

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

Putting Jesus' Way of Life into Practice by...

Encountering God, Loving One Another,

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

*Abide
in my love*

JOHN 15:9



The Art of Letting Go II by Cody F. Miller. © Cody F. Miller. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

Welcome to Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

(Congregational responses are in bold print.)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

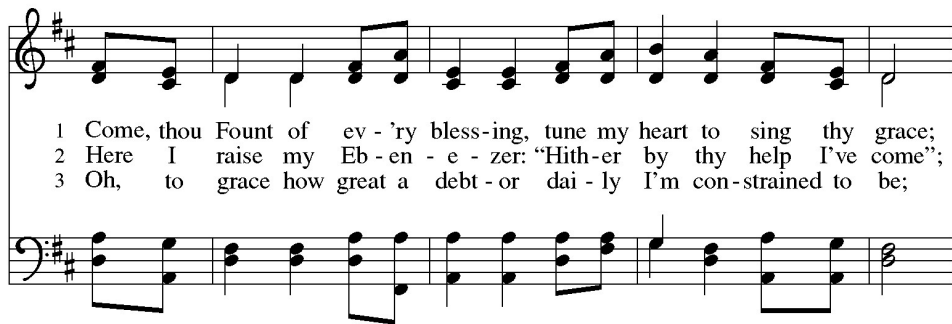
Amen

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen

GATHERING SONG

“COME THOU FOUNT”



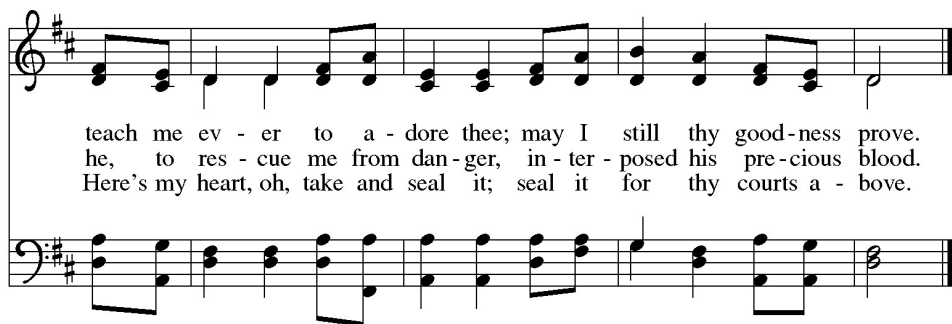
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST READING: ACTS 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 98 (read responsively)

¹Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the
nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the
house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who
comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The Lord will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: JOHN 15:9-17

The holy gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have 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. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever

you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“HERE I AM, LORD”

Dan Schutte

Verses



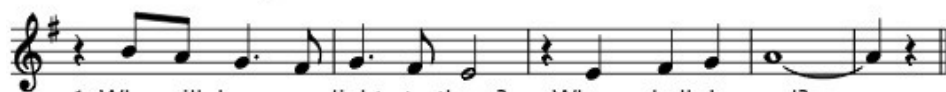
1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



1. All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save. I, who
2. I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
3. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin-est



1. made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
2. break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
3. bread I will pro-vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



1. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
2. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
3. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

Text: Based on Isaiah 6. Text and music © 1981, OCP. All rights reserved.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**Response: God of grace,
hear our prayer.**

PEACE

**The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.**

OUR OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by
day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to
new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready
to praise you and to respond to those in need, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen

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 our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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**

COMMUNION

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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

COMMUNITY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen

SENDING SONG

"WE ARE CALLED"



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: WE ARE CALLED, David Haas

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.



Flowers Today Given by Sarah Songster

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY! THANK YOU!

Greeter: Katie
Welcome Desk: Risk-Taking Mission & Service
Ushers: Steven & Shirley
Reader: Carol
Sound Booth: Tim, Tom, Peter
Communion Assistants: Tony & Carol
Musicians: Nick
Coffee Servers: Deb & Dorothy

PRAYER REQUESTS...

We pray for those in need of healing and mercy:
The family of David A, The family of Jim (Carol's brother), Leroy, Carol W., Kayla, Roger, Gary (Uncle of Sue), Sarah, Carol L., Salomie (sister-in-law of Peter), Jane (Grace's friend), Sylvia, Roberta, Dorothy (Mother of Linda), Patty (sister of Mike), and Anna.

(Please call the church office with any prayer concerns or updates.)

Thank you for giving to support the ministries at Christ the Servant. You may donate online on our website: www.cslcvh.org/tithe. Offering envelopes are available at the Welcome Desk.



Lord's Pantry Sunday

Today is our Lord's Pantry Day! Donations will be delivered to Vadnais Heights Food Shelf. Non-perishable foods and \$\$ are welcomed. Thank you for helping our neighbors.



Cross & Cradle News

Community Life

THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE SERVANT

Today: May 5 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Lord's Pantry

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM - CSLC Bible Study

9:30 AM - CSLC Worship

10:30 AM - CSLC Fellowship Time

11:15 AM - EFLC Sunday School

12:30 PM - EFLC Worship

Monday, May 6

9:00 AM - Package bread & deliver

2:00 PM - 5:30 PM - Piecemakers (Fellowship Hall)

5:00 PM - Mission & Service Meeting

Tuesday, May 7

7:00 AM - Bread Preparation (Fellowship)

8:30 AM - Bread Distribution + Coffee Get-Together (FH)

6:30 PM - AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, May 8

9:00 AM - Extravagant Generosity Meeting

12:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Senior HiLites (FH)

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM - Youth & Confirmation

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM - AA (Class A)

Thursday, May 9

9:30 AM - Radical Hospitality Meeting

3:45 PM - 4:45 PM - YogaDevotion (S)

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM - Revelation Rehearsal (S)

Friday, May 10

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM - EFLC Choir Practice (Class A)

Saturday, May 11

Sunday, May 12 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM - CSLC Bible Study

9:30 AM - CSLC Worship

10:30 AM - CSLC Fellowship Time

11:15 AM - EFLC Sunday School

12:30 PM - EFLC Worship



Sunday Bible Study

Sundays 8:30 AM.

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesdays 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

Women's Saturday Bible Study

Every other Saturday. Next Bible study dates: May 18th, June 1st.

Blood Drive at CSLC

The next blood drive at Christ the Servant is scheduled for Monday, May 20th, from 11 AM to 5 PM.



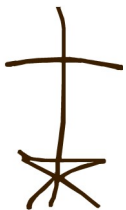
Come join our new team! Sign up in the Welcome Area.

There will be a joint worship service with Eternal Flame Lutheran Church on Sunday, May 19th at 10:30 AM followed by a luncheon.



RUMMAGE SALE

The Rummage Sale this past weekend was a huge success! The sale itself made over \$3000—not including the lunch sales (waiting on a few numbers)! And the Youth Bake Sale made \$469.50! Thank you to all who helped, donated, purchased, and helped with clean-up/hauling away what was left. Start saving for next year!!



CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

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