

CONNECT WITH GOD



"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me they can do nothing."

John 15:5

youth Sunday 2024

Art by Emma Shook

FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Rev. Alejandro Mejía, Interim Senior Pastor
The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Interim Associate Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God. We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history. Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and grow together as Jesus' disciples at this place.



Prelude

With Love in My Heart

Frederic Chopin

Angela, piano

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Please stand, as you are able and turn towards the font and Christ Candle at the Sanctuary entrance.

P *Alleluia! Christ is risen.*

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

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

C **Amen.**

P *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.

C **Amen.**

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought
and storm
What heights of love what depths
of peace
When fears are stilled when
strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to
save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness
slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of
Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll
stand

L *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.**

L *Let us pray. O God,*
C **you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Psalm 22

Read Responsively

L ²⁵*From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.*

C ²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

L ²⁷*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.*

C ²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

L ²⁹*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 before the LORD.*

C ³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

L ³¹*They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"*

Reading

1 John 4:7-21

L *A reading from first John. ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.*

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Love 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. ¹⁸There 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. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those 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. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

L *The word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

L *Alleluia. Jesus says, I am the vine and you are the branches. Those who abide in me and in them bear much fruit.* John 15:5

C **Alleluia!**

Gospel

John 15:1-8

L *The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Fifteenth chapter.*

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

L *[Jesus said:]* ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. ⁵I 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. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

L *The Gospel of the Lord.*

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

Please be seated.

Children’s Message

Sermon

Please stand as you are able.

Song of the Day

Abide

Dwell Songs

For my waking breath
For my daily bread
I depend on You
I depend on You
For the sun to rise
For my sleep at night
I depend on You
Yes I depend on You

You're the way the truth and the
life
You're the well that will never run
dry
I'm the branch and You are the
vine
Draw me close and teach me to
abide

You're the way the truth and the
life
You're the well that never runs dry
I'm the branch and You are the
vine
Draw me close and teach me to
abide

Be my strength my song in the
night
By my all my Treasure my prize
I am Yours forever You're mine
Draw me close and teach me to
abide

Where the Spirit leads
As I'm following
I depend on You
I depend on You
For the victories
Still in front of me
I depend on You
I depend on You

When I pass through death
As I enter rest
I depend on You
I depend on You
For eternal life
To be raised with Christ
I depend on You
I depend on You

L *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.*
C **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.

L *Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

L *God of grace,*

C **help us connect to you.**

The prayers conclude:

L *Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.*

C **Amen.**

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

C **And also with you.**

L *We invite you to practice casual consent as you share the peace of the Lord with one another in whatever way you feel called.*

After sharing the peace, please be seated.

Offering and Anthem

Amazing Grace

Chris Tomlin

Youth Sunday Band

Brynn, guitar; Angela, piano

Esther, Eleanor, and Marleigh, vocals

L *Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.*

C **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Lift up your hearts.*

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

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

P *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:



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

P *In the night in which he was betrayed...*

Again, after supper, he took the cup...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

P *Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.*

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P *Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior taught us:*

C **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.

P *Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

We welcome to the table all who proclaim with us that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine. (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.)

During the distribution of communion, the following is sung:



*Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



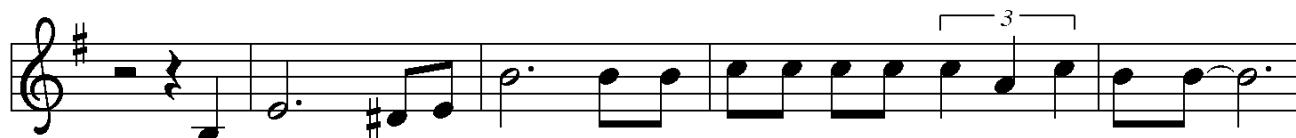
*ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer - cy up - on us.*



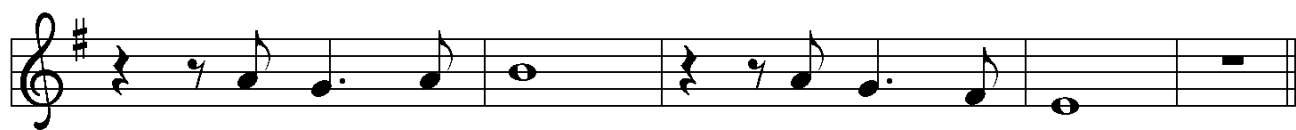
*Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer - cy up - on us.*



*Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.*

After all have communed, please stand, as you are able.

P *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his pasture.*

C **Amen.**

L *Let us pray. Life-giving God,*

C **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.**

L *Almighty God, Parent, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

Sending Song

Oh How I Need You

All Sons and Daughters

Lord I find You in the seeking
Lord I find You in the doubt
And to know You is to love You
And to know so little else

Lord I find You in the morning
Lord I seek You ev'ry day
Let my life be for Your glory
Woven in Your threads of grace

Chorus

(Oh how I) I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You
Oh how I need You

Bridge (sing twice)

Light glorious light I will go where
You shine
Break the dawn crack the skies
Make the way bright before me
In Your light I will find
All I need all I need is You

Repeat Chorus

L *Go in peace. Abide with Jesus.*

C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

I Will Follow

Chris Tomlin

The flowers on the Altar are Given to the Glory of God

In honor of our amazing and gifted youth!

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

*Debbie, Ray, Mary, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed, Marion, Betty, Theresa,
Linda, Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Nicholas, Lois, Barbara & Bruce*

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Youth serving today:

**Valerie
Riley
Brynn
Esther
Emma
Weston
Eleanor
Owen
Vivian
Marleigh
Angela**