



SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Saturday Evening Worship

May 4, 2024

5:00 p.m.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Welcome

(please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

(based on 1 John 5:1-6)

We are your children, oh God, who believe that Jesus is the Christ.

We will love and obey the commands that you have given to us.

Your commandments are not a burden to us because they lead us in the way of love for one another.

We worship you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen!

Hymn Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing ELW 389

Confession

God, we know that you love us and care for us. We know in all circumstances your love is steadfast.

Because you love us we can bring our confession to you in the full confidence that you will forgive us. You have given us more than we deserve, more love than we need for today, more love than we could ever dream or imagine. Hear our prayer of confession.

We admit we do the very things we hate and we cannot do the things we love. We are in bondage to sin and on our own, cannot free ourselves. Only through the sacrifice of your Son can we be set free. We do not possess enough strength to stand alone or on our own. Forgive our sin.

Hymn

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

We thank you! We thank you for the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ whose sacrifice forgives our sin. We love you! Teach us how to love ourselves and one another. We give you praise! Put a song of joy in our heart that we might be living expressions of your love for us. Let us pray.

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.

(you may be seated)

Community Moment

Message

John 15:9-17

Pastor Mark Boster

Hymn

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

ELW 377

(please stand as you are able)

The Apostle's 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.

The Prayers

Sharing of Peace

(you may be seated)

The Offering

(please stand as you are able)

Prayer of Blessing

God of loving relationships, bless these gifts that they might be used to connect your love to all those who are in need of hope. May they serve as expressions of our love for you and one another. May they be a living sign of our desire to keep your commandments. Bless these gifts and all who receive them in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen!

The Table

This is the table of love, where children of God gather to be nourished.

This is the table of mercy, where children of God receive forgiveness for sin.

We are those who are called by God's love and commanded to love one another.

In this meal, God's intentions and purposes are fulfilled. Jesus is present with us in bread and wine. Sin is forgiven and we are free from its bondage. God welcomes us and is drawing us into a deeper relationship and a new future. We are stepping into the unforced rhythms of grace. We are learning how to love God and one another.

Words of Institution

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Come, Holy Spirit, and bridge the gap between our desires and our deeds. Come, Holy Spirit and move us from thinking to doing. Come, Holy Spirit and be actively leading us in our choices and decisions

Lord's Prayer

(you may be seated)

Communion Distribution

(please stand as you are able)

Blessing

Benediction

Hymn Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee ELW 836

Go in peace. Share the Good News!

Thanks be to God!