

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

AS WE GATHER

This Sunday is a bridge between the Ascension of Our Lord and Pentecost. Upon the Lord's Ascension, the disciples were not left alone. They had the Word of the Lord and the promise of the Spirit to make known to them all that Jesus said and did. With the testimony of God's Word and the witnesses to the Lord's resurrection and ascension, the Church learned to trust in what the Lord had accomplished for their salvation and to be bold in witness to the truth of this Gospel. The Lord is still working in us through the testimony of His Word so that we may be His witnesses emboldened by the Spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 118:24

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.
People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"

{LSB 493 – 6 stanzas }

A hymn of glory let us sing!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Alleluia, alleluia!

The holy apostolic band
Alleluia, alleluia!
Their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Upon the Mount of Olives stand.
And with His faithful foll'wers see
Alleluia, alleluia!

To them the shining angels cry,
Alleluia, alleluia!
"This is His glorious triumph day!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"
"This is the Savior," thus they say;
Alleluia, alleluia!

“You see Him now, ascending high
Alleluia, alleluia!
Returning in great majesty.”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Up to the portals of the sky.”
“Hereafter Jesus you shall see
Alleluia, alleluia!

Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Shall praise Your name eternally.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And be our future great reward.
Then, throned with You forever, we
Alleluia, alleluia!

(please stand)

O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia!
With Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All praise to You let earth accord:
You are, while endless ages run,
Alleluia, alleluia!

INVOCATION

(please stand)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us come before God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden and confess our sins in the name of Him who died and rose again to give us forgiveness and life. *Silence for meditation and reflection*

People: I confess that I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. My Lord’s name I have not honored as I should; my worship and prayer have faltered. I have not let His love have its way with me and so my love for others has failed. There are many whom I have hurt and many whom I failed to help. My thoughts and desires are soiled with sin. I have sinned against God and against you, my brothers and sisters. There is no health in me. But for the promise of Christ, I would have no hope. Because of Christ’s promise, I am made bold to ask for mercy. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, O Lord, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ

and by His authority, therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Antiphon, Psalm 27:7; Psalm 27:1a, 4-5, 10, 14*

Pastor: Hear my voice when I call, O Lord;

People: be merciful to me and answer me.

Pastor: The Lord is my light and my salvation –

People: whom shall I fear?

Pastor: One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek:

People: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord, and to seek him in his temple.

Pastor: For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling;

People: he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

Pastor: Though my father and mother forsake me,

People: the Lord will receive me.

Pastor: Wait for the Lord;

People: be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: Hear my voice when I call, O Lord;

People: be merciful to me and answer me.

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy,

People: Christ, have mercy.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,
People: Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful Father, You have given us Your Word and with it Your Spirit, that by the testimony of the prophets and evangelists, we may know the truth that sets us free from sin and fear. Guard Your Word within us, that by this faithful testimony we may be made bold in witness and faithful in service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

FIRST READING: Acts 1:12-26

(The Lord chooses Matthias to fill the empty spot among the Twelve created by Judas' death.)

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. 13 And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. 14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. 15 In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, 16 "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. 17 For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." 18 (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. 19 And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) 20 "For it is written in the Book of Psalms, "'May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it'; and "'Let another take his office.'" 21 So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us - one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." 23 And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one

of these two you have chosen 25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” 26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: 1 John 5:9-15

(Whoever has the Son has life.)

9 If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. 10 Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. 11 And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. 14 And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

(please stand)

HOLY GOSPEL: John 17:11b-19

(Jesus prays that we may be one as He and the Father are one.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

11b Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. 13 But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just

as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *(please be seated)*

HYMN: "By All Your Saints in Warfare"

{LSB 517 – 3 stanzas}

By all Your saints in warfare,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
For You have won the battle
And now they shine in glory

For all Your saints at rest,
Forevermore be blest!
That they might wear the crown;
Reflected from Your throne.

For one in place of Judas
The lot fell to Matthias
May we like true apostles
And not betray our calling

Th'apostles sought God's choice
For whom we now rejoice.
Your holy Church defend,
But Serve You to the end

(please stand)

Then let us praise the Father
And sing to God the Spirit,
Till all the ransomed number
Ascribing pow'r and glory

And worship God the Son
Eternal Three in One,
Fall down before the throne,
And praise to God alone.

MESSAGE: "Position Available"

Acts 1:12-26

OFFERING

If you are a **visitor** this morning, you are our guest. Please do not feel obligated to give as the offering plate is passed. The offering is an opportunity for **members** to practice faithful stewardship and to support the ministries of Christ's church.

OFFERING SONG: "We Give Thee But Thine Own" (LSB 781 - vv. 1-2)

(Please sing as the offering is presented at the Altar)

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs . . . Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer

Pastor: Into your hands, O Father, we commend all for who we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray . . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Holy Lord, mighty God, everlasting Father, You spoke through the apostles and prophets to make known Your Son, Jesus Christ, and the salvation He has accomplished for us. Speak hope and courage into our hearts that we may boldly proclaim Jesus Christ and His work for our salvation. Prepare the hearts of those who hear that the Spirit may bring forth in them the faith to acknowledge all His goodness for our redemption; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **Amen.**

(please be seated)

HYMN: “Draw Us to Thee”

{LSB 701 – 5 stanzas }

Draw us to Thee,
Walk in Thy steps forever
Where Thou art gone

For then shall we
And hasten on
To be with Thee, dear Savior.

Draw us to Thee,
Let us depart with gladness
Forever free

Lord, lovingly;
That we may be
From sorrow, grief, and sadness.

Draw us to Thee;
May walk the road to heaven!
Lest we should stray

O grant that we
Direct our way
And from Thy paths be driven.

Draw us to Thee
Thy heav'nly bliss inherit
Where sin and hell

That also we
And ever dwell
No more can vex our spirit.

Draw us to Thee
Into Thy kingdom take us;
Thy glory share,

Unceasingly,
Let us fore'er
Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the living Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs...

*Prayers Pastor Vanderbush as he seeks God's will & for wife **Holly**, recovery of broken arm*

***Amelie Brosien** who had to have another surgery last Friday on her knee injured*

***Karen Brosien's brother** who was admitted to the hospital ICU Friday*

***David Sattler** who is dealing with leg issues*

***Pual Duennenberg** bother-in-law, **J. R. Rittimann** who is undergoing chemotherapy for cancer*

***Hal Eschenko's** shoulder pain issue*

***Ruben Lopez** as he meets with family*

***Pastor Rick Pfaff** prayers of thanksgiving for successful kidney transplant & continued healing*

***Bill Thomas** thanksgiving for successful hip replacement & prayers for continued rehab & recovery*

***John Soper** thankful for his progress after a fall is recovering at Reeves Rehab hospital*

***Jim Minica** thankful to be home recovering from Quadruple Heart Bypass surgery & continued healing*

*Prayers for **Sue Parker's sister Jeannie** who has been fighting throat cancer as new tumor was found*

***Rolf Schultz** who is being evaluated for a heart Watchman procedure*

*Prayers for **Chris Carter & wife Penny** as Chris continues chemo & radiation*

***Kathleen Blakey** requests prayer for niece, **Michelle Mohnke O'Brian**, dealing with breast cancer*

Brad & Laura Sanders** request prayers for Laura's Father, **Jack

***Terry Chhabra** who is having vision problems*

*Prayers for **Gloria Bloecher & her medical team** as she remains in their care*

***Debra Beard** requests prayers for her brother, **Tod Dunlevy** in Wisconsin*

***Rutledge Family** requests prayers for **Sister-in-Law Heather Muledy's** breast cancer*

***Parkers & Theis** request prayers for **Robert Patterson** undergoing cancer treatment*

***Kathlin Jauregui** requests prayers for the Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center's fund-raising efforts*

*including **Baby Bottle Boomerang** & volunteers for delivering **Mother's Day** flowers*

***Mark Giardinelli** who will be going to Ysleta El Paso Lutheran Mission in June*

Prayers for Justice & Peace around the world, especially with tensions in the Middle East

For family discord, reconciliation, & healing; for rescue for those in abusive relationships

Prayers for all those with physical, emotional, & those who are lost to hear & receive Jesus

Into your hands, O Father, we commend all for who we pray, trusting in Your mercy; thru Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

WELCOME . . . *Whoever you are . . . Wherever you have come from . . . we are so glad you are here! Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior together.*

Visitors - *If you are visiting with us today, we'd love to get to know you! Please don't forget to sign your name and fill in your contact information in the red booklets on the inside aisle!*

Messiah Members – *please remember to record your attendance in the red booklets and pass them down the pew to your neighbors so they can record their attendance as well!*

Adult Bible Study - *Pastor Lofgren will continue his study in the Begin book*

Today's Afternoon Bible Study – *study has been cancelled so Mothers could be recognized and celebrated!*

Messiah Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study - *May 14th we will meet at 8:30 am at Centinela, 215 West Bandera Road. New Book Study – “I Don't Have Enough Faith To Be Atheist.”*

Children's Church – *Mario & Eve Betancourt will be hosting Children's Church Sunday – May 19th*

Adult Game Day – *Sat. - May 11th 2:00-5:00 pm in the Fellowship Room of the FLC. All are welcome to join the group - bring your favorite game, snacks and drinks to share for an afternoon of literally . . . "Fun and Games!"*

Fellowship Committee's Family Picnic – *Sat. June 1st from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Joshua Springs Park Large Pavilion – lunch will be catered by Bill Miller. Tickets go on sale April 28th.*

Messiah Ladies Time Out - *lunch will be at 11:00 am at High Street Cafe in Comfort on Thu., June 20th where we can roam around before meeting for lunch. Kathleen Blakely has invited us all to her beautiful home nearby for dessert after! RSVP to Lindy or sign up at church!*

Hill Country Daily Bread - *Back-to-School Clothing Bags are now available! Please, Do Not Mark on the Outside Sticker! There is a shopping sheet included with each bag. They will need to be returned by Sun., June 23rd.*

Joyce Bowman Young – *we learned this week that Joyce Young passed away April 30th at the age of 90. Joyce served as Messiah's fill in pianist for many years – well known in the community for her musical talent on the piano and accordion and a proud member of the Boerne Village Band. Ebensberger Fischer Funeral Home has her obituary and funeral information.*

MAY ALTAR FLOWERS

May 5th - Joyce & Janis Meier - in Memory of Parents - Floyd & Alma Meier

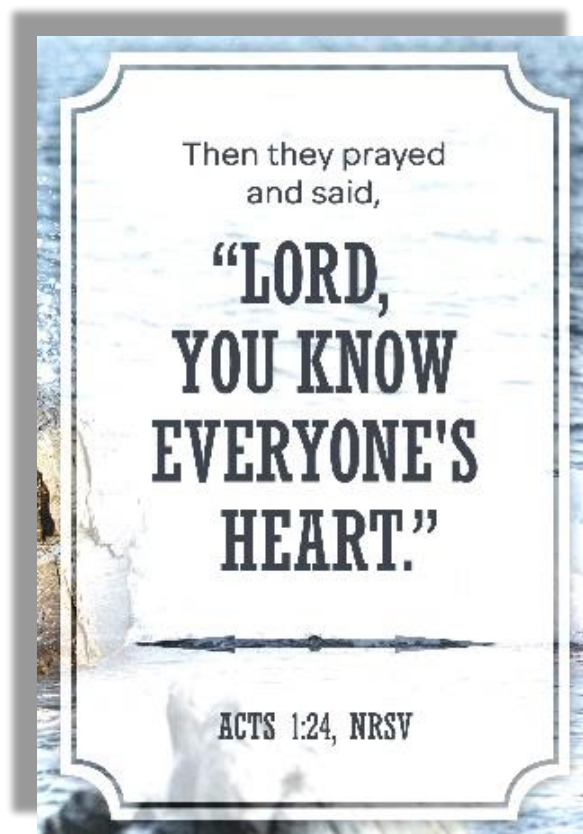
May 12th – Linda Dicke – thanksgiving for our Moms

May 19th - Mario & Eve Betancourt - celebrating Bella's 19th birthday

May 19th - Kim & Maurine Maloy - in Memory of Avery Maloy Bailey

May 26th - Joe & Verna Sorensen - celebrating 56 years of marriage

May 26th - Tony & Kathy Giardinelli - celebrating 46 years of marriage



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Richard S. Lofgren, Pastor

Gina Husky, Director of Messiah's Kids Preschool

David Rhoads, Facilities Manager

Maurine Maloy, Administrative Assistant



Serving us today – May 12, 2024

Elders: Larry Risley & Ed Mycock
Coffee: Sue Parker
Breakfast: Sue Parker
Tellers: Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care: Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician: Bob Shoaf
AV: Tony Giardinelli
Reader: Kathleen Blakely
Ushers: Ernie & Marilyn Mazurek – Pam Fields – Maurice Doublet
Greeter: Lindy Eschenko

Serving us Next Sunday – May 19, 2024

Elders: Larry Risley & Ed Mycock
Coffee: Joyce & Janis Meier
Breakfast: Joyce & Janis Meier
Tellers: Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care: Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician: Bob Shoaf
AV: OPEN
Reader: Sharon Sattler
Ushers: Larry Rottman – Erik Sagebiel – Hal Eschenko – Russ Leachman
Greeter: Kathy Giardinelli – Alana Kemmy

Our Response to God

Sunday, May 5th

Worship – 91

Adult Sunday School – 24

| April 2024 Contributions | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund | \$51,658.97 | Building Fund | \$620.00 |
| Renovation Fund | \$ - 0.00 - | FLC Rental | \$3,862.50 |