

Vasa Lutheran Church

He is Risen! He is risen, indeed!

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Tom Erickson

Sunday, May 2, 2021

ANNOUNCING THE DAY

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

L: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water will be poured into the font as we give thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

**Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.**

To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God, now and forever.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

GATHER US IN

ELW 532

GREETING

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.

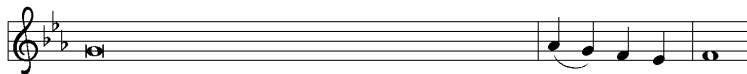
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



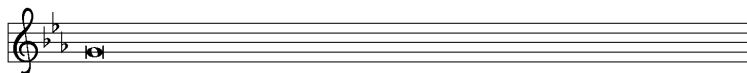
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



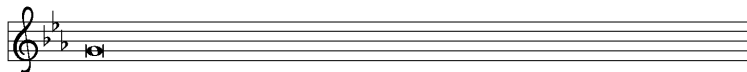
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Lord of all, **in Jesus you have made us all sisters and brothers in Christ. There is no distinction between Gentile and Jew. there is no separation that can remove any from fellowship in Christ's community. Blind us to our differences so that in unity we may proclaim your truth to all, for the sake of Jesus Christ in whom there is harmony and peace. Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 15: 1-21

Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." 2 And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. 3 So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. 4 When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. 5 But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses." 6 The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. 7 After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. 8 And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; 9 and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. 10 Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? 11 On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will." 12 The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. 13 After they finished speaking, James replied, "My brothers, listen to me. 14 Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. 15 This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written, 16 'After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen; from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up, 17 so that all other peoples may seek the Lord-- even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called. Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things 18 known from long ago.' 19 Therefore I have reached the decision that we should not trouble those Gentiles who are turning to God, 20 but we should write to them to abstain only from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from whatever has been strangled and from blood. 21 For in every city, for generations past, Moses has had those who proclaim him, for he has been read aloud every sabbath in the synagogues."

L: Word of God, word of life,
C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE ELW 759

SERMON

HYMN BELOVED, GOD'S CHOSEN ELW 648

CONFESSION OF FAITH using the words of the Apostles' 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION: Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in your mercy. Please respond with: **hear our prayer.**

GENEROSITY MOMENT

CONSECRATION OF COMMUNION ELEMENTS: *After the consecration of the communion elements you will be invited to come forward for communion by intinction. If you prefer, you may use a communion portion and remain in your seats.*

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

**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.**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ be with you now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER Wellspring of joy, **through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN:

SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING

ELW 547

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



Scott Sorenson, Linda Thompson, Max Tilderquist, Eileen Anderson,
Paul Mikaelsen, Gloria Skog.



Following worship today we will celebrate the baptism of Lincoln John Poole, son of Laurie and Mason Poole. Welcome to God's family, Lincoln!

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Parish Pulse:
April 18, 2021
Participating in Worship: All – In Spirit
(61 in-person + 9 @ WEW 4/28)
Total Offerings: \$2,840.00.

Assisting with Worship today:

Usher: Randy Klein
Reader: Mark Hagen
Communion Assistant: Malissa Stahnke



“Undies Sunday” is coming up on Mother’s Day, May 9! We will be collecting new packages of women’s underwear, children’s underwear and socks, and toilet paper that day to take to the women’s shelter in Red Wing.



The May Community Dinner is on May 12. This will be the last one of the year! Reservations are due May 5, at noon. Call or email the church office with your name, # of meals, and specify delivery if preferred.

Also at the MAY Community Dinner—we will be taking items for the Red Wing and Cannon Falls Food Shelves. Drop them off when you pick up your meals! Or—give them to your delivery driver!



- **Property Team** 5/3 9:30am Fellowship Room
- **Finance Team** 5/3 5:00pm Classroom #3
- **Parish Life Team** 5/3 6:00pm Fellowship Room
- **Community Dinner Reservations Due** 5/5 NOON
- **Wednesday Evening Worship** 5/5 at 6:30pm



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