"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth..." John 16:13



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 18, 2024

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn

Beautiful Savior

*The Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

- P: Most merciful God,
- C: We confess that we are captive 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: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting

P: 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.

*The Kyrie (sung response)

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Hymn of Praise

Thine is The Glory

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*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: O God, You make the minds of the faithful to be of one will. Grant that Your people would love what You command and desire what You promise, that, among the manifold changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 150

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day (read responsively)

¹Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens!

²Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

³Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!

⁴Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!

⁵Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!

⁶Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-7

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung)

C: Allelula, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Allelula, Allelula,

* The Gospel

- **C:** Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)
- C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Children leave for Sunday School

Sermon

*The Hymn of the Day

Healer of Our Every Ill

(ELW) No. 612

Lay Leader Dennis Schmidt

*The Nicene Creed

- I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- I 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.
- I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

John 16:12-22

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace The Musical Offering

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(SBH) No. 27

*The Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Announcements

*The Benediction (sung response)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

When Peace Like a River

(ELW) No. 785

*The Dismissal (response)

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

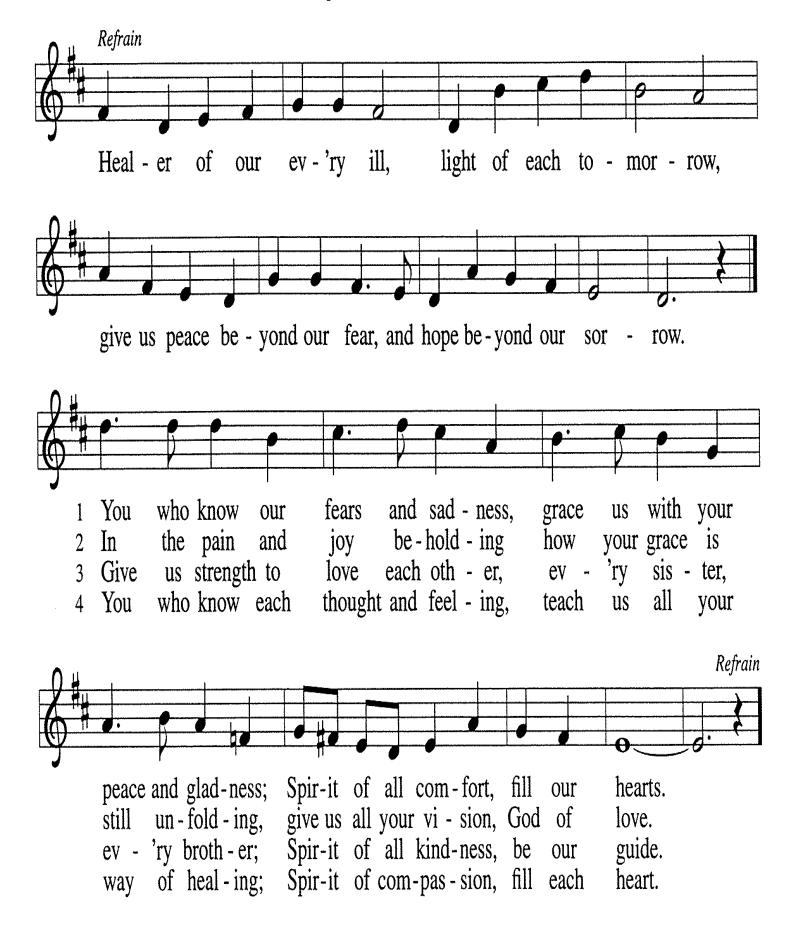
Beautiful Savior



Thine Is the Glory



Healer of Our Every Ill



The Communion





First Lutheran Church 92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA 724-225-4040 e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church Online services posted weekly on website: https://firstlutheranwashington.church/ The Rev. Robert B. Grewe 724-705-4050 revrob@flcwash.church Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader Mark Black, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God by Bob and Anneliese Christian in celebration of <u>Bob's 96th Birthday</u>. A donation was made to the Roof Fund.

The Lay Reader is Dennis Schmidt.

Acolytes are Julia Jeffcoat and Parker Lambert..

Counters/Greeters today are L Coleman and K. Luketich.

<u>Welcome to our Visitors!</u> The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part. <u>The Flower Chart for 2025</u> is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

<u>Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2025.</u> Please write you names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2025. Please sign up.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Isaac Christian, Tyler, Amy Verderber, Lou Mayne, Judy, Brooke, Debbie, Sayward, Jim H., Linnese, Donna B., Karen John. Phyllis Daniels, Beckie Wood, Bridgette, Alex Houck, Stacy Carroll, Ron Erdmann & Belinda, James, Lori Mauer, Budd Platts, John, Ed Dupas, Sandy Salerno, the Gavazzi family, Janelle Henderson, Rex Gibson, Pat Dupas, Gwen Roberts, Tammy, Judi, Larry Downing, Carol Cancelmi, Amanda Laib, Sandy Hebrank, Jennifer Sasek, Larry Zimmerman, Elizabeth, Phyllis, Joe Kern, Lisa Wilds, Julia Jeffcoat, Richard Hager, Rob, John, Terri Newton, Holly Hiser, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westcott, Eric Fritz, Terry Jurkovsky, Karen Dawson, Judd Lacko, Cadence, Sandy Mannsman, Robyn Cameron, Ian, Isaiah, and Alecia, Nettie Walsh and her parents and family, Greg Mason, Joanne Reck, Kenny and Josh, and Linda, Edelgard, Wolfgang, Thomas, Lowell, Matt S., Paula, Klaus and Mel Behrens, Kim, Alice Z. Lindsay Mankey, Apollos Yocca, Jackie, Diane Fisher, Mikao S, Joe McBride and Pastor Rob. EMERGENCY CONTACTS FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY PA Mental health support and referral line 1-855-284-2494 WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVORIAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE 1-877-225-3567 WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE 724-228-6832 SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE 724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY) FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

Sober House Living

724-228-2203

Turning Point at Washington

Adult Sunday School is held before our Church Service starting at 9:45 am in the church library. Come join us.

Bell Choir rehearsal is Thursday at 7 pm. We would love for you to join us. Please see Kris Briggs if you are interested, kbrgs1@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Chess Club meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome from beginners to experienced.

The next Ladies Circle meeting is Thursday, May 29th at 10am in the lounge. Linda Coleman is Leader and Joanne Marker is Hostess. Contact Michelle Williams 724-914-1164 with any questions.

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 18, 2025

"If God then gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" Acts 11:17 -

Since the beginning, the Christian church has had factions, groups that disagree with each other. Sometimes those disagreements have been over silly things, sometimes over extremely important things. Today there are around 40,000 different Christian denominations.

The first division in the church had to do with Jews and Gentiles. These two groups of people had never worshipped together before. In fact, they weren't even supposed to eat meals together. And now, they were all together in the church. The early Christians had a hard time figuring out how to deal with that. Some people thought the two groups could each continue to do their own thing. Others thought that the customs of one of the groups should become the customs of everyone. Others couldn't really see what all the fuss was about.

This disagreement got quite unpleasant in the early church. The different sides accused each other of not teaching the right things. They accused each other of not understanding what Jesus had come to do. They accused each other of blindly clinging to their own traditions.

Eventually the leaders of the church came to understand that the distinctions they were making such a big deal about just didn't make sense. What mattered was that God had given them all the same gift, the gift of salvation in Jesus Christ. It didn't matter what kinds of foods they ate. It didn't matter who their parents were. It didn't matter if they washed their hands a certain way or observed all the laws of the Old Testament. What mattered was that Jesus had given them new life — everlasting life.

The same gift that Jesus gave to those first Christians is the gift he gives to us. We have all sorts of different customs and traditions. We disagree on things that are important and things that are silly. But finally, what unites all of God's chosen ones is that we have been made right with him through Jesus. We have been given the gift of salvation, not because of our merit, but because Christ decided to give it.

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