

6th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020



Faith Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

*“We are building a welcoming, nurturing faith community
that is guided by Jesus and shares the Gospel.”*

MINISTERS
INTERIM LEAD PASTOR
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Every Member
Steve Sathre
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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

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.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

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.

Continued on next page

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

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 800 “Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart”

- 1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,
and make me love you as I ought to love.
- 2 I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no op'ning skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.
- 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
- 4 Teach me to love you as your angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame:
the baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.

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

Almighty and ever-living God, **you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD: *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 14:15-21

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, who will then give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees or knows the Spirit. You know the Spirit, because the Spirit abides with you and will be in you.”

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 627 “O Day Full of Grace” *(verses 1-4)*

- 1 O day full of grace that now we see
appearing on earth's horizon,
bring light from our God that we may be
abundant in joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
your name on our hearts emblazon.
- 2 O day full of grace, O blessed time,
our Lord on the earth arriving;
then came to the world that light sublime,
great joy for us all retrieving;
for Jesus all mortals did embrace,
all shame and despair removing.
- 3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own,
when he on the cross was hanging;
and then he arose and moved the stone,
that we, unto him belonging,
might join with angelic hosts to raise
our voices in endless singing.
- 4 God came to us then at Pentecost,
the Spirit new life revealing,
that we might no more in death be lost,
its pow'r over us dispelling.
This flame will the mark of sin efface
and bring to us all true healing.

OFFERING MOMENT

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

***SENDING: God blesses us and sends us into the world to
love and serve our neighbors.***

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 881 “Let All Things Living”

- 1 Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

- 2 God rules all the forces:
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Message: Pastor Sylvia Bull

Liturgy: Pastor Nadine Lehr

Musicians: Janine Johannes and Aleisha Schock

Tech Assistance: Kenny Opsal and Reid Halvorson

May 17, 2020 6th Sunday of Easter - John 14:15

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

Jesus connects love to action in today's gospel. Loving Jesus means loving God and neighbor and following the way of Christ. And as we do, the Spirit of truth guides us and helps us be better stewards of God's abundance.

~ Rob Blezard

Thank you for your gifts of \$13,715.00 general fund offerings this week.

Looking for ways to serve God and neighbor during this time? Check out our new "Serve" page on our website faithbismarck.com/serve to learn how you can respond to needs from our partner ministries and the wider community. Thank you for the many ways you are serving as the church in the world in these days!

Struggling during this time apart?

Visit our website: faithbismarck.com/get-help for resources on mental wellness, parenting, financial assistance, addiction recovery, and more. You are not alone. **God loves you.** We want to walk with you through this hard time. You can also call the church office at 701-223-2236 for assistance. Be well and safe!

You can **continue to give** to FLC's mission and ministry via mail:

(1402 E Ave C, Bismarck, ND 58501), directly through your bank's bill pay feature, electronically through our website, or by using the Give+ app. If you do not already give, please consider committing to a sustaining gift of \$5 or \$10 a month as we continue to share in ministry together.

QR Code:



If you know of anyone who is in need of special assistance during this time, please contact the church office at 223-2236.



“If ye LOVE ME, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS.”

John 14:15

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