

Ascension Sunday
June 1, 2025
10:00 AM



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 with a commitment to racial equity.

Welcome. Peace be with you.

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

For those worshipping 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.

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 acknowledgment, 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.

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 Come Away to the Skies arr. James Biery (2021)

Welcome

+ Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

¡Aleluya! ¡Christo ha resucitado!

Cristo ha en verdad resucitado! ¡Aleluya!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we give thanks for forgiveness that wraps our true selves in sacred belonging and purpose.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

For a word at the dawn of creation, which spoke water and life into being.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

For the great flood that revealed nature's power and God's commitment to life after death.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

For the rock split open in the desert, spilling water for those thirsting for freedom.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

For the One who turned water to wine and met a woman at the well with living water.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

For the gift of holy baptism, which declares there are no more godforsaken places, and nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus. For Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

God of life, we rejoice with the waters that cover creation; our songs of praise echo their dancing tides and streams. Pour out your Holy Spirit on this community and all of creation.

Cleanse our fears. Drown our divisions. Give us grace to drink so that our whole lives are signs of death defeated and thirst quenched thanks to the risen Jesus, the Son of God.

Amen.

Adapted from Meta Herrick Carlson

+ **Processional Hymn** Crown Him with Many Crowns (*Vss. 1 & 4-5*) ELW 855

+ 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

Loving God, as Jesus left his disciples and was taken to you, he commissioned his ministry of love to us, who follow him. Guide us in our faithful walk together, humble us so that we might be able to catch on to what you're doing in this time and place, give us the courage we need to follow you, through Jesus your beloved, **Amen.**

WORD

Children's Message

Reading - Acts 1:1-11

[Luke writes:] In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Estimado Teófilo, en mi primer libro me referí a todo lo que Jesús comenzó a hacer y enseñar hasta el día en que fue llevado al cielo, luego de darles instrucciones por medio del Espíritu Santo a los apóstoles que había escogido. Después de padecer la muerte, se presentó dándoles muchas pruebas convincentes de que estaba vivo. Durante cuarenta días se les apareció y les habló acerca del reino de Dios. Una vez, mientras comía con ellos, ordenó:—No se alejen de Jerusalén, sino esperen la promesa del Padre, de la cual les he hablado: Juan bautizó con agua, pero dentro de pocos días ustedes serán bautizados con el Espíritu Santo. Entonces los que estaban reunidos con él preguntaron:—Señor, ¿es ahora cuando vas a restablecer el reino a Israel? —No les toca a ustedes conocer la hora ni el momento determinados por la autoridad misma del Padre —contestó Jesús—. Pero cuando venga el Espíritu Santo sobre ustedes, recibirán poder y serán mis testigos tanto en Jerusalén como en toda Judea y Samaria, hasta en los confines de la tierra. Habiendo dicho esto, mientras ellos lo miraban, fue llevado a las alturas hasta que una nube lo ocultó de su vista. Ellos se quedaron mirando fijamente al cielo mientras él se alejaba. De repente, se les acercaron dos hombres vestidos de blanco que les dijeron:—Galileos, ¿qué hacen aquí mirando al cielo? Este mismo Jesús, que ha sido llevado de entre ustedes al cielo, vendrá otra vez de la misma manera que lo han visto irse.

Palabra de Dios, palabra de vida.

Demos gracias a Dios.

+ Gospel Acclamation

Hail Thee, Festival Day!

ELW 394

All sing the Refrain, Choir sings the verse

+ Gospel Reading - Luke 24:44-53

The gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Luego dijo:—Cuando todavía estaba yo con ustedes, les decía que tenía que cumplirse todo lo que está escrito acerca de mí en la Ley de Moisés, en los Profetas y en los Salmos. Entonces les abrió el entendimiento para que comprendieran las Escrituras.—Esto es lo que está escrito —les explicó—: que el Cristo padecerá y resucitará al tercer día; en su nombre se predicarán el arrepentimiento y el perdón de pecados a todas las naciones, comenzando por Jerusalén. Ustedes son testigos de estas cosas. Ahora voy a enviarles lo que ha prometido mi Padre, pero ustedes quédense en la ciudad hasta que sean revestidos del poder de lo alto. Después los llevó Jesús hasta Betania; allí alzó las manos y los bendijo. Sucedió que, mientras los bendecía, se alejó de ellos y fue llevado al cielo. Entonces, ellos lo adoraron y luego regresaron a Jerusalén con gran alegría. Y estaban continuamente en el Templo alabando a Dios.

El Evangelio del Señor.

Alabanza a ti, oh Cristo!

Sermon - Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert

+ **Hymn of the Day** Lord, You Give the Great Commission (*Vss. 1-2 & 5*) ELW 579

+ 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.

And also with you.

La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.

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

Jubilate Deo

attr. W.A. Mozart

Jubilate Deo, omnis terra; servite Domino in laetitia.

Laudate nomen ejus, quoniam suavis est Dominus, Alleluia.

Rejoice in God all the earth: serve God with gladness.

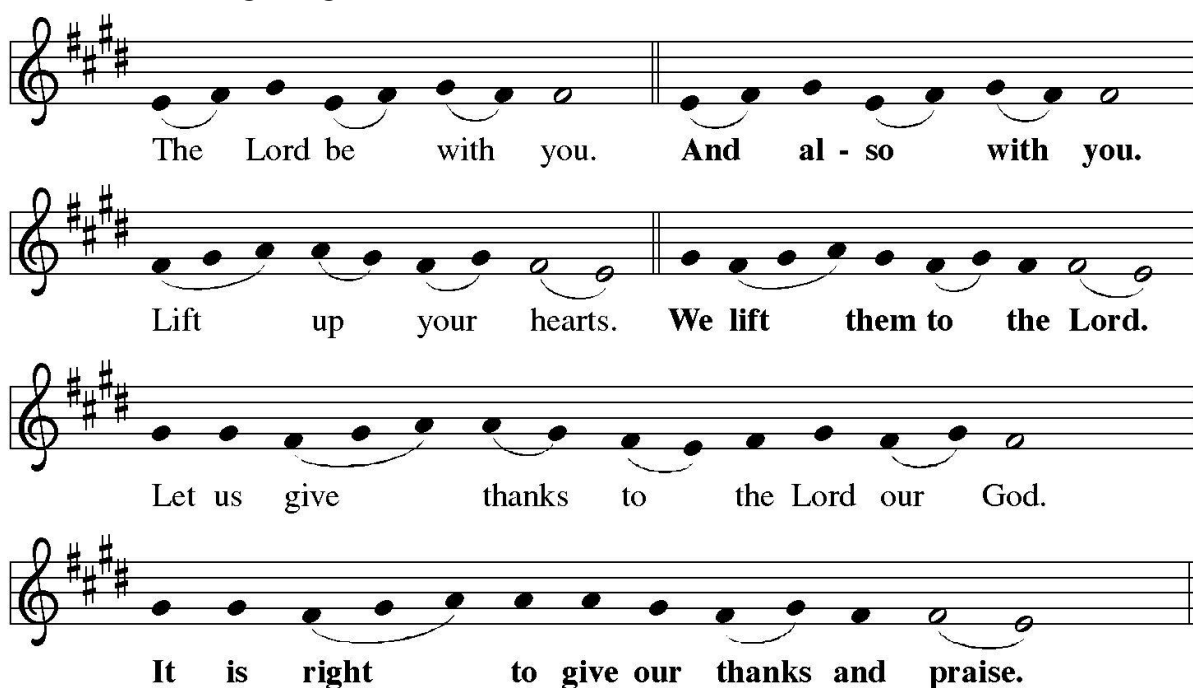
Praise God’s name, for God is great. Alleluia.

Thank you for your continued generosity! Donations may 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. A QR code is available 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



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

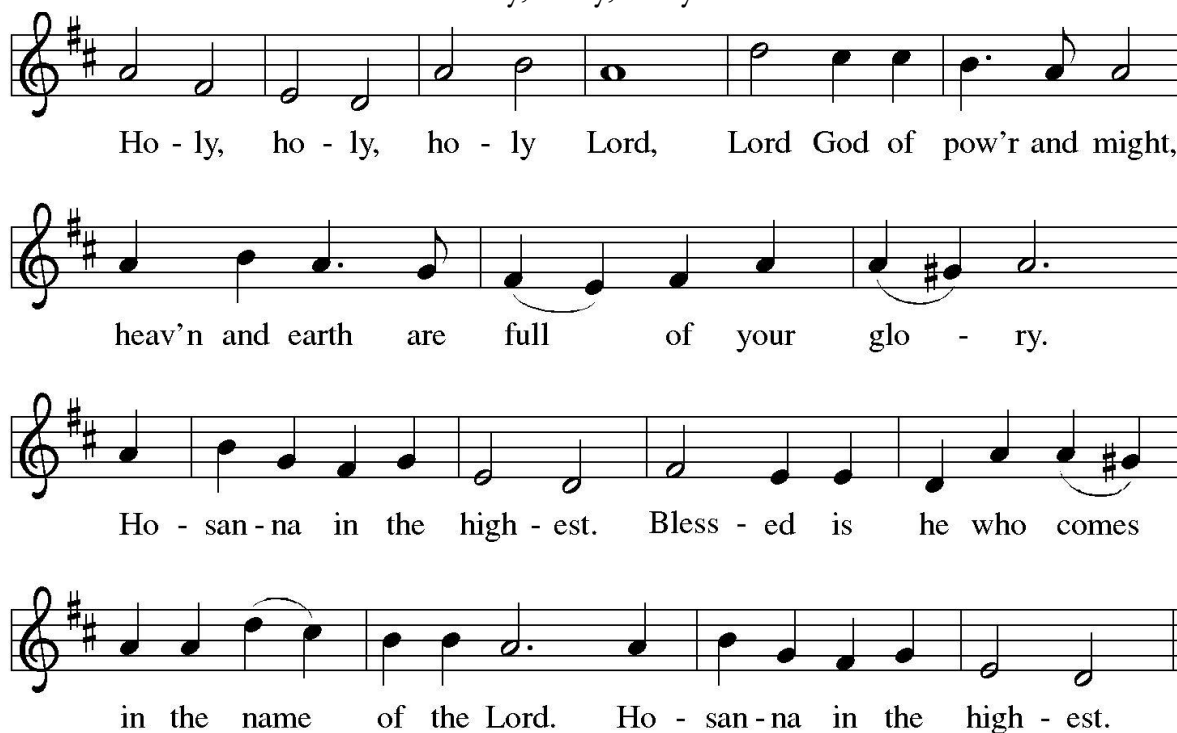
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

+ Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting 4



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

+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 to a communion station: pick up a cup, 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 a blessing, simply indicate this to the server and they will offer a blessing. 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 forward to the station. 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, or light prayer candles.

Music During Communion

Day of Arising

ELW 374



1 ¡Cris - to vi - ve, fue - ra el llan - to, los la - men - tos y el pe - sar!
 1 Christ is liv - ing! Gone with sor - row! Tears and ter - ror, be no more.
 2 For if Christ is not a - ris - en there is noth - ing to be - lieve.
 3 Death is swal - lowed up in vic - t'ry; sin has lost its poi - son sting.



Ni la muer - te ni el se - pul - cro lo han po - di - do su - je - tar.
 Death and grave, you now are noth - ing; Christ is free of ev - 'ry pow'r.
 Je - sus' prom - ise is ac - comp - lished: "Since I live, you too shall live."
 Life will blos - som from the grain sown, Christ the first fruits of the spring.



No bus - quéis en - tre los muer - tos al que siem - pre ha de vi - vir.
 Why then seek the liv - ing Sav - ior in the haunts of death and fear?
 Dust we are, to dust re - turn - ing, but in Christ we are re - stored.
 For the sure - ness of sal - va - tion let us sing, "Thanks be to God!"



¡Cris - to vi - ve! es - tas nue - vas por do - quier de - jad o - ir.
 Christ is ris - en! Shout the good news so that all the world may hear.
 Doubt dis - pel - ling, claim the tri - umph: Je - sus is the liv - ing Lord!
 Christ is ris - en! We are liv - ing! Spread the word of grace a - broad.

+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: Gracious God, **in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.**

SENDING

Announcements & Blessings for Graduates

+Sending Hymn

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! (*Vss. 1-2 & 5*)

ELW 393

+Blessing

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

+Dismissal

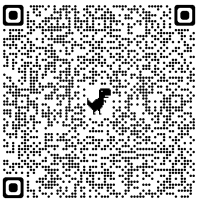
Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
Thanks be to God.

Vayan en paz. A decir lo que Dios ha hecho.
Gracias a Dios.

Postlude

Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen

arr. James Biery (2014)

<p>Staff at University Lutheran Church of Hope</p> <p>Interim Pastor Rev. Susan Debner (she/her) susand@ulch.org</p> <p>Pastor Rev. Maria Anderson-Lippert (she/her) mariaa@ulch.org</p> <p>Minister of Worship and Music Paul Stever (he/him) pauls@ulch.org</p> <p>Church Administrator Nathan Obrestad (he/him) nathano@ulch.org</p> <p>Interim Financial Administrator Emma Carpenter (she/her) FinAdmin@ulch.org</p> <p>Sunday Opener/Closer, Worship Tech Seth Strudthoff (he/him) seth.strudthoff@midlandu.edu</p> <p>Custodian Geremew Beshah (he/him)</p> <p>Lutheran Campus Pastor Kate Reuer Welton (she/her) kate@umnulutheran.org</p>	<p>Giving electronically Use this QR code to reach the University Lutheran Church of Hope donation page:</p>  <p>Or go to www.ulch.org and click on the “Give” tab. Thank you for your generous support of God’s ministry through ULCH.</p> <p>Copyright Acknowledgments Texts and parts of the liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com unless otherwise noted. Copyright 2012 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #3625. Printed music reprinted under OneLicense A-707451 unless otherwise noted. Scripture excerpts in English from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, unless otherwise noted. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Scripture excerpts in Spanish from Santa Biblia, NUEVA VERSIÓN INTERNACIONAL® NVI®, © 1999, 2015 por Biblica, Inc.® Usado con permiso de Biblica, Inc.® Reservados todos los derechos en todo el mundo. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.</p> <p>UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF LUTHERAN HOPE</p> <p>University Lutheran Church of Hope 601 13th Avenue SE Minneapolis, MN 55414-1437 612.331.5988 www.ulch.org Office hours: 9am to 2pm weekdays</p>
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Today’s Worship Leaders

Pastor Susan Debner, Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert (presiding ministers); Marty Lewis-Hunstiger (assisting minister); The Hope Choir; Paul Stever (musicians); James Flaten (lector); Tim Abrahamson, Karilyn Alexander, Kathy Kufus, Karen Westwood (communion servers); Juna Evans, Magda VanHeuvelen (acolytes); Dan Bielenberg, Seth Strudthoff (tech facilitators); Sheila Hougen (Zoom facilitator); Carol Flaten (altar guild); Don & Meri Hauge (greeters); Sampson Evans, Scott Hvizdos, Williams Santana (ushers); Kathy Kufus, Pauline Hendrickson (communion cleanup); Sara Tufvesson Doure, Donna Neste (healing ministry)