

*The Holy Spirit  
gathers us in unity on the  
first day of the week.*



## HOLY COMMUNION

*Seventh Sunday of Easter  
observing the Ascension of Our Lord*

*Christ present in all times and places*  
Sunday, June 2, 2019  
10:30 am Choral Eucharist  
Blessing of Graduates

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*Exploring the promise of God for all*

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### ***On Christ's heavenly throne, we sit as kings and queens***

*In today's gospel the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus; we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*"Two Sonatas for Organ"*

*Domenico Scarlatti*

*The carillon calls the assembly to worship. At the sound of the bell the assembly stands to face the worship leaders at the back of the church.*

### EASTER PROCLAMATION

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**AI** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!  
**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**AI** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!  
**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**AI** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"*

*(hymn) 393  
stanzas 1, 4 & 5*

### GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**AI** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us.  
Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**AI** Amen.

*The presider continues with words of welcome.*

# EASTER WORD

## CHILDREN'S WORD

*Children are invited to come forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.*



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

*Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus  
promises that the missionary work of the  
disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to  
all the world. His words provide an  
outline of the book of Acts.*

## READING FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

Acts 1:1-11

*Jesus sends the apostles*

*Luke writes:*

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

<sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Word of God, word of life.

**AD** Thanks be to God.

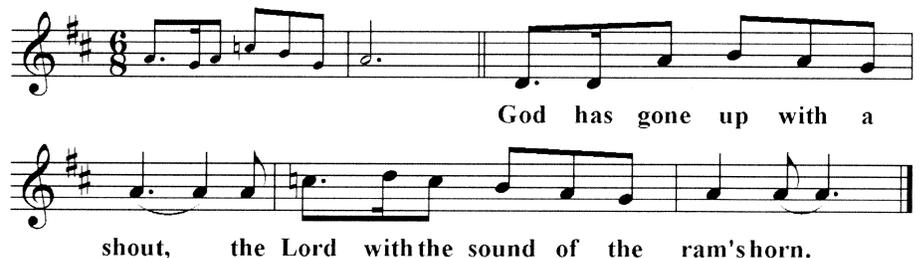
## PSALM

*God has gone up with a shout (47:5)*

Psalm 47

**L** Refrain

**AD** Refrain



**L** Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a cry of joy.  
For the LORD Most High is to be feared:  
the great Sovereign over all the earth.

The LORD subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet;  
The LORD chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of the beloved Jacob.

**AD** Refrain

**L** God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of the ram's horn.  
Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our God, sing praises.  
For God is Sovereign over all the earth; sing praises with all your skill.  
God reigns over the nations; God sits upon heaven's holy throne.

**AD** Refrain

- L The nobles of the peoples have gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham. The rulers of the earth belong to God, and God is highly exalted.

**AD** Refrain

**SECOND READING**

Ephesians 1:15–23

*Seeing the risen and ascended Christ*

*The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we would be given the wisdom to comprehend this and display it through love toward others.*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

<sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

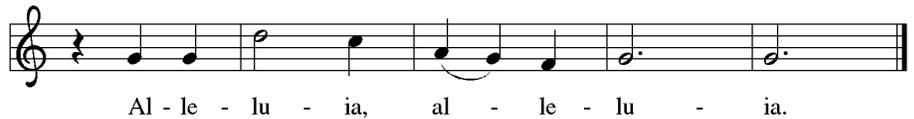
Word of God, word of life.

**AD** Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Matthew 28:19-20

*The assembly stands and welcomes the gospel, singing:*



- L Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, to the end of the age.

*The assembly repeats the ALLELUIA.*

**GOSPEL**

*Christ present in all times and places*

Luke 24:44–53

*The carillon rings out the Easter gospel.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**AD** Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,*

“These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”



*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.

<sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord.

**AD** Praise to you, O Christ.

### SERMON

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**AD** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*silence for reflection follows the sermon*

### HYMN OF THE DAY

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

(hymn) 392

stanzas 1, 3 (harmony) & 4

### NICENE CREED

**A** With the whole church, let us proclaim our Easter faith.

**AD** We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### BLESSING OF GRADUATES

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*each petition concludes:*

...hear us, O God

**AD** your mercy is great.

*Prayer requests may be recorded  
in the book of prayer concerns  
in the great room prayer niche*

# MEAL



*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## PEACE

**P** The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

**AD** **And also with you.**

*The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.*

## GATHERING OF GIFTS

*The offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, bread, wine, money, and other gifts are brought forward. The assembly stands as the procession reaches the chancel.*

“Ach, bleibe doch , mein liebstes Leben”

from *Cantata 11* (Ascension Oratorio)

J. S. Bach

Ach, bleibe doch, mein liebstes Leben,

*Ah, stay yet, my dearest life,*

Ach, fliehe nicht so bald von mir!

*ah, do not flee so soon from me*

Dein Abschied und dein frühes Scheiden

*Your departure and your early leaving*

Bringt mir das allergrößte Leiden

*bring me the greatest suffering.*

Ach ja, so bleibe doch noch hier;

*Ah then, still stay here;*

Sonst werd ich ganz von Schmerz umgeben.

*otherwise I shall be quite overwhelmed with sorrow.*

## Offertory Prayer

**A** Let us pray together.

**AD** **Risen Christ, receive these gifts,  
with our hopes, dreams, and prayers.**

**Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread,  
that our eyes may be opened to see your presence among us,  
and our lives filled with the new life of your resurrection. Amen.**

*The assisting minister pours out the wine.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**P** ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

All who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Communion at this service is served standing at the communion rail, as you desire. Please follow the directions of the ushers to a communion station.

Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request. The benefits of the sacrament are fully present in either the bread or the wine, should health reasons prevent you from receiving one of them.

Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Prayer at the chancel kneelers during communion is always welcomed.

*God blesses us  
 and sends us in mission to  
 the world.*

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

**Lord's Prayer (1975)**

**Our Father in heaven,  
 hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
 your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
 now and forever. Amen.**

**Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion**

**Communion**

"The Lightener of the Stars"

*Robert Buckley Farlee*

*silence for reflection concludes the Communion*

**EASTER SENDING**

**SENDING DIALOG**

We have heard the holy and saving gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**We have celebrated with joy the Easter mysteries.**

We have been nurtured at the holy table  
 and baptized into the priesthood of Christ.

**We offer ourselves now to the Lord of all creation  
 in thanksgiving for all that God has done for us.**

Go out from this Easter assembly  
 to proclaim the mighty works of the Lord.

**Let us bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

## BLESSING

☐ May the risen Christ bring you all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope.

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

☑ Amen.

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

(hymn) 604

“O Christ, Our Hope”

stanza 1 in unison, 2 & 3 in harmony, 4 in unison

## DISMISSAL

*Please face the processional cross for the dismissal.*

☑ Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☑ Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

☑ Go in peace. Share the good news.

☑ Thanks be to God.

*The carillon sends the assembly into mission.*

## POSTLUDE

“Toccata in C”

Johann Gottfried Walther

*Following worship coffee or lunch is  
served in the great room.*

*Brief sanctuary tours will be offered after  
this service. Meet a docent at the pulpit.*

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## SERVING TODAY

Pastor Peter Nycklemoe *presiding*

Pastor Stephanie Friesen *preaching*

Kathryn Holum *assisting minister*

Megan Bowman, Janet Winsand *readers*

Diane Olson *crucifer*

families of Central *butterfly banner*

Deacon Mark Sedio *cantor*

Jane Lien *associate cantor/organist*

Robin Helgen *soloist*

Mary Sorlie *violin*

Pastor Melissa Pohlman *communion minister*

Pastor D. Foy Christopherson *liturgy director*

Mark Kieffer, Marc Wilson *sound operators*

Varney Kiazolu *lead usher for June*

Pat Forse *docent*

Jim Snustad, Janet Krofta *hosts & greeters*

**Chancel flowers this weekend** are given by the Floral Guild. If you wish to donate flowers, contact Judy Korogi 10 days in advance at 612-788-1288.

*This service is being streamed live on the internet at: [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org).*



## Large print service folders,

assisted listening devices, and access seating are available to aid your participation in worship.

Please inquire with an usher.



# WELCOME TO CENTRAL

## **You are welcome. No exceptions.**

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image. • We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all. • Central Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the "Welcome to Central" card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email [info@centralmpls.org](mailto:info@centralmpls.org).

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances. A nursery may be found near the welcome desk. Nursery staff are provided on Sunday mornings.

**Welcome to the Lord's Table.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

**Welcome to the Holy Baptism.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. A pastor will contact you.

## **Friends of Central...Stay connected**

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Central Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join our network of Friends of Central. Pick up a brochure or visit our website for more information or to join.

**Electronic Giving Opportunities:** Online at [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org) click on **Give Today**; or text 73256, enter code word *centralmpls* (lower case), and a numerical amount. Press send and fill in the details. All contributions from members and guests will appear in a contribution statement. WIFI is available as *Central Lutheran* (password *guestclc*). If you give electronically, use the green pew card to drop in the offering plate instead of an envelope. The ministries and mission of Central Lutheran are supported by givers like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-870-4416.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



**Central Lutheran**  
MINNEAPOLIS

Exploring the promise of God for all  
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