



Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 2, 2021

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
1600 S. Main St.

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937-9235
www.stpetersfdl.net

Worship: Thursday, 6:30pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:30 am
Phone: 922-1160 or 921-8075

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808

Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!
Alleluia!

*Thank you for joining us for worship. If you have any questions about our service or practice,
please feel free to ask one of the ushers or a pastor.*

- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
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- Visitors, we are pleased that you have joined us this morning. Please fill out a Visitor Card and hand it to an usher. Feel free to inquire about our congregation through the pastors, one of the ushers, or one of the members. If you are a visitor from out of town, please be sure to introduce yourself to one of the pastors after the service. We welcome all of you to come and worship with us again.

HOLY COMMUNION Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. For this reason we respectfully request that all of those who are not members of the WELS or our sister ELS please speak with one of the pastors before communing with us. Thank you.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Drive away the gloomy night of my darkened mind's reflection. Quench all thoughts that are not right; hold my reason in subjection. For your truth may I be yearning, heavenly wisdom ever learning. As a branch upon a vine, in my blessed Lord implant me; ever of my head divine to remain a member grant me. Oh, let him, my Lord and Savior, be my life and love forever! Amen.

SERVICE THEME Spirit-worked faith in Jesus expresses itself in love.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Service of Word & Sacrament

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia! Jesus Lives | CW 153

Alleluia! Jesus lives! He is now the living one;
From the gloomy house of death Forth the conqueror has gone,
Bright forerunner to the skies Of his people, yet to rise.

Jesus lives! Let all rejoice; Praise him, ransomed ones of earth.
Praise him in a nobler song, Cherubim of heav'nly birth.
Praise the Victor-King, whose sway Sin and death and hell obey.

Jesus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and frequent sigh?
He who died our brother here Lives our brother still on high,
Lives forever to bestow Blessings on his Church below.

Jesus lives! And thus, my soul, Life is yours eternally;
Joined to him, your living head, Where he is, you too shall be;
You with him at his right hand Victor over death shall stand.

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: (spoken) And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (spoken) Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: ♪ Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: ♪ Amen.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD

♪ **O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.
Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love.
You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit;
you make us pure and holy in your sight.**

**You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.
O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.
O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father, you came to live with us;
you made your Father known; you washed us from our sins in your own blood.
You are the King of glory; you are the Lord!
O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

LESSON

1 John 3:18-24

Spirit-worked faith in Jesus soothes our troubled hearts and drives us to acts of love.

¹⁸Dear children, let us love not only with word or with our tongue, but also in action and truth.

¹⁹This is how we know that we are of the truth and how we will set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God. ²²We also receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commands and do what is pleasing in his sight. ²³This then is his command: that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another just as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps his commands remains in God and God in him. This is how we know that he remains in us: We know it from the Spirit, whom he has given to us.

VERSE OF THE DAY

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Jesus alone is the Source of spiritual and eternal life who enables us to bear fruits of faith to his glory.

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²Every branch in me that does not bear fruit, he is going to cut off. And he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will bear more fruit. ³“You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, and I am going to remain in you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Likewise, you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵“I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him is the one who bears much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers. Such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this: that you continue to bear much fruit and prove to be my disciples.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

This is My Will | CW 497

“This is my will, my one command, That love should dwell among you all.
This is my will, that you should love As I have shown that I love you.

“No greater love can any have Than that one die to save his friends.
You are my friends if you obey What I command that you should do.

“I call you now no longer slaves; No slave knows all the master does.
I call you friends, for all I hear My Father say, you hear from me.

“You chose not me, but I chose you, That you should go and bear much fruit.
I chose you out that you in me Should bear much fruit that will abide.

“All that you ask my Father dear For my name’s sake you shall receive.
This is my will, my one command, That love should dwell in each, in all.”

SERMON

Acts 16:11-15

A heart opened by the gospel led Lydia to open her home to Paul and his companions.

¹¹After we put out to sea from Troas, we sailed straight to Samothrace, and the next day to Neapolis. ¹²From there we went to Philippi, which is a leading city in that part of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We stayed in this city for a number of days.

¹³On the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate alongside the river, where we thought there was a place of prayer. We sat down and began to talk to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A woman named Lydia, who worshipped God, was listening. She was a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira. The Lord opened her heart to pay close attention to what Paul was saying. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

"The Lord Opens Hearts"

Pastor Zuberbier

1. To receive his riches.
2. To return his riches.

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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

PRESENTING OF OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: ♪ **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: ♪ **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

♪ **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.
You are my God, and I will exalt you. I will give you thanks for you have become
my salvation. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

♪ **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

From Eternity, O God | CW 461

From eternity, O God, In your Son you did elect me.
Therefore, Father, on life’s road Graciously to heav’n direct me;
Send to me your Holy Spirit That his gifts I may inherit.

Born alive but dead in sin, Lost to all good things by nature,
I was found and changed within And became a newborn creature.
Sinful flesh works ruination, But the Spirit works salvation.

Drive away the gloomy night Of my darkened mind’s reflection.
Quench all thoughts that are not right; Hold my reason in subjection.
For your truth may I be yearning, Heav’nly wisdom ever learning.

As a branch upon a vine, In my blessed Lord implant me;
Ever of my head divine To remain a member grant me.
Oh, let him, my Lord and Savior, Be my life and love forever!

Faith and hope and charity Graciously, O Father, give me;
Be my guardian constantly That the devil may not grieve me.
Grant me humbleness and gladness, Peace and patience in my sadness.

Help me speak what’s right and good And keep silence on occasion.
Help me pray, Lord, as I should; Help me bear my tribulation.
Help me die and let my spirit Everlasting life inherit. Amen.

THANK THE LORD

♪ **Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev’ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: ♪ **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee | **CW 316**

O Jesus, blessed Lord, to thee My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me thy body and thy blood.

Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart- How blest am I! How good thou art!



ORGANIST

Pam Zuberbier

GREETERS

7:45 ~ Norene Gonring

10:30 ~ Else & David Cuppan