


# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

7 MAY 2023

*Alleluia*  
He is  
Risen



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

# WORSHIP SERVICE

## *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING 10*

*The liturgy is in the front of the ELW with numbers at the bottom of the pages.  
The hymns begin in the middle of the ELW with numbers at the top of the pages.*

### **PRELUDE**

### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **EASTER GREETING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

**C: Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**C: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.  
Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our  
resolve in seeking justice for all.**

P: Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails,

grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **HYMN #380 “HALLELUJAH! JESUS LIVES!”**

### **GREETING**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **♪ KYRIE**

**♪ Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.  
Renew us with your saving pow’r; create in us new hearts!**

### **♪ CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

**♪ Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:  
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav’n above;  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God’s right hand.  
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:  
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father’s splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...now and forever.*)

**C: Amen**

**READINGS**

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

♩ Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## HOMILY

**HYMN #389 “CHRIST IS ALIVE! LET CHRISTIANS SING”**

## CONFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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**

P: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*(Each petition ends: P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.)*

P: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. *(concluding...our Savior and Lord.)*

**C: Amen.**

### **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.**

**BLESSING**

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN #654 "THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION"**

**DISMISSAL**

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**POSTLUDE**

**Pastor:** Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

**Organist:** Jason Bousselot or Linda Whitman

**Acolyte:** David Burke

**Lector:** Dan Burke

**Communion Assistant:** Neil Holmquist

**Usher:** Dan Burke

**Cleaners:** Brian Bousselot and Mary Timmerman

### **Contact Information:**

#### **Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen**

Cell Phone: (262) 914-9392

Email: [pastorleahhollnil@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleahhollnil@gmail.com)

#### **Church Office**

Phone: (563) 246-2622

Email: [clparish@fbcom.net](mailto:clparish@fbcom.net)

Website: [www.clparish.org](http://www.clparish.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/clparish1861](http://www.facebook.com/clparish1861)

### **This Week At A Glance**

Wednesday	10:00	Naomi Circle at Marsha Witte's home
	am	Confirmation at Faith
	6:00 pm	Education committee at Faith
	7:00 pm	Bible Jam at Faith
	7:00 pm	High School Bible Study at Faith
Thursday	6:00 pm	Outreach committee at Faith
	6:30 pm	Worship committee at Faith
	7:00 pm	Council meetings at Faith



Sunday                    8:00 am   Our Savior's Worship Service  
                                  9:25 am   Sunday School at Faith  
                                  10:30   Faith Worship Service

**Those to keep in prayer:** the family of Greg Mickelson; Mallory Boussetot; the homebound: Norman Boussetot, Carol Christensen, Shirley Ferguson, Ron Gasper, Delores Lahann, Myrna Kay Petersen, Rusty Porth, Betty Schau, Bus Seastrand and Vera St. John; and those serving in the military, Nick Timmerman.

**Pastor Dennis Rodenberg** (563.880.5345) may be called in case of emergencies or funerals while Pastor Leah is on maternity leave.

If you would like to prepare a meal for the Nilsen's, an online account has been set up to choose your date. The website link is: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/yqyew1> (should say Meal Train for Leah Holloway-Nilsen). If you prefer, you may contact Deb Tulley or Amy Glover and they will be happy to assist you in signing up. Thank you.

During Pastor's maternity leave and in the absence of a parish secretary, **volunteers will be in the church office** from 9:00 am to noon on Monday through Friday. Call Mark Witte at 563-212-2077 with questions.

God Squad is selling **2023 Calamus Lutheran Parish T-shirts**. Order forms will be at both churches through May 21. T-shirts are \$17 each (\$2 additional for sizes larger than XL).

**Calamus-Wheatland Commencement** is Sunday, May 14. Calamus Lutheran Parish members who are graduating in 2023 are *Ryan Dick, Brady Hayes, Brenna Henning, Brendan Olson, and Sarah Tulley*.

Sarah Tulley, a 2023 graduate of Calamus-Wheatland High School, invites all members of the parish to her **graduation party** from 4:00 -7:00 pm on Sunday, May 14, at 103 East Street, Grand Mound.

The **noisy offering** will be collected on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. The 2023 recipient is St. Peter Lutheran Church in Ft Myers Beach, Florida. The church was heavily damaged during Hurricane Ian.

**Confirmation** will be Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 10:30 am at Faith. Those affirming their baptism are Peyton Grau, Ryan Olson, Tysen Steffens, Kellen Whitman and Alena Wilhelm. A reception in the fellowship hall will follow worship.

**Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**, there will be **one service only**. Worship with Holy Communion at Our Savior's at 9:00am. **Dr. Mark Mattes** from Grandview College will preside at worship.

# **The Way, The Truth and The Life**

*by William Barclay*

*John 14:4-6 "And you know the way to where I go." Thomas said to him: "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How do we know the way?" Jesus said to him: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

Again and again Jesus had told his disciples where he was going, but somehow they had never understood. "Yet a little while I am with you," he said, "and then I go to him that sent me" (John 7:33). He had told them that he was going to the Father who had sent him, and with whom he was one, but they still did not understand what was going on. Even less did they understand the way by which Jesus was going, for that way was the Cross. At this moment the disciples were bewildered men. There was one among them who could never say that he understood what he did not understand, and that was Thomas. He was far too honest and far too much in earnest to be satisfied with any vague pious expressions. Thomas had to be sure. So he expressed his doubts and his failure to understand, and the wonderful thing is that it was the question of a doubting man which provoked one of the greatest things Jesus ever said. No one need be ashamed of his doubts; for it is amazingly and blessedly true that he who seeks will in the end find.

Jesus said to Thomas: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." That is a great saying to us, but it would be still greater to a Jew who heard it for the first time. In it Jesus took three of the great basic conceptions of Jewish religion, and made the tremendous claim that in him all three found their full realization.

The Jews talked much about the way in which men must walk and the ways of God. God said to Moses: "You shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God has commanded you" (Deuteronomy 5:32-33). Moses said to the people: "I know that after my death you will surely act corruptly, and turn aside from the way which I have

commanded you" (Deuteronomy 31:29). Isaiah had said: "Your ears shall hear a word behind you saying, This is the way, walk in it" (Isaiah 30:21). In the brave new world there would be a highway called the Way of Holiness, and in it the wayfaring man, even though a simple soul, would not go lost (Isaiah 35:8). It was the Psalmist's prayer: "Teach me thy way, O Lord" (Psalms 27:11). The Jews knew much about the way of God in which a man must walk. And Jesus said: "I am the Way."

What did he mean? Suppose we are in a strange town and ask for directions. Suppose the person asked says: "Take the first to the right, and the second to the left. Cross the square, go past the church, take the third on the right and the road you want is the fourth on the left." The chances are that we will be lost before we get half-way. But suppose the person we ask says: "Come. I'll take you there." In that case the person to us is the way, and we cannot miss it. That is what Jesus does for us. He does not only give advice and directions. He takes us by the hand and leads us; he strengthens us and guides us personally every day. He does not tell us about the way; he is the Way.

Jesus said: "I am the Truth." The Psalmist said: "Teach me Thy way, O Lord, that I may walk in thy truth" (Psalms 86:11). "For thy steadfast love is before my eyes," he said, "and I walk in faithfulness to thee" (Psalms 26:3). "I have chosen the way of truth," he said (Psalms 119:30). Many men have told us the truth, but no man ever embodied it. There is one all-important thing about moral truth. A man's character does not really affect his teaching of geometry or astronomy or Latin verbs. But if a man proposes to teach moral truth, his character makes all the difference in the world. An adulterer who teaches the necessity of purity, a grasping person who teaches the value of generosity, a domineering person who teaches the beauty of humility, an irascible creature who teaches the beauty of serenity, an embittered person who teaches the beauty of love, is bound to be ineffective. Moral truth cannot be conveyed solely in words; it must be conveyed in example. And that is precisely where the greatest

human teacher must fall down. No teacher has ever embodied the truth he taught--except Jesus. Many a man could say: "I have taught you the truth." Only Jesus could say: "I am the Truth." The tremendous thing about Jesus is not simply that the statement of moral perfection finds its peak in him; it is that the fact of moral perfection finds its realization in him.

Jesus said: "I am the Life." The writer of the Proverbs said: "The commandment is a lamp, and the teaching a light; and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life" (Proverbs 6:23). "He who heeds instructions is on the path to life" (Proverbs 10:17). "Thou dost show me the path of life," said the Psalmist (Psalms 16:11). In the last analysis what man is always seeking for is life. His search is not for knowledge for its own sake: but what will make life worth living. A novelist makes one of his characters who has fallen in love say: "I never knew what life was until I saw it in your eyes." Love had brought life. That is what Jesus does. Life with Jesus is life indeed.

And there is one way of putting all this. "No one," said Jesus, "comes to the Father except through me." He alone is the way to God. In him alone we see what God is like; and he alone can lead men into God's presence without fear and without shame.

Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT) – Public Domain