

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 9, 2021

American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska, 402-662-3125
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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 98)

P: Sing to the Lord a new song,

C: For our God alone is Lord of all.

P: Break into joyous songs of praise,

C: Let all the earth celebrate and rejoice.

P: For our God comes in victory,

C: With righteousness and justice for all.

GATHERING HYMN: "Borning Cry" #770 WOV

1. "I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell."
2. "When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong. If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun."
3. "In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun. When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been, with just one more surprise."
4. "I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold."

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: The Gospel lesson for today concludes with these words of Jesus...

C: "This I command you, to love one another."

P: These words are directed to the followers of Jesus and is a message Jesus emphasized over and over again.

C: Love one another.

P: Jesus says that the deepest love of all is to lay one's life down for a friend.

C: Jesus calls us his friends.

P: We know that Jesus gave his life for us.

C: No greater love has ever been.

P: We confess that we do not fully grasp this love and we do not fully embody this love

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Jesus said...

C: "Love one another as I have loved you."

P: We understand that God's love is the deepest love of all...

C: And again we do not always understand or appreciate that love. Forgive us, Lord.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

C: Gracious Lord, you called those who do what you command your friends. Enable us to grow in your Word and send the Holy Spirit to us in this place that as your Word surrounds us it might seep into every part of our being and we will have a desire and ability to love as you love. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(Children are excused to go downstairs for Sunday School.)

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

[Jesus said:] ⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

MESSAGE

Pastor LuRae Hallstrom

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Praise and Thanksgiving" #409 LBW, vv. 1,3,4

- 1. Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer, for all things living, created good: harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**
- 2. Bless Lord, the labor, we bring to serve you, that with our neighbor we may be fed. Sowing or tilling, we would work with you; harvesting, milling, for daily bread.**
- 4. Then will your blessing reach every people; freely confessing your gracious hand. Where all obey you, no one will hunger: In your love's sway you nourish the land.**

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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 PEOPLE

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches, sending us forth to proclaim your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering. Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. We pray that those we name in our hearts at this time may sense your loving presence.... Be with the dying. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless all mothers and mothering people in our lives. We pray for those who tend and teach young children, for the safe pregnancies of expectant parents and for families who struggle with infertility and miscarriage. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives. Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray...

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.

BENEDICTION

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May He look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "For the Fruit of All Creation" #760 WOV, vv. 1,3

1. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

3. For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God. For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God. For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP! It's wonderful to gather as the body of Christ to worship and give thanks to God! Thanks be to God for all of you here in person, in the parking lot and on-line!

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Velda Lenners, Tanner Schmidt, our shut-ins.

OUR SYMPATHIES to the family of Jeanne Garrels who passed away April 26, 2021. Her memorial services were held at Harman Wright Chapel on Friday, April 30. We commend Jeanne to God's care and ask His blessings on her family and friends.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Cydney Howell (May 9), Sophia Pyle, Callan Shufeldt, Leia Tyo (May 11), Courtney Hill (May 12), Myron Lienemann (May 14).

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Dustin & Amanda Fritch (5-9-09), Kellee & Kristen Remmenga (5-14-16).

I WANT TO THANK Pastor LuRae and everyone who sent cards, texts, phone calls, visits and food with my leg injury and surgery these past weeks. I was truly blessed with thoughts and prayers. God's blessings to you! Pat Jobman

CHURCH COUNCIL AND CONGREGATION: I want to thank you for the bouquet of flowers. It is very beautiful. It meant so much to me since it has been a while since I actually had played organ or piano. It was my greatest joy to do it, even at last minute sometimes to fill in. God bless you all! Delores Huls

THE LADIES OF AMERICAN LUTHERAN, FILLEY would like to cordially invite you to a Victorian Tea and luncheon on May 22 at 11 a.m. Be sure to wear a hat when you join us to enjoy fellowship, entertainment and music. Please RSVP to Carol Frerichs 402-223-7919 by TODAY, May 9. We look forward to you joining us.

SIGN-UP SHEET FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Please sign the sheet on the table in the narthex if you would be willing to host Fellowship Hour. As of now, we are serving individually bagged cookies/treats. Thank you for your help!

THRIVENT ACTION CARD PROJECT - SAVE CAN TABS. From now until the end of June we are collecting can tabs for the Ronald McDonald house in Omaha. Saving only tabs is cleaner and smaller which makes it easier to collect in larger quantities than the whole can. This project will help families with costs to stay when their child is in a hospital in Omaha. Container for tabs is downstairs in fellowship hall.

HELP NEEDED: We have quilt blocks downstairs on the table in the Fellowship for people who are willing to sew them together. Also, blankets for hemming. Thank you for your ministry!

SUNMART RECEIPTS: Thanks to everyone who has been saving their SunMart receipts! SunMart/Spartan Nash Co. supports a fundraising program called "Support Our Schools and Churches." All you have to do is save your SunMart cash register receipt tapes and put them in the box in the Fellowship Hall (or give to a council person). When we have collected \$150,000 in receipt tapes Spartan Nash Company awards us a check for \$1000. We have reached our first goal of \$150,000 and received the first check for \$1000, so now we are starting over again! You can also ask your check-out person if they have any extra receipts. They save the ones that people don't want and give them out – first come, first serve. Thank you to everyone who is helping with this ministry!

PLEASE DONATE TO OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY: American Lutheran Church gathers food donations for the Community Pantry and Emergency Services in Beatrice on an ongoing basis. The Food Pantry serves all of Gage County. If you would like to give to this ministry, please leave your donated items in the shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall at any time. NO glass jars, please. **THANK YOU for your continued support to this ministry!**

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WEBSITE: You can find our church website at www.filleylutheranchurch.com or by scanning this QR code:



BULLETIN ITEMS are due by Tuesday evenings. Please call Sandy or email her at smahleris@gmail.com.

BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND on Facebook and on our website, filleylutheranchurch.com. Bulletins are also being sent out by email to everyone that we have an email address for. If you are not receiving the bulletin by email and would like it, please email Sandy at smahleris@gmail.com with your email address.

WORSHIP HELPERS:

Council – Dave Norton-President, Virgil Jobman-Vice President, Carol Frerichs-Secretary, Brenda Hippen-Treasurer, Linda Searcey-at large

Reader – DeLanye Currie

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen

Audio/Video – Virgil Jobman

Accompanist: Sandy Mahler