



If you love
me you will
keep my
commandments.

Ascension Lutheran Church
Landover Hills, Maryland
Church Phone: 301-577-0500
www.alutheranchurch.com



Sixth Sunday Of Easter

May 5, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome and Notices

Prelude

“Jesus Loves Me”
Lynette Maynard

(Stand) Invocation and Confession

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

(Kneel Sit)

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,

C: and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

L: Most Merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in his name he gives power to become children of God and has promised them his Holy Spirit. They who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

C: Amen.

(Stand) Greeting

L: He is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn

ELW482

"I Come With Joy"

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company .

- 1. I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.**

- 2. I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.**

- 3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.**

4. **The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.**
5. **Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you!

L: Let us pray.

C: O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Sit) The First Lesson

Acts 10.34-48

³⁴Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were

oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

⁴⁴While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

The Second Lesson

1 John 5:1-8

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that

Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

(Stand) Verse “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!”

ELW 385 v.1

Cyril Argentine Alington | Melchior Vulpus.

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Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our King!

To all the world glad news we bring:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

John 15.9-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁹[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have

heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Sit) Message

(Stand) Hymn
ELW449

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

Text: John B. Beyer, b. 1932, alt.

Tune: Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

1. **We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
And our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**
2. **We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,
As living members of our Savior Christ.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**
3. **The Father’s splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit’s fission shakes the Church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**
4. **A new creation comes to life and grows.
As Christ’s new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from
the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**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.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.**

(Kneel/Sit) Prayers

We come to you god- with op -en heartspray ing To ask for your heal ing and
7
bless -ing a bound. We pray to you knee ling with heads bowed in -
12
wit ness the glo - ry of your pow - er and un bound less love.

Text: Ben Harris
Music: KREMSER, A Valerius, *Nederianatsch Geaenckelanck*; 1626

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs:

(After each portion of the prayers:)

C: Hear our prayer.

(The prayers conclude:)

L: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

(Stand) Sharing of the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

All may greet one another with a word of peace.

(Sit) The Gathering of Gifts

Any tithes or offerings may be placed into the offering plate by the entrance to the Sanctuary at the beginning or the end of service. For those who are worshipping with us via live-stream, please consider mailing your offering to the Church office or giving online through our website

(Stand) Presentation of Gifts

“Let All Things Now Living”

ELW 881

Text: Katherine K. Davis; Tune: Welsh folk tune

- 1. Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, Protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us, His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished And darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.**

Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray. Gracious God,

C: In the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Sit) Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:


C:



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



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho - san-na.



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.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cheubin and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Eucharistic Prayer

L: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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 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 for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

L: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

L: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

L: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed Trinity, through Jesus Christ who taught us to pray:

C: 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.**

*(Sit) **Communion Distribution***

Lutherans believe that in Holy Communion we are offered the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Baptized and Communicant members of all Christian denominations who share this belief with us are welcome to come forward to receive Holy Communion. Others, including children, may come forward to receive a blessing.

Those communing may receive the wafer in their hand or upon their tongue. You may receive the wine by the common cup, individual cup, or by dipping the wafer into the wine. The ushers will direct you to communion.

Communion Hymns

“Lamb Of God”

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.

“I’ve Got Peace Like A River”

TFF258

Text: Afro American spiritual; Tune: Afro American Spiritual
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- 1. I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river in my soul;
I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.**
- 2. I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain in my soul;
I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain,
I’ve got joy like a fountain in my soul.**

- 3. I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul;
I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.**

“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”

ELW398

Text: Samuel Longfellow; Tune: Orlando Gibbons

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- 1. Holy Spirit, truth divine,
Dawn up on this soul of mine;
Breath of God and inward light
Wake my spirit, clear my sight.**
- 2. Holy Spirit, love divine
Glow within this heart of mine;
Kindle ev'ry high desire;
Purge me with your holy fire.**
- 3. Holy Spirit, pow'r divine
Fortify this will of mine;
By your will I strongly live
Bravely bear, and noble strive.**
- 4. Holy Spirit, peace divine,
Still this restless heart of mine;
Speak to calm this tossing sea,
Stayed in your tranquility.**
- 5. Holy Spirit, right divine,
King within my conscience reign;
Be my guide, and I shall be
Firmly bound, forever free.**

(Stand) Post Communion Blessing

L: May this, the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keeping you steadfast in your faith for life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Canticle

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

ELW 367

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**4. Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Post Communion Prayer

L: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benediction

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

L: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

WOV767 Text: Cecil F. Alexander; Music: English tune, adapt., Martin Shaw
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“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Refrain: **All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.**

- 1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings.**
Refrain
- 2. The purple headed mountains, the river running by,
The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.**
Refrain
- 3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them ev’ry one.**
Refrain
- 4. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.**
Refrain

Sending

L: Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Alleluia No. 1

Jeffrey Honoré

SERVING US IN WORSHIP

Assistant Adam Kambia

Musician Ben Harris

Reader Mike Walker

Message Dawn Doakes

Greeters Harry & Kathy Sessums

Altar Guild Wells Family, Ernestine Bivins,
Vivian Licorish, Dianne McGill

Ushers Dan Fulford, Jr., Carl Wilhoit, Darrell Dockery

Counters Vivian Licorish, Morris Hymes, Jr.

Now Enrolling ages 6 weeks -12 years

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301-577-KIDS

www.curiouscritterselt.com

Adult Bible Study

We are happy to announce that Ascension will be offering a new in- person adult Bible Study class. Jenny DeMaio will be teaching and Annette Singletary has graciously agreed to be the substitute if needed. The class will be focused on the book of Matthew. Our text will be Life Lessons from Matthew by Max Lucado. Themes in the study include: 1. The Birth and Preparation of the Messiah 2. Jesus' Ministry in Galilee 3. Jesus' Last Days on Earth. The series is divided into twelve lessons. Ascension will be purchasing books for those interested in joining us.

Class will be held on Sunday mornings following church service the weeks that choir is not rehearsing. That will allow those who participate in choir to join. Based upon the current choir schedule, Bible Study will meet on the following weeks in 2024:

May 12 and 26; June 9 and 30

Ascension has purchased the texts for Bible class. Donations of \$10.00 to cover the costs of books would be appreciated. Please earmark checks for Bible study materials payable to Ascension.

Acknowledgments

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Prayer List

*In order to keep the prayer list current the **Board of Elders** will edit the list once a month. If you have the name of a loved one that you would like to keep on the prayer list permanently, please contact Marj Nilsson @ 301-442-6253 marjorienilsson@hotmail.com.*



Sunday @6

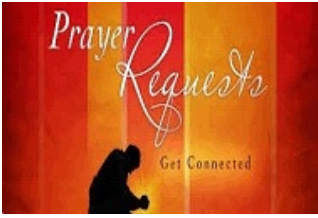
To the Homebound and Sick, we invite you to participate in Sunday @ 6, a weekly worship call. We have prayer, Scripture, a devotion and music. We invite, welcome and encourage you to join us in Christian fellowship every Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

The call is toll-free:(267) 807-9601

Sunday @ 6

Enter this code:773-431-475 #

For further information, call Alice Gaither at (301) 459-4194!



**Ascension Lutheran Church
Prayer Request**

Please put your prayer requests in the Prayer Diary at the rear of the Sanctuary so we can add your need to our prayers.

Darrell Prather, nephew of Alice Gaither, prayers for healing.

Ginny Lee and Family upon the recent passing of her brother-in-law, Maynard Honesty.

Gloria Malachi and Family upon the recent passing of Sam Malachi

Bette Carpio, Prayers for healing and comfort

Jenny DeMaio, Prayers for healing.

Amy Scully and Family, Upon the recent passing of Bill Kley

Family of Robin Sands, Upon her recent passing

Marj Nilsson, Prayers for healing.

Calvin Lee, Prayers for healing.

Lewis Powell, Prayers for healing

Agnes Brown, Prayers for healing and recovery.

Herman McNeil, Prayers for comfort and healing.

Maria Doakes, Prayers for continued healing.

Lois Fulford, Prayers for continued healing.

Zachary Plue, Prayers for continued healing.

Susie Nilsson, Prayers for continued healing.

Joyce Bailey, Prayers for continued healing.

Helen Bell, Prayers for healing

Alice Gaither, Prayers for healing.

Kent & Walt Nilsson, Prayers for improved vision.

Ascension Shut-Ins:

John DellaGatta; Lois Flemming;

Olivia Powell; Arthur & Mildred Smith, Helen Riley.

Ascension Weekly

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Fax: 301-577-9558

Information & Notices

May 5, 2024

Services

Divine Worship

Sunday at 9:00 am

Holy Communion is celebrated in most services.

Holy Baptism

Arrangements for Baptism can be made with the Church Office.

Weddings

Weddings for active Ascension members are arranged with the Church Office

Please Note

Adult Bible Study: Bible study meets on Sundays after worship, at 10:30 am.

Staff:

Gwen Neal Office Mgr.
Ben Harris Parish Musician

Office open Mon-Fri., 8-4:30
Closed Holidays.

Send your **email address** to the Church Office at ascenluth@aol.com.

Sunday, May 5

9:00 am

6:00 pm

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Worship

Sunday @ 6

Sunday, May 12

9:00 am

10:30 am

6:00 pm

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Worship

Bible Study

Sunday @ 6



Altar Flowers Presented By

Carl Wilhoit in Memory of Daisy Wilhoits' Birthday

Please Note that flowers will only be provided when they are sponsored by members. Sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the Church Office Wing.



Altar Flowers

***Altar Flowers* \$50.00**

***Sanctuary Lights* \$ 5.00**

**Ascension Lutheran Church: Becoming Caring
Servants who Extend Life in Christ to Diverse people**

Call Committee Prayer Vigil:

Our designated prayer time for the Call process is 7 pm. Please remember to set some kind of an alarm for this time daily for the remainder of the call process. I know many of us are already praying, so let's have this one time daily when we do it all together.

For the Call Committee and Pastoral Candidates, please pray for...

- *The Lord's Guidance
- *The Lord's Discernment

This is not an exhaustive list so please add any other prayer that comes to mind

Thank you!
Ascension Board of Elders

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week



**Yuelang Johnson, Zachary Wallace,
Fred Hayes**

Kirsten & Kenny Budd



SERVING US IN WORSHIP, Next Sunday, May 12

Assistant	Annette Singletary
Musician	Ben Harris
Reader	Vivian Licorish
Message	
Greeters	Dianne McGill
Altar Guild	Cheryl Townsend, Carolyn Plue, Mary Tipton, Bose Osho
Ushers	Ronnie Townsend, Cris Bonner
Counters	Andy House, Dwight Mitchell, Adam Kampia