration

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

GATHERING

PRELUDE: *Air*

J.S. Bach

The congregation may stand as comfortable.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

P: Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

P: Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

P: Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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: O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our 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 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The believers from among the Jewish people who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So Peter ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 98

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

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus, the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey God's commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey the commandments of God, which are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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 John, the 15th chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: JOHN 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

Jesus said: ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in my Father’s love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

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: *Come Down, O Love Divine*

Hymn# 804



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
 2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
 shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
 no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833-1890. Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958. Public Domain.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our faith using the words of Martin Luther, taken from the small catechism, the explanation of the second article of the Apostles' creed.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father in eternity, and also a true human being, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being. He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. He has done all this in order that I may belong to

him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

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

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

MUSICAL OFFERING: *If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments* Francis Coombs

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.

Presider: *Congregation:*



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

Presider: *Congregation:*



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

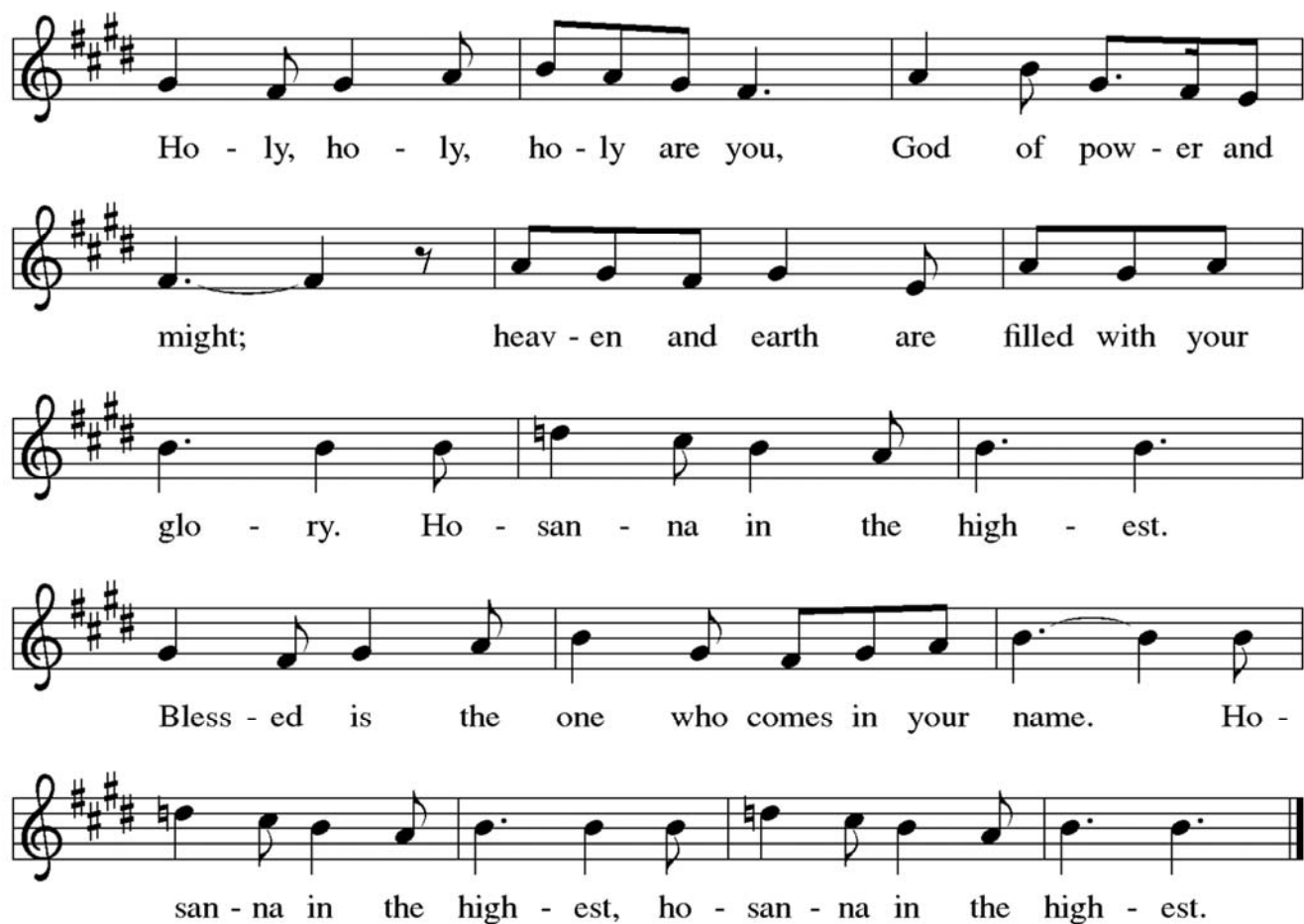


right to give God thanks and praise.

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.

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.

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

Hymn# 389



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

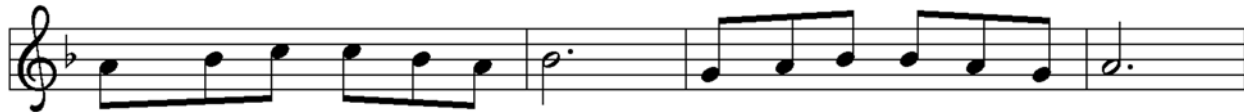
Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936. Music: TRURO, T. Williams, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789. Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:



mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt. Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin. Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

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

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

Hymn# 538

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923. Music: ENVIADO, Anonymous, Central America. English text © 1998 and arr © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

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

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: *O God Beyond All Praising*

Hymn# 880



1 O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day
2 The flow'r of earth - ly splen - dor in time must sure - ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown-
and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:
though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to heav - en's gar - den grown:
we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,
to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE: O God Beyond All Praising

Gustav Holtz,
 arr. Mark Sedio

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.



Today's flowers were given by Joan Williams in memory of Jeffrey Williams and Michael Rakey in honor of his 80th birthday.

WORSHIP LEADERS		
	8:30am	11:00am
GREETER	Elizabeth Penny	Rob Schainker
USHER	Cayce Morice	Riley Boehlje
USHER	Adam Rentchler	Nancy Luebke
ASSISTING MINISTER	Becky Rentchler	Gary Borkowski
LECTOR	Adame Rentchler	Ami Boehlje
CHILDREN'S SERMON	Pastor Cheryl	
ALTAR GUILD	Nancy Luebke	
CAMERA	Gretchen Jenson	N/A
BREAD BAKER	Needed	
WINE	Olson-Fulton Family	
BP PERSON	Joan Williams	

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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.

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 first priority.

Adult Forum: There is no adult forum today between services.

May 12th — 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 19th — Committee Meetings: The Social Action Team will meet in the library.

May 26th — First Summer Single Service, No Adult Forum Scheduled

June 2nd — 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 5th 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 6th 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: Gethsemane is providing snacks and drinks at Mallinckrodt's (the public elementary school across the street) end-of-the-year, Dragons Under the Sun, picnic on Friday, **May 17th**. The picnic is **4:45pm-8pm**. Gethsemane will hand out snacks (bags of individual chips) and drinks (water and juice boxes) at a table in their parking lot. 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, please indicate your availability on the bulletin insert (yellow sheet)! *(This event is for the current and future students at Mallinckrodt, but if your family volunteers your kids are welcome to participate even if they do not attend Mallinckrodt.)*

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar
May 5 - 12, 2024**

Today	8:30 am 9:45 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube Sunday School and Fellowship Worship Service Vocal Choir Rehearsal
5/6 Monday	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
5/7 Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study
5/8 Wednesday	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
5/12 Sunday	8:30 am 9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm	Worship Service: In-Person and on YouTube Sunday School and Fellowship Adult Forum: Children's Church and Wiggle Bags Worship Service Worship and Music Meeting Vocal Choir Rehearsal

Upcoming Dates to Consider

Date	Time	Event
Friday, May 17	4:45 pm – 8:00pm	Mallinckrodt School Picnic
Friday, May 17		June Messenger Information Due
Monday, May 20*	11:30 am	Women's Luncheon
Sunday, May 26	9:30 am	Return to Summer Single Services

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

Request for:	<i>On Behalf of:</i>
My friend Jill (she is home with hospice resulting from stage 4 cancer)	<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>
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>
Friend Jennifer W. (health)	<i>Judy Miller</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>
Chris Sebcik (healing)	<i>Michael Rakey</i>
Courage and healing for family members	<i>Kate Schejbal</i>
Paula in Zambia (help with post-COVID breathing)	<i>Schmidt Family</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...

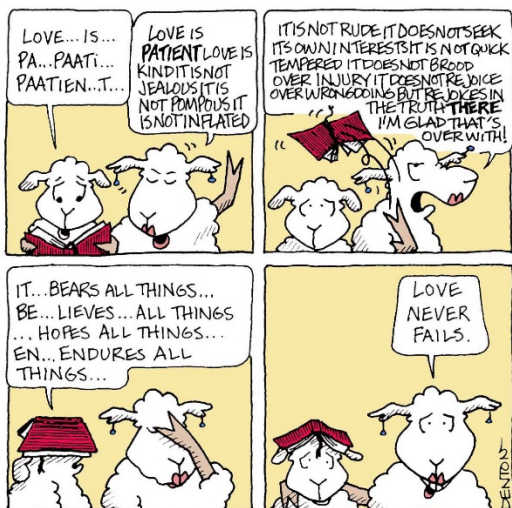
People of differing educational backgrounds...

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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