

Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church

May 10 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are by the kitchen and by the Wiggle Room

Wiggle Room is available for anyone needing a brief break from worship, at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary

WiFi is available: Look for TOL-GUEST; password is OdessaTOL1



We Gather as God's People

PRELUDE

You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.

↑ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Trusting in the Good News of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are bold to come before God in the presence of one-another, confessing our sins. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God our Father: **You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that we sinners might live. For his sake, continue to forgive us all our sins of thought, word and deed; known and unknown; evil done and good left undone. Give us new life in you, just as our Lord Jesus lives in you now and always. Amen.**

When you were baptized in Christ Jesus, you were baptized into his death. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so you too have new life. By the death and resurrection of Christ, your sins are forgiven. May you live out your Baptism with faith in God and love toward one-another. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

“Come Thou Almighty King”

RED HYMNAL #408

↑ APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE

“This is the Feast”

ELW pg. 169



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

A reading from Acts:

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows —
¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**

¹⁵ I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

¹⁶ **Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.**

¹⁷ I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.

¹⁸ **If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;**

¹⁹ but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

²⁰ **Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

A reading from 1 Peter:

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect.

Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through


water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

↑ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW pg. 171



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

↑ **GOSPEL: John 14:15-21**

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

↑ HYMN

“Children Of The Heavenly Father”

RED HYMNAL #781

↑ 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

↑ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us turn to God in prayer for the Church, the world, and all in need.

Almighty God, in you we live and move and have our being. Inspire your Church in all times and places to proclaim the Good News of your Son's death and resurrection. Give strength to those who suffer and are maligned for doing good in Jesus' name, and for witnessing to his grace. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

You are the Lord of Heaven and Earth, and you made the world and everything in it. Sustain your creation, help those affected by storm or natural disaster, and make us good stewards of your handiwork. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

You reign above all angels, authorities and powers. Bless our nation and those who serve it. Protect members of our armed forces, especially those in the Middle East. Put an end to violence and discord at home and abroad. Grant that your freedom, justice and peace might flourish. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

You care for your people as a mother hen cares for her chicks. Comfort and nurture us through the love of earthly parents. Bless mothers, godmothers, grandmothers, and all who serve in a mothering role. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

You will never leave us orphaned or alone. Be with the sick, the poor, the lonely, the grieving, and all in any need or trouble. We especially pray for Annalise, Beth, Bill, Bob, the Brookes family, Calvin, Chris, Courtney, Dan, Danielle, Darryl, Dot, Ed, Elizabeth, Erika, Gary, Jerry, Joe, John, Nina, Patrick, Paul, Quentin, Richard, Sarah, William, Winnie, Yvonne and those we name with our lips or in our hearts... (*Time for personal petitions*) Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

You invite us to abide in you. Help all of us at Tree of Life to walk in your ways with a good conscience. Inspire us to always be prepared to testify to the hope that you give us. Bless our bishops, Yehiel and William; our pastor, Robbie; St. Stephen's Lutheran Church and its pastor, Sue; and Lutheran Campus Ministries and its chaplain, Mindy. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

You promise to be with us forever. Accept our thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who now live forever in your dwelling. Abide with us until that day when we are all reunited in your glory. Lord, in your mercy... **Receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and help us, O Lord, as we pray in the name of Jesus your Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

↑ **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We Share God's Holy Meal

OFFERING

↑ OFFERTORY

RED HYMNAL #884

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye Heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: **Risen Lord, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Be with us in this meal, and make us your risen body in the world. Amen.**

↑ 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.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:

↑ SANCTUS

ELW p. 173

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav - en 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 & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

↑ 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.

↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is given for us!
Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION

ELW p. 174

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

HYMNS

“I Received the Living Lord”
“Here Is Bread”

RED HYMNAL #477
RED HYMNAL #483

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

God Sends Us in Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

"Alleluia! Sing To Jesus"

RED HYMNAL #392

↑ MISSION STATEMENT

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Share the Good News! Alleluia! alleluia!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

We depart to do God's work.

Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.

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