

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



Joy Marches Victorious
Over Circumstance

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 22, 2022

Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

Service Notes For This Sunday



Conventional wisdom says that joy is a direct result of circumstance. Our disposition is nothing more than a product of the events, conditions, and relationships of which our life consists. Therefore, it would seem that for our disposition to change, our circumstances need to change. But Jesus offers us a joy that is superior. It is not a product of circumstance; it's a product of Easter. Easter proves that God can take what normally causes people to weep and turn it into what causes people to rejoice. Sin, death, and shame went into Jesus' tomb. Forgiveness, life, and glory came out. Our risen Savior gives us a joy that remains constant in the highest of life's highs and the lowest of life's lows. It is a joy that can never be taken from us.

Acknowledgements

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The Service: Setting Two

Welcome

Hymn

8:00 – 829 *Take Heart*
Please join to sing the third verse.

10:30 – 647 *Word and Water, Filled with Promise*
Please join to sing beginning with the second verse.

10:30 – Holy Baptism of Emma Aky & Rowyn Rae Pankratz

CW 151

After the rite, the service continue with “Glory to God in the Highest” on page 5.

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

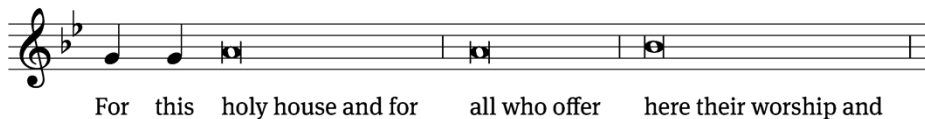
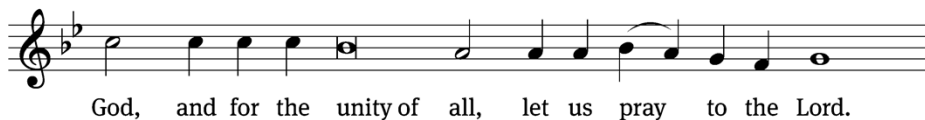
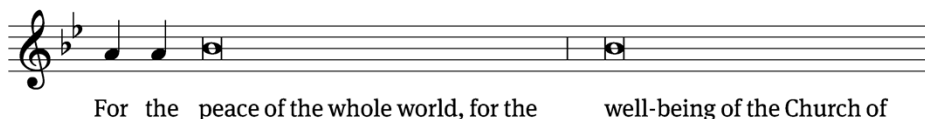
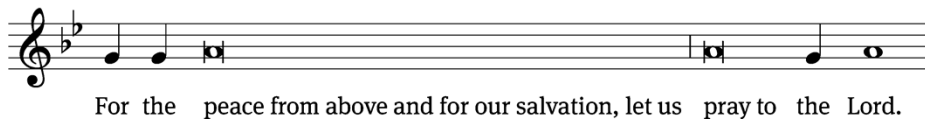
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. Lord God,
heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

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The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 14:8–22

Paul's joy and his ministry were unaffected by circumstance.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

65B Every Heart Its Tribute Pays



1 Ev - 'ry heart its trib - ute pays, ev - 'ry tongue its
2 Ev - er while his deeds en - dure our sal - va - tion
3 Year by year, the sea - sons' round sees the land with



song of praise; sin and sor - row, guilt and care, brought to
stands se - cure; he whose fin - gers spun the earth, gave the
bless - ing crowned, where ca - ressed by sun and rain bar - ren



him who an - swers prayer; there by grace may hu - man - kind
seas and moun - tains birth, tamed the o - cean, formed the land,
earth gives life a - gain; sun - lit val - leys burn with gold,



full and free for - give - ness find; called and cho - sen,
spread the skies with might - y hand: far - off shores re -
na - ture smiles on field and fold, gifts of God in



loved and blest, in his pres - ence be at rest.
vere his name, day and night his pow'r pro - claim.
plen - ty poured: all things liv - ing, praise the Lord!

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Second Reading

Revelation 21:21–27

The great joy we have now will soon be made perfect and complete.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 30:5

Please join to sing the refrain.



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morn - ing.

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Gospel

John 16:16–24

Jesus promises that all our grief will be turned to perfect joy.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

889 Jerusalem the Golden

Sermon

A Tour of Your Heavenly Home

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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.**

Be seated

Connect Card

Please take a moment now to fill out a Connect Card.

Prayer of the Church

Lord of life, fill our hearts with joy this day, for you have risen and conquered the grave.

Imprint the message of victory on our hearts and implant it in our minds.

Through the good news of your resurrection renew our hope and revive our faith.

By baptizing us into your name, you have connected us to your death and rising. You have put our sin to death and have given us a new life. Enable us each day to think of ourselves as dead to sin and alive to you,

so that we may walk in newness of life in all we do.

In this fallen world, death and sorrow surround us. Touch the hearts of those who grieve the loss of a Christian they love. Direct their eyes to your empty tomb and ease their pain.

Remind them that their loved ones will one day rise again.

Lord, many people grieve without hope. Let the message of resurrection reach them and awaken faith in their hearts.

Use us to bring the word of life to their souls and the message of hope to their hearts.

Special prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Risen Savior, feed our faith with the message of your resurrection. Come to us in your Word and in the feast of your Sacrament to sustain and strengthen us until we feast with you in eternal glory.

Amen.

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



Musical Offering

Hymn

887 Oh, What Their Joy

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

513 In You Is Gladness



Take Home Questions

1. In John 16:20, Jesus compares the sorrow of Christians with the joy which the world has.
 - a. In what ways do we see these two things taking place in the world (Christians are met with sorrow; the world rejoices)?
 - b. What things, either from John 16 or elsewhere in the Bible, help Christians make it through the sorrow of this world?
 - c. While Jesus doesn't answer this outright, it seems clear from what he does say. He says, "No one will take your joy away from you." What does that mean about the joy the world currently experiences? What will it turn into in comparison to the eternal joy that Christians will have?
2. Think about all the highs and lows Paul experienced in Acts 14. He was praised as a false god; he was stoned nearly to death. In what ways could similar things (self-glorification and persecution alike) pull us away from the joy that we have in Christ?
3. Revelation makes a lot of connections back to the Old Testament. In chapter 21:21-27, there are quite a few allusions to Isaiah. Compare and contrast the following with the verses we heard from Revelation:
 - a. Isaiah 60:11, 18-22
 - b. Isaiah 65:17-25
 - c. What comfort, if any, is there in knowing that the words of Isaiah and John, who lived centuries apart, speak about the same things?
4. There will always be questions about what heaven will be like. We hear of golden streets and pearly gates, among other things. However, the greater truth is found in the thought behind these pictures. What truth is God communicating to us through such beautiful images?

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study: **Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?** **The New Moses**

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM
For the google meet link, contact a pastor.

Ascension Day Service This Thursday

May 26 | 6:30 PM

We often celebrate Jesus' ascension on the Sunday after Ascension Day. This year we are holding a special worship service on the actual day ~ Thursday, May 26. This is a joint service with other area WELS congregations, similar to the Epiphany service we held in January. We hope you will set aside to worship our ascended Lord on May 26.

End of Year Events

As school is winding down, we want to make you aware of some special events.

May 25 – Our preschool will present their end-of-the year program at 6:00 pm.

June 1 – Our K-4th grades will present a musical, *Kids Praise!* The 5-8th grades will present the comedy, *Hello Shakespeare*. The entertainment begins at 6:30 pm.

June 2 – The school closing serving service and graduation ceremony begin at 6:30 pm.

June 3 – The last day of school will include awards, a band concert and school picnic. The students are dismissed by noon.

You are invited to support our staff and students by attending any of the above events.

No Monday Service on Memorial Day

Because of the holiday, we will not have Monday night worship on Memorial Day. However, as summer activities keep you busy or out of town on the weekend, remember the Monday night worship option. Services are at 6:30 pm.

Last Day of Sunday School

Today is the last day of Sunday School. Thank you to all of the volunteers who served in this ministry over the last year. Classes will start up again after Labor Day.

Friday Family Fun

June 10 | 6:00 pm

Young and old alike are invited for some Friday Family Fun on June 10. Bring a board game, some cards, or a snack to share. The gym will be open, and pizza will be served.

Help at the Farmers Market

June 16

Our Board of Mission Outreach has once again arranged for us to have a booth at Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Farmers Market. The first date is June 16. The purpose is to build awareness in the community and share some information about our ministries. We will have a simple activity for the children to attract people to our booth. If you would like to help with this effort, please contact Todd Ferkey at 715-421-2848.

Get Your Weekly Inspiration

Get a dose of *Forward in Christ* magazine every week by subscribing to FIC's free newsletter. It includes extra content, inspirational videos, special sneak peeks, and more. Stay connected to our church body and get a quick burst of encouragement during the week. Sign up is available at forwardinchrist.net/subscribe.

Cans for Ukraine Drive

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is wrapping up their aluminum can drive. The funds raised will be given to WELS Christian Aid & Relief for supporting the Ukrainian Lutheran Church as needed. You can drop your cans in the trailer in Good Shepherd's parking lot (10611 Hwy 13 S).



Save the Date
Church in the Park
June 26 | 10:30 AM
AT ROBINSON PARK



Special Prayers This Week:

- Emma Kay & Rowyn Rae Pankratz will be baptized this Sunday. They are the grandchildren of Todd & Kay Ferkey.
- For Ann Aumann, who is very sick.
- Greg Machtan was diagnosed with cancer.
- For community member, Ruth, whose husband left her.
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- Sunday** 8:00 AM Worship
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing
 9:15 AM Sunday School (grades 3K-6)
 10:30 AM Worship
- Monday** 6:30 AM Worship
- Tuesday** 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 9:45 AM Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
 6:30 PM Stephen Ministers Peer Group in the Resource Center
- Wednesday** 8:55 AM School Chapel Service
 6:00 PM End of Year Preschool Program
 6:30 PM Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
- Thursday** 7:00 AM Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 6:30 PM Ascension Day Service
- Sunday** 8:00 AM Worship
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing
 10:30 AM Worship

Attendance & Offering Report

Last Week's Attendance: 223

Anticipated offerings YTD: \$ 694,600

Actual offerings YTD: \$ 676,596

YTD giving to the Organ Fund: \$ 121,904

Mortgage Balance: \$1,137,772

Upcoming Events

May 28 ~ Graduation at NLHS

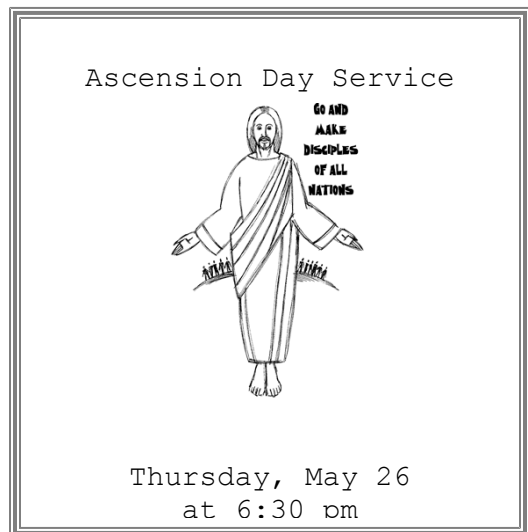
June 1 ~ School Entertainment Night

June 2 ~ School Closing Service & Graduation

June 3 ~ Last Day of School at St. Paul's

June 10 ~ Friday Family Fun

June 16 ~ St. Paul's at Farmers Market





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