

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION ON MAY 12, 2024

WELCOME & GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Listen! I will tell you a mystery!

We are listening, eager to learn.

At the last trumpet, we will be changed.

We will rise, a new creation.

O Death, where is your victory?

O Death, where is your sting?



PRAYER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

Risen God, we confess to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we have caused harm by the things we have said and done, and by the things we have not said and not done. Take away our sins that we might fully embody your commandment to love you with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

In grace and mercy, God forgives all our sins, and with joy and expectation calls us into new life for the sake of the world, through Jesus Christ our savior. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of resurrection, yours is the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ, yet we are so often surrounded by pain, illness, and death. Stir up in us the hope of salvation, and the strong conviction that we will overcome the trials of this life and live in your tender, loving presence forevermore. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS: 1 CORINTHIANS 15: 1-26, 51-57

Lector: Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you – unless you have come to believe in vain.

Pastor Janet: For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.

Lector: Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them – though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Pastor Janet: Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Lector: But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Pastor Janet: Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

Lector: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

MARK 12: 26-27

²⁶ “And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? ²⁷He is God not of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR JANET KETTERING

HYMN OF THE DAY | RISEN

<https://youtu.be/2V2BAPVzCUs?si=6S6DH0DSB27-XSAE>

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone; we live in God’s world. We believe in God:

Who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: To celebrate God’s presence,

to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *(A brief silence.)*

Risen God, through the power of your act of love on the cross and your subsequent resurrection, you shattered the power of death and opened to us the way of everlasting life. Make us confident in this promise, that we might live and work fearlessly to bring about your reign in the here and now. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the redemption of all that you have made, and trust that the promise of eternal life extends to this beautiful earth upon which we stand. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Renew hope in the face of discouragement, that our leaders might persist in the frustrating work of addressing inequity, so that all might have life and have it abundantly. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort all who grieve the loss of loved ones, the loss of health, or any other loss with the promise of healing through the resurrection, especially Rick, Dorothy, Lori, Terry, Dave, and all those we lift up through our Prayer Chain. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

We uplift every community throughout the world where death is a harsh daily reality due to war, famine, disease, natural disasters, and other factors. Strengthen all people in the hope that death will not have the last word and spur us to action to address these pressing issues so that your beloved children might live long, healthy lives in this world. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Strengthen us to care for those in need through the outreach ministries of our community. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Bring aid and support to those who are poor, beaten down, abused, forgotten, silenced, or avoided, especially those seeking help through the Community Infant Program, the Little Free Pantry, Rise Against Suicide, and the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Provide for the work of the Joshua School and organizations like them. Empower the staff and parents of children living on the Autism Spectrum. Nurture the minds, bodies and spirits of these children and adults, that they might reach their highest quality of life. Fill the hearts of those providing help and transport for these children with compassion and stir their hearts to protect and keep them safe. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Encourage and empower those impacted by war, tyranny, and gun violence. Still the sounds of weapons. Teach us to seek security that comes from respect rather than violence. Strengthen and comfort the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, Gaza, Sudan, Haiti, and all those throughout the world whose lives are impacted by violence. Remind us of what You require of us: That we do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, our help in every trouble, we pray for peace in the Holy Land. Protect those traumatized by ongoing violence. Release people held hostage; provide food, water, fuel, and supplies for all in need; sustain medical personnel; tend to those who are wounded; and comfort all who grieve. Move the hearts of humanity and its leaders into the way of peace. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We celebrate and pray for mothers everywhere: For those who are mothers and those who lovingly serve in that role; for those who long to give birth and those who long to be wrapped in the arms of a mother who has left their earthly presence. Help us to live in gratitude and hope, trusting that because of Christ Jesus, we will once again see them in the flesh in the resurrection. Keep us strong in our gratitude and our hope each day. God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

We place in your arms all for whom we pray, out loud or in our hearts, confident in your mercy and grace, through Jesus Christ, our savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

(Please share a sign of God's love and peace with each other.)

OFFERING/OFFERING PRAYER

God who provides all we need in this life, **we proclaim our gratitude for your generosity and trust in your promised future by returning these gifts to the service of this community of faith and all that you have created. Accept them, we pray, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our savior. Amen.**

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION GREAT THANKSGIVING

The LORD be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the LORD.**

Let us give thanks to the LORD our GOD. **It is right to give GOD thanks and praise.**

It is right and good to give you thanks and praise, O God, because from the beginning, you invited us on a journey with you, a journey of wonders and miracles, a journey of healing and joy, a journey of mystery, a journey full of life and love.

Blessed is your son, O God, our Savior Jesus the Christ, who joined us on our journey, who was so full of grace and truth that we cannot help but follow him. When his path went back to you, you sent us your Spirit to dwell within us, to empower and inspire us to continue to be your people. Now we pray that that same Spirit will be among us, and among these elements of bread and cup, that our ordinary meal will become our sacred feast, to nourish us for the next part of the journey.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We come to this table, remembering that on the night in which he gave himself up for us, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in 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 in remembrance of me.

As we break bread together, as we drink from the same cup, unite us as people who are grateful for the journey, for each other's company, and for your guiding presence. Hear us now as we boldly pray together the prayer that Jesus 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.

Our resurrected savior, Jesus, invites us now into his presence to share in bread and wine, a foretaste of the feast of heaven which has no end. Come and eat, for all is prepared for you.

SHARING THE MEAL

This is the body of Christ, broken in love for you.

This is the blood of Christ, poured out in forgiveness of you.

COMMUNION HYMN | TABLE OF GRACE

https://youtu.be/GFJkJAVUZ-s?si=O9TgJHT_ei9MYGo9

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, fill you with new life, and send you out to live and share God's amazing love and grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy, gracious God, here at this table your promise of life is made tangible. We have rested in the depth of your love. We have tasted your nourishing presence. We accept you into our bodies and our lives. Together, at this table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer and we give you thanks. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that all may know life in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING BENEDICTION | BENEDICTION — AS YOU GO

https://youtu.be/NWiv_GrVCG8?si=GTNFXBASEFVRR_PH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.
Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all.
Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.



WORSHIP RESOURCES:

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PRAYER OF THE DAY — NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF

SCRIPTURE READINGS — NEW REVISED STANDARD BIBLE, UPDATED EDITION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD — ERIC MILNER WHITE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – RE-WORSHIP, UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

GREAT THANKSGIVING — BETH MERRILL NEEL, 'HOLD FAST TO WHAT IS GOOD'. USED WITH PERMISSION, AS ADAPTED

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EASTER BENEDICTION – JAN L. RICHARDSON, AS ADAPTED

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: GERRY & KEN MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY

ASSISTING MINISTER: DICK WERPY

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION: LYNN TRUMBLE

PASTOR: REV. JANET KETTERING

LECTOR: KELLY MAURER

ZOOM TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

SHEPHERD CALENDAR OF EVENTS: MAY 12 – MAY 19, 2024

Sunday, May 12th – Death Swallowed in Life

9:30 a.m. - Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship w/Holy Communion
Coffee & Conversation immediately following Worship
Happy Mother's Day!



Wednesday, May 15th

11:00 a.m. - Amazing Grace Bible Study

Friday, May 17th

7:00 a.m. - Men's Zoom Breakfast Bible Study

5:00 p.m. - Friday Night Perspectives Gathering

Sunday, May 19th – Pentecost: Gifts of the Spirit

9:30 a.m. - Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship w/Holy Communion
Coffee & Conversation immediately following Worship.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

HELEN T. 5/13
SALLY E. 5/16
DONNA S. 5/26
TERRY S. 5/27

DAILY NARRATIVE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 12, 2024

Monday, May 13, 2024 – 2 Corinthians 4:1-15 Treasure in Clay Jars

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/2-corinthians-41-15-treasure-in-clay-jars2024>

Tuesday, May 14, 2024 – 2 Corinthians 4:16 – 5:10 Living by Faith

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/2-corinthians-416-510-living-by-faith2024>

Wednesday, May 15, 2024 – 2 Corinthians 5:11 – 6:13 The Ministry of Reconciliation

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/2-corinthians-511-613-the-ministry-of-reconciliation2024>

Thursday, May 16, 2024 – 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 Encouragement to be Generous

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/2-corinthians-81-15-encouragement-to-be-generous2024>

Friday, May 17, 2024 – 2 Corinthians 9:1-15 The Collection for Christians at Jerusalem

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/2-corinthians-91-15-the-collection-for-christians-at-jerusalem2024>

Saturday, May 18, 2024 – 2 Corinthians 10:1-18 Paul Defends his Ministry

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/2-corinthians-101-18-paul-defends-his-ministry2024>

Sunday, May 19, 2024 – Acts 2:1-4 Gifts of the Spirit – Pentecost

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/acts-21-4-gifts-of-the-spirit-pentecost2024>