Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024 10:30 AM



Eastern Orthodox icon of Jesus Christ as the True Vine Anonymous Artist, 16th. c. Greece

University Lutheran Church of Hope is a welcoming, Christian community of faith centered on God's grace and called to demonstrate God's love for the world. University Lutheran Church of Hope is a Reconciling in Christ congregation and a sanctuary congregation with a commitment to racial equity.

Welcome. Peace be with you.

We continue our holy experiment. We're worshiping together in-person, and also offering a virtual option on Zoom and YouTube. Welcome to all!

For those worshiping in-person, please remember:

- **To support the health and wellness of all those among us,** feel welcome to use masks and hand sanitizer, stay current with your vaccinations, and stay home as needed if you are unwell.
- **We honor one another's boundaries** by asking permission to be in close proximity, and finding alternate ways to greet one another and share the peace (a deep bow, the peace sign, an air hug, etc.). Our risk levels and comfort differ.
- * In our service today, we will share Holy Communion. Ushers will direct you.
- If you are new to the community and wish to speak with a Pastor or be included in our communication and activities, fill out the blue slip in the pew rack and give it to an usher. We'll follow up. It's also just fine to be anonymous. To get more involved, check out our website: http://www.ulch.org/ To receive the weekly enews, the Thursday Epistle, contact our church administrator at ulch@ulch.org.
- Children are welcome in worship. Kids, grab your SPARK Story Bibles. Craft tables are available for families. Note: The nursery is not staffed, but is available for your use. The nursery is on the upper level of the education wing, most easily reached from the doors nearest the baptismal font.
- After worship, enjoy the time to linger for conversation in the lounge, courtyard and patio.

Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor Jen Nagel (presiding ministers); Jan Sanden (assisting minister); The Hope Choir, Micki Kruse - Mezzo-Soprano, Katie Hale - Cantor, Robert Ragoonanan (musicians); Kelleen Brooks, Randall Brooks, Seneca Brooks, Bill Sanden (communion servers); Donna Neste (lector); Alex Carlson, Seth Strudthoff (worship tech facilitators); Kirsten Mebust (Zoom facilitator) Kelleen Brooks (greeter); Sampson Evans, Uli Koester, Elaine Reed, Williams Santana (ushers); Juna Evans, Liv Evans (acolytes); Carol Flaten (altar guild); Brinnen Morgan, Nancy Morgan, Poonam Morgan, Troy Morgan (communion clean-up); Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert (healing prayer); Diane Greve (land acknowledgment); Pat Frolen (fellowship hosts)

GATHERING

+ Indicates the assembly stand as able.

Assembly parts are marked in **bold**.

ELW refers to the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

ACS refers to All Creation Sings, an ELW supplement.

Prelude

Voluntary in F Major, Op. 7 No. 6

John Stanley

I. Andante

(1712-86)

Welcome

Land Acknowledgment

This Land Acknowledgment, and our response, are both a work in progress. We're actively engaged in a process to move beyond a simple acknowledgement, and toward a more active commitment. Watch for more opportunities for our community.

We gather for worship on the land of our Creator. Many of us and our church building dwell in the traditional home of the Dakota people, and a land over which the Anishinaabeg people and others also moved. They gathered and ate food, rested, died and gave birth, and prayed here, and many still do.

+Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, 4 one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia! 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.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

+ Greeting

The grace of the Risen Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

+ Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Word

Children's Message

First Reading - Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So Philip got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The eunuch replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water!

Un ángel del Señor dijo a Felipe: «Ponte en marcha hacia el sur, por el camino del desierto que baja de Jerusalén a Gaza». Felipe emprendió el viaje, y resulta que se encontró con un etíope eunuco, alto funcionario encargado de todo el tesoro de la Candace, reina de los etíopes. Este había ido a Jerusalén para adorar y, de regreso a su país, iba sentado en su carro leyendo el libro del profeta Isaías. El Espíritu dijo a Felipe: «Acércate y júntate a ese carro». Felipe se acercó de prisa al carro y, al oír que el hombre leía al profeta Isaías, preguntó:—¿Acaso entiende usted lo que está leyendo? —¿Y cómo voy a entenderlo —contestó— si nadie me lo explica? Así que invitó a Felipe a subir y sentarse con él. El pasaje de la Escritura que estaba leyendo era el siguiente: «Como cordero fue llevado al matadero, como oveja que enmudece ante su trasquilador, ni siquiera abrió su boca.

Lo humillaron y no le hicieron justicia. ¿Quién describirá su descendencia? Porque su vida fue arrancada de la tierra». —Dígame usted, por favor, ¿de quién habla aquí el profeta, de sí mismo o de algún otro? —preguntó el eunuco a Felipe. Entonces Felipe, comenzando con ese mismo pasaje de la Escritura, le anunció las buenas noticias acerca de Jesús. Mientras iban por el camino,

What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

llegaron a un lugar donde había agua y el eunuco dijo:—Mire usted, aquí hay agua. ¿Qué impide que yo sea bautizado? Entonces mandó parar el carro, ambos bajaron al agua y Felipe lo bautizó. Cuando subieron del agua, el Espíritu del Señor se llevó de repente a Felipe. El eunuco no volvió a verlo, pero siguió alegre su camino. En cuanto a Felipe, apareció en Azoto y se fue predicando las buenas noticias por todos los pueblos hasta que llegó a Cesarea.

Palabra de Dios, palabra de vida.

Demos gracias a Dios.

Psalm 22:25-31, read responsively with refrains



R

From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

R

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

R

R

Tú inspiras mi alabanza en la gran asamblea; ante los que te temen cumpliré mis promesas.

Comerán los pobres y se saciarán; alabarán al Señor quienes lo buscan; ¡que su corazón viva para siempre!

Se acordarán del Señor y se volverán a él todos los confines de la tierra; ante él se postrarán todas las familias de las naciones,

porque del Señor es el reino;

él gobierna sobre las naciones.

R

Festejarán y adorarán todos los ricos de la tierra; ante él se postrarán todos los que bajan al polvo, los que no pueden conservar su vida.

La posteridad le servirá;

del Señor se hablará a las generaciones futuras.

A un pueblo que aún no ha nacido se le dirá que Dios hizo justicia.

R

Second Reading - 1 John 4:7, 18-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because God first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate a member of the community are liars, for those who do not love a person, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from God is this: those who love God must love the members of the family also.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

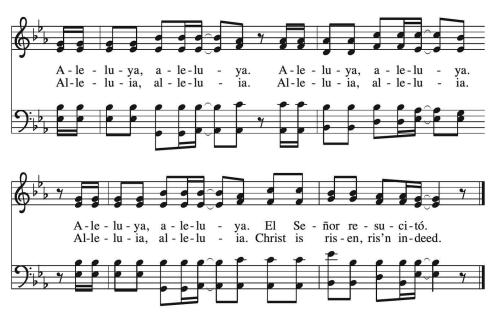
Queridos hermanos, amémonos los unos a los otros, porque el amor viene de Dios y todo el que ama ha nacido de él y lo conoce. En el amor no hay temor, sino que el amor perfecto echa fuera el temor. El que teme espera el castigo, así que no ha sido perfeccionado en el amor. Nosotros amamos porque él nos amó primero. Si alguien afirma: «Yo amo a Dios», pero odia a su hermano es un mentiroso; pues el que no ama a su hermano, a quien ha visto, no puede amar a Dios, a quien no ha visto. Y él nos ha dado este mandamiento: el que ama a Dios, ame también a su hermano.

Palabra de Dios, palabra de vida.

Demos gracias a Dios.

+ Gospel Acclamation

ACS Setting 11



+ Gospel Reading - John 15:1-8

The gospel according to John the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. My Father removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit my Father prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit

»Yo soy la vid verdadera y mi Padre es el labrador. Toda rama que en mí no da fruto la corta; pero toda rama que da fruto la poda para que dé más fruto todavía. Ustedes ya están limpios por la palabra que les he comunicado. Permanezcan en mí y yo permaneceré en ustedes. Así como ninguna rama puede dar fruto por sí misma, sino

by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

que tiene que permanecer en la vid, así tampoco ustedes pueden dar fruto si no permanecen en mí. »Yo soy la vid y ustedes son las ramas. El que permanece en mí, como yo en él, dará mucho fruto; separados de mí no pueden ustedes hacer nada. El que no permanece en mí es desechado y se seca, como las ramas que se recogen, se arrojan al fuego y se queman. Si permanecen en mí y mis palabras permanecen en ustedes, pidan lo que quieran y se les concederá. Mi Padre es glorificado cuando ustedes dan mucho fruto y muestran así que son mis discípulos.

El Evangelio del Señor.

Alabanza a ti, oh Cristo!

Sermon - Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert

+ Hymn of the Day

O Blessed Spring

ELW 447

+ Prayers of the People

Following each petition:

Risen One, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

+ Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.

And also with you.

Y también contigo.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ using these or similar words "Peace be with you" or "La paz del Señor."

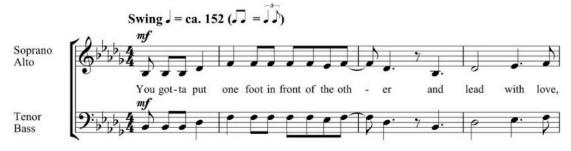
MEAL

Offertory

Lead With Love

Melanie DeMore

The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrains, using the music below.





Refrain

Don't give up hope, you're not alone, don't you give up, keep movin' on. *Refrain*Lift up your eyes and don't you despair, look up ahead, the path is here. *Refrain*I know you're scared, and I'm scared too, but here I am, right next to you! *Refrain*

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Offerings can be sent electronically or by mail, or placed in the offering plate in the center of our space as you come forward for Holy Communion. Find more information on the last page of the bulletin.

+Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread, reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine, pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

+The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

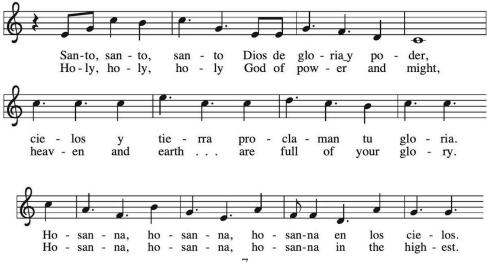
Lift up your hearts.

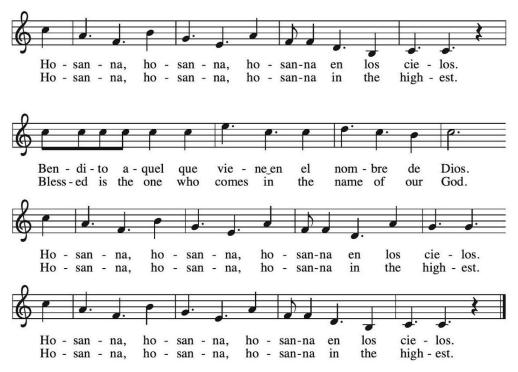
We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks to our gracious God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right.... we join their unending hymn:





From ACS Setting 11

+Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

+The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, Our Mother, 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Creador nuestro, Madre nuestra, Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder y tuya es la gloria, ahora y siempre. Amén.

Holy Communion

We believe that Jesus Christ is present in Holy Communion with gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. All who hunger for the presence of Christ in their life are invited to partake. By our participation in this meal and blessing, we are strengthened in faith and in life. All are welcome to commune.

If you are at home and sitting with others...

When sharing the bread with someone, say to them: "This is the body of Christ, given for you." When sharing the wine or grape juice, say, "This is the blood of Christ, shed for you."

If you are at home on your own...

Hear the voice of the pastor naming these promises of grace and life for you. If you'd prefer a blessing, hear these promises: "You are a beloved child of God. May God strengthen you with grace through Christ for all we face today."

If you are worshiping in-person today...

We invite you to come forward to receive the elements and hear the words of promise, or to receive a blessing. Following the direction of the ushers, come forward: pick up a cup, gather around the table, receive the bread (gluten free is available), the servers will pour into your cup either the red wine or white grape juice, place used cups in the basket. If you'd prefer, coming forward to the front for a blessing is always an option. Children of all ages are welcome to partake in the bread and juice at Holy Communion.

If you seek healing prayers today...

A healing minister is available during Holy Communion this morning. If you'd like prayers for healing for yourself, for those you love, or for other situations, you are invited to come to one of the healing ministers. You can ask for specific prayers, or simply ask them to pray with you...and they will. During this time, you may also dip into the baptismal waters and remember the promises, and light candles for situations around the world and close to home.

Music During Communion

Mercy, We Abide in You Abide with Me

ACS 1077 (see page 10)

ELW 629

+Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen.

+Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

Announcements

+Sending Hymn

To Christ Belong, in Christ Behold

ACS 958 (see page 11)

+Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

Amen.

The service continues on page 11.





Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952 Music: WONDERS, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950 Text © 2011 Susan B. Briehl, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music © 2011 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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+Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Aleluya! ¡Vaya en Paz! Regocíjate y alégrate. **Gracias a Dios! Aleluya!**

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