



## BEAVER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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***Isabel Vitale – Lector & Cantor***

# HOLY COMMUNION

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

Setting Three

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**



**Sunday, May 2, 2021**

**10:15 a.m.**

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# HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, May 2, 2021 ~ 10:15 a.m.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

Setting Three

\*Please stand as you are able.



## GATHERING

### Prelude

#### \*Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.  
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.  
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LET US PRAY

*We ask your prayers for all these persons listed below, as well as for all those in need.*

- For families and friends of those who have recently died:  
**Trina Eia.**
- For those hospitalized or with other immediate needs:  
**Dee Hockenberry, Albert Bickhart, Tom Rigel, Betsy Ann Klingler, Shirley Schubert, Cristin Kwiterobich, Tom Dutrow, Bill Koble, Shirley Nipple.**
- For those homebound, in care centers, or being cared for by others:  
**From our Family of God at Beaver: Denise Brouse, Deb Kline, Paul Lepley, Peg Shirey, Joan Snook. Also: Nancy (Weisen) Schug, Elton Walter.**
- For those with ongoing needs:  
**Jackie Alters, Clinton Barnett, Stacy Boyer, Denise Brouse, Richard Bucher, Phyllis Coleman, Karen Ferrinjer, Donald Foltz, Patrick Fromm, Will Folk, Galen Goss, Bruce Hassinger, Dee Hockenberry, Charles Hufnagle, Ben Keiser, Guy Kerstetter, John Krause, Justin Krouse, Matt Kwitorovich, Grace Lauver, Evelyn Lepley, Tucker Lepley, Lois Martin, Tom Martin, Shirley Pheasant, Kurt Reichenbach, Shirley Rheam, Craig Ritter, Larry Sassaman, Terry Sassaman, Lindsey Shultz, David Ski, Noah Stetts, Irene Sweigart, Sam Sweigart, Pat Will, Alan Wolfe, Brian Wray, Crystal Wray, Madeline Wray, Laurie Zechman, Austin Zimmerman, Hunter Zondory, Chad, Donna, Gary, Jamie, Kathy and baby.**
- For those with cancer:  
**Dawn Anspach, Marci Barlett, Dorothy Boyer, Thomas Burns, Mindy Callendar, Nancy Coder, Gabby Deadman, Steve Drake, Betty Drumheller, Jennifer Ebright, Mary Ewing, Jerry Fike, James Hackenburg, John Hollenbach Jr., Marcus Josey, Betsy Ann Klingler, Windy Kuntz, Audrey Zerby Lickenwalner, Dave Middleswarth, Ben Moyer, Doug Moyer, Shirley Schubert, Amber Shaw, Richard Shirey Jr., Sandie Snook, Rose Snyder, Rhonda Straw, Galen Wagner, Sherryl Wagner, Deb Wannamaker .**
- For those in the military and recent veterans:  
**Jaycen Goodling, Christopher Lepley, Jordan Lepley, Terry Romig, Emma Shirey, Jake Thomas, Ty Wagner, Joseph Zerby.**

**Seeking Graduates** — If you have a family member that will be graduating or has already graduated from high school or college, please let Sara know. We will honor your graduate in the next newsletter. Please provide a photograph and brief biography.

**Baby Bottle Boomerang** — Crossroads Pregnancy Center in Lewistown will once again be holding its Baby Bottle Boomerang beginning on May 9, Mother’s Day and ending June 20, Father’s Day. As we did last year, we are encouraging folks to donate directly to them through their website at: [www.cpcfornlife.org/baby-bottle-boomerang](http://www.cpcfornlife.org/baby-bottle-boomerang) or by sending a check designated “Baby Bottle Boomerang Donation” to their office at 1130 W. Fourth St., Lewistown, PA 17044.

**Online Giving** – Tired of forgetting to bring your envelope to church? You can also donate online through PayPal by clicking the “donate” button on our homepage. You can also ask Amazon to donate a portion of your purchases to Beaver Lutheran Church by logging into Amazon Smile. Thank you for your generosity!

**Lectors** — Please prayerfully consider volunteering to be a lector. By proclaiming the word of God, a lector serves a unique role in the liturgy. If you feel you have been called to this service, please notify the pastor.

**Altar Flower Chart** — The 2021 Altar Flower Chart is located in the narthex. Please note that there quite a few Sundays left to fill. Cost to have the church provide the flowers through Graci’s is \$50. If that cost is a bit much for you, you can opt to provide your own flowers.

**In Need** — *The sacristy is in need of empty cans or jars* for altar flowers to be used for taking them home following worship. Please remember to return the cans or jars to the church.

**Bids Welcome** — The Beavertown Union Cemetery is looking for bidders to care for the cemetery. Anyone interested in putting in a bid, contact Erman Lepley at 570-658-7605.

## \*Gathering Song

We Know That Christ Is Raised

Let us sing out our praise to God!

### We Know That Christ Is Raised

The image shows the musical notation for the song 'We Know That Christ Is Raised'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'I We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Em-braced by death, he broke its fear-ful hold, and our de-spair he turned to blaz-ing iov. Hal-le-lu-jah!' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on 'jah!'.

## \*Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

# WORD

## First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup>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.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>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. <sup>40</sup>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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 22:25-31

All the ends of the earth shall re -  
mem - ber and turn to the LORD.

Psalm 22:27  
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- <sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
- <sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,**  
**Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!**
- <sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
- <sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,**  
**who rules o- | ver the nations. R**
- <sup>29</sup>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 be- | fore  
the LORD.
- <sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,**  
**whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**
- <sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people | yet unborn,  
saying to them, “The | LORD has acted!” **R**

**Altar Flowers** — The flowers this morning are given by Craig and Greta Wagner to the Glory of God and in celebration of their 29th wedding anniversary which they celebrate today. The flowers are a joyful symbol of the resurrection of Christ.

**Vacation** — Pastor Jim will be on vacation from Monday, May 3 through Wednesday, May 5. Pr. Stina Schaeffer will be serving as emergency contact while Pastor Jim is away. Her email address is stinaschaeffer@gmail.com and her cell number is 845-636-9487.

**Altar Candles** — Anyone who has served on Altar Guild knows how messy the wax is to clean off the linens, candle sticks and fixtures. The Worship & Music Committee has purchased new Liquid Candles for the altar and lectern and we are looking to take up any donations to help offset the cost. The candles burn on a special liquid that is scent-free and cleaner to burn. If you are willing to make a donation, please use the “Special Offering” envelopes and mark “Altar Candles” on the outside. Thank you in advance for your support.

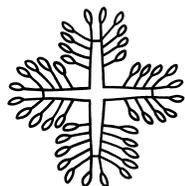
**Summer Clothing Donations** — If you have summer clothing that you would like to donate to our monthly Clothing Closet giveaway, please see Linda Sassaman.

**May Pantry & Closet** — The May Food Pantry and Clothing Closet will be held one week early, May 15, from 8 to 10 a.m.

**Annual Meeting** — The annual meeting of the congregation is scheduled for Sunday, May 16. At this meeting we will elect new officers, pass the budget, and vote on constitutional amendments. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

**Constitution** — Council is proposing extensive updates to our constitution to bring it up-to-date with ELCA recommendations. Our constitution dictates that the congregation have two months to review constitutional changes before we vote on them at our annual meeting. Copies of the constitution are available for download on our website at beaverlutheran-church.org/resources. If you require a hard-copy, there are a limited number at the back of the church.

**Red for Pentecost** — We will celebrate Pentecost on May 23. As we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles in the form of flames, let us **wear red** to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. We are also asking for donations of **red geraniums** to decorate the sanctuary.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome to Worship!** Remember to please wear a mask and maintain six feet between individuals, couples or family groups while on the premises. Children under two and those with trouble breathing should not wear masks and should maintain as much social distance as possible.

**Communion** – Please help yourself to a worship kit containing your bulletin, a copy of Taking Faith Home, and a “Communion Kit”. At the appropriate time we will lower our face coverings and commune sitting in our seats. First the wafer found on the top of the juice cup, and then the cup. Immediately following communion, please return your face coverings and deposit the empty cup into the bag and seal it. These bags can be disposed of in the waste receptacle. *There are gluten-free wafers available.*

**Livestreams** – You can join us for worship as always on Zoom and now on **YouTube Live**. To watch on YouTube, simply use this link which will bring you to our YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_nvclBmC3TpwwM3NNKbulA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_nvclBmC3TpwwM3NNKbulA) then you can select the Live Sunday Worship video. (Remember to subscribe to our channel so you can get updates on new videos!)

**Midweek Meditation with Pr. Jim** – Sundays are a wonderful time to re-center ourselves on God, but when Monday comes, all our various responsibilities and anxieties so often push God back to the sidelines. You are invited to join Pr. Jim on Thursdays on YouTube for a time of recentering with scripture and prayer. These prerecorded videos will be posted by noon each Thursday and you can watch them at your leisure. You can find them here: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_nvclBmC3TpwwM3NNKbulA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_nvclBmC3TpwwM3NNKbulA) (Remember to subscribe to our channel so you can get updates on new videos!)

**Sing for Joy** — We have once again begun to sing our praises in the sanctuary! To promote better ventilation, windows and doors will be open. Please maintain social distancing and continue to wear a face covering. We will be singing the first verse of our hymns.

## Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel

John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>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.**

Sermon

Rev. Jim Vitale

### \*Hymn of the Day

Let us sing out our praise to God!

### Now the Green Blade Rises

#### Now the Green Blade Rises

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

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### \*Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith using the words of the 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.**

### \*Sending Song

Let us sing out our praise to God!

### Let All Things Now Living

#### Let All Things Now Living

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished. as  
for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.

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### Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### Postlude

## Communion

*Please remain seated and commune together.*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

## Prayers After Communion

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

**Amen.**

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.**

# SENDING

## Benediction

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

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

Hear us O God,

*Response: your mercy is great.*

## \*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please offer one another a socially distant sign of Christ's peace.*

# MEAL

*Please be seated.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

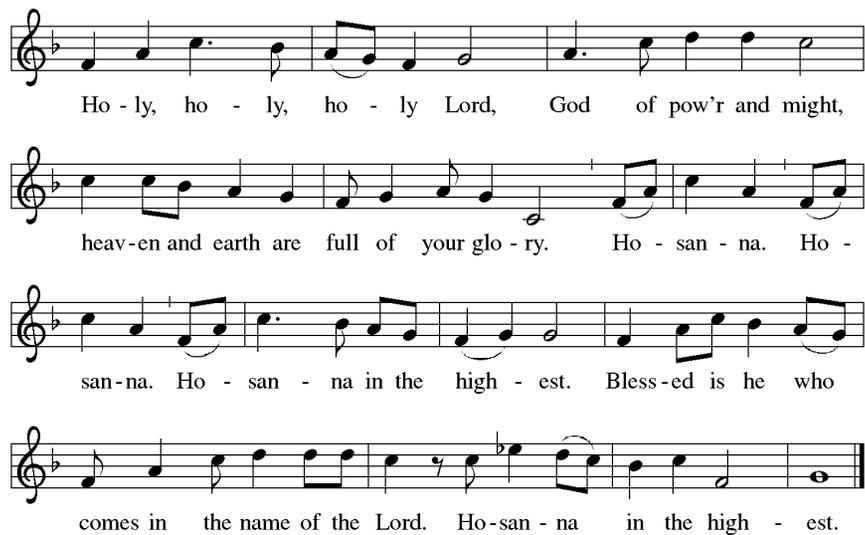
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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 Paschal 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, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*"Holy, Holy, Holy" is continued on next page.*



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.

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 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.

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

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

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.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

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.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

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 and holy Trinity,  
 now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 king-  
 dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.