

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 15, 2022
American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska
Rev. Jonathan Jensen, Transitional Minister, 402-768-3665

PRELUDE: "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place", "Give Me That Old Time Religion"

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

We gather together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 148)

P: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

C: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

P: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

C: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

P: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

C: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

P: Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

C: fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

P: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

C: Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

P: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

C: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

P: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

C: He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

GATHERING HYMN: "We Have Come Into His House" #249 (OSB)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thought of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

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:

P: Let us pray...

C: O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (*Noisy offering is taken at this time.*)

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Jensen

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone"

Offerings will be received at this time.

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found Was blind, but now I see
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed
My chains are gone, I've been set free My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns Unending love, Amazing grace
The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures
My chains are gone, I've been set free My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns Unending love, Amazing grace
My chains are gone, I've been set free My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns Unending love, Amazing grace**

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, who called me here below
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine**

You are forever mine

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OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 power of 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

P: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us. Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress. As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Give us a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of each person's identity, and bless us with a shared identity as your children, kindred of Christ. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:

All: (sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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

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.

THE DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

ALL: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

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.

SENDING HYMN: "A Choral Benediction"

May the light of God shine on us today. May the light of God shine on us today. May it show us where to travel, lead us back if we should stray; May the light of God shine on us today.

May the love of God live in us today. May the love of God live in us today. May the warmth we feel within us, show in all we do and say. May the love of God live in us today.

May the peace of God be with us today. May the peace of God be with us today. May it guide us and protect us as we go our sep'rate ways, May the peace of God be with us. (Men sing- May the love of God live in us.) May the light of God shine on us today. And every day !!!

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SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: "They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"

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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! If you are a visitor, please sign the guest book and feel welcome to come again. You are invited to come downstairs for refreshments and fellowship following worship.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: our shut-ins.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Pat Jobman, Cashton Steinacher (May 17), Bob Jurgens (May 19), Makena Mayfield (May 20), Duane Fritzen (May 21).

THANK YOU to Filley Custom Powder Coating for donating their work on our crosses.

THANK YOU to everyone who brightened my day for my 80th birthday with cards, gifts, and phone calls. God Bless you all. Betty Leners.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Roger Jurgens, Delores Huls's brother, who passed away Tuesday, May 10. Roger's funeral is at St. John Lutheran Church, Beatrice on Tuesday, May 17 at 10:30 a.m. We commend Roger to God's care and ask His blessings on his family and friends.

THANK YOU for your generous \$1,347.91 emergency gift to help the people of Ukraine, who are enduring unimaginable hardship and suffering. Please continue to lift them up in your prayers. Your gift is being put to use immediately to deliver critically needed items.

THE SHAKE AND BAKE CHICKS will meet Wednesday, May 18, at 9:30 at the church to prepare and deliver meals. Everyone is welcome to help.

CHURCH MEMBER CONTACT BOOKLET we are in the process of making a Church Member Contact List Booklet. We would appreciate it if you could fill out the information on the slip in the bulletin or in the June's newsletter and return to the church, give to Jolene Huls, Pat Jobman or email to alcfilley@hotmail.com.

BELOVED STAFF MEETING will be May 22, following church service. We need to discuss items needed for upcoming year, educational materials, food, kitchen equipment, etc. If you have any outstanding bills you need reimbursed for please get them submitted to Dave Norton as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY is in need of noodles of any kind. They are also requesting cereal. With school getting out soon there will be a need for the summer. Leave in the shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall and we will deliver to the pantry.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY is in Kearney June 2-4. Our delegates Pat and Virgil Jobman along with Pastor Jensen will be attending. The big item on the agenda is the election of a new Bishop. Candidates are listed on the Nebraska Synod website. The website is www.nebraskasynod.org and in the search box type bishop candidates 2022 and it should bring up the candidates for election. Let one of your assembly attendees know your feelings on the candidates.

ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH are invited to the Spring Gathering, Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the University of Nebraska Campus Lutheran ELCA, 535 N 16th St. Registration is from 8:45-9:15 a.m. Benediction at 2:00 p.m. Preregistration form available at tinyurl.com/nebraskawelca. Parking \$5.00 all day lot parking or 2 hour metered street parking. No free parking available. In kind offering small items for kitchen, or cash donation. Cost is \$20.00 and preregistration is preferred.

POP/CAN TABS AND ITEMS NEEDED FOR RONALD MCDONALD'S HOUSE IN OMAHA. LET'S HELP LIGHT THE WAY FOR FAMILIES STAYING AT THE HOUSE:

We continue to collect can tabs for the Ronald McDonald house in Omaha. This project will help families with costs to stay when their child is in a hospital in Omaha. Container for tabs is downstairs in the fellowship hall. Along with the tabs we are collecting other items the house is in need of. Ideas: Granola/breakfast bars, bottled water, canned pasta, baking cookie/brownie/cake mixes, black pepper, non-stick cooking spray/veg oil, tea, heavy duty paper plates, ranch dressing, bed pillows, gift cards, laundry detergent, hamburger helper, mac & cheese, on the go snacks such as fruit cups, crackers, cereal, children's books, hand soap, trash bags (13-35 gal.). **There will be a more complete list on a flyer in the back of church.** Please bring your items to church by May 29. This Thrivent Action Project is sponsored by Virgil Jobman.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: You are invited to enjoy an informational evening **Wednesday, May 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Zion Lutheran Pickrell** with guest speaker, Amber Lovitt, Executive Director CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Gage County for abused and neglected children hosted by Zion's WELCA. Amber recruits, trains and mentors volunteers who are appointed by the County Judge to gather information. These children are in the court system of no fault of their own but due to abuse and neglect. They offer training services and supplies to the community to help children and families thrive together. Area churches have been invited as well, so please bring a friend. Refreshments will also be served.

COMING UP:

June 2-4 – Synod Assembly in Kearney

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 goal of \$150,000 three times so far and are starting over again with a balance of about \$32,000.00. 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!

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER If anyone would like something published in the monthly newsletter email Dave Norton at norton_dan@yahoo.com by the third Sunday of the month.

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 Brenda Hippen or email her at filleylutheranchurch@gmail.com

BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND 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 Brenda at filleylutheranchurch@gmail.com with your email address.

WORSHIP HELPERS

Transitional Minister – Pastor Jonathan Jensen, 402-768-3665

Council – Virgil Jobman – President (402-310-6339), Stanley Fritzen – Vice President (402-239-2254), Linda Searcey – (402-223-8237), Brenda Hippen- Treasurer (402-688-4466), Ross Kaufman – at large (402-239-7845).

Reader: Kierstin Rehms Next Week: Glenda VanEperen

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen Next Week: Brenda Hippen

Audio/Video: Dave Norton Next Week:

Accompanist: Contemporary Group Next Week: Sarah Harder

Fellowship: Kevin Weiss Next Week: Ervin & Jolene Huls