

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026



PRELUDE

*We arrive from many places as music gathers us into one shared moment in the Spirit.*

WELCOME STATEMENT

*Everyone is invited into God's story and the life of this community.*

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PROCESSIONAL

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

ELW 579

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*We ask the Spirit to prepare our hearts for hearing God's word.*

**O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through 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 1: 6-14*

*Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.*

A reading from Acts.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 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.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM RESPONSE

*Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35*

*We give voice to God's faithfulness, participating in the living story of God's mercy and love by echoing the ancient prayers of God's people.*

Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire,  
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;**

**I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

**Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,**

**giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

## SECOND READING

*1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11*

*Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.*

A reading from First Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING***John 17:1-11*

*On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.*

The gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

After Jesus had spoken these words to his disciples, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Phillip Potaczek

*We hear God's promise proclaimed to us, and the Spirit works in our hearts to make it real.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY***"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"*

ELW 392

*We respond to the promises of God in song.*

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED**

*We join the wider church in naming the story that holds us.*

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*We entrust all into God's care.*

*After each prayer petition, please respond:*   **Merciful God, receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*We offer signs of Christ's peace, joining God's work of reconciliation.*

May the peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Christ is risen! His new life brings hope to all creation. With thankful hearts, let us offer our gifts to God. **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! We offer our lives and gifts in praise.**

## **OFFERING/ OFFERING HYMN**

**"You Are So Good to Me"**

**Pasley, Chaffer, Pasley**

*We return our gifts to God, offering ourselves for the life of the world.*

### **Verse 1**

You are so good to me  
You heal my broken heart  
You are my Father in heaven  
*(Repeat)*

### **Chorus**

You are beautiful

### **Bridge**

You are my strong melody  
You are my dancing rhythm  
You are my perfect rhyme  
And I want to sing forever

### **Verse 3**

You poured out all Your blood

My sweet sweet song  
You are beautiful  
My sweet sweet song  
You are beautiful  
My sweet sweet song  
I will sing again  
I will sing again

### Verse 2

You ride upon the clouds  
You lead me to the truth  
You are the Spirit inside me  
*(Repeat)*  
*(Chorus)*

You died upon the cross  
You are my Jesus who loves me  
*(Repeat)*  
*(Chorus)*

### Ending

You are my Father in heaven  
You are the Spirit inside me  
You are my Jesus who loves me

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## OFFERING PRAYER

**Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

*We lift our hearts and give thanks for God's life-giving work.*

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

## PREFACE

*We remember God's faithfulness and join heaven and earth in praise.*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Setting 8, page 190

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

### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*We recall the story of Jesus and ask the Spirit to make us one.*

Blessed are you, O God of the universe Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age... 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

*Modern Version*

*We pray as Jesus taught, trusting God for what we need.*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as our Savior taught us:

**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.**

### **INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

*All are welcome to God's table of grace, receiving Christ's presence as nourishment for the journey.*

### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*All who wish to know the love of God in Jesus Christ are invited to Holy Communion. Inform a communion assistant if you need a gluten-free host. Grape juice is located in the center ring of the tray. If you are not receiving the sacrament today, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing.*

### **COMMUNION HYMN**

**"You Are Mine"**

**ELW 581**

*Singing in response to God's gift, we enter more deeply into the presence of Christ.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*We ask for strength to live what we have received.*

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, we pray.

**Amen.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*We share news and opportunities to live God's love together as a community.*

### **BLESSING**

*God's promise goes with us into whatever comes next.*

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✚ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **RECESSIONAL**

**"Lord, Be Glorified"**

**Bob Kilpatrick**

*With hearts lifted, we turn toward the world as Christ's people.*

In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In Your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified  
In Your church, Lord, be glorified today.

In my song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In our home, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
In our home, Lord, be glorified today.

**SENDING**

*We are sent to love, serve, and live the story we have shared.*

Siblings in Christ, our Eucharist has ended. **Now it must be lived.**  
Go in peace. Praise the Risen Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

**“Bind Us Together”**

**Bob Gillman**

*As worship concludes, music strengthens and inspires us for the journey ahead.*

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**WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE -**

*Please sign up using the binder at the back of the aisle.*

<p><b><u>Sunday, May 17, 2026</u></b>  Crucifer/Acolyte:  Ushers:  Lector: <i>Shannon Matteson</i>  Communion Assistants: <i>Shannon Matteson, Mike Matteson, Ann Enke</i>  Altar Guild: <i>Kari Castelli, Becky Glaser</i>  Video Tech: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i>  Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever &amp; Mary Heider</i>  Altar Flowers: <i>In Loving Memory of Matthew Constantine From Jan Beckman</i></p>	<p><b><u>Sunday, May 24, 2026</u></b>  Crucifer/Acolyte:  Ushers:  Lector: <i>Amy Boyles</i>  Communion Assistants: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i>  Altar Guild: <i>Ann Enke, Beth Schuett</i>  Video Tech: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i>  Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever &amp; Mary Heider</i>  Altar Flowers:</p>