

Order of Worship
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 5, 2024



First & Holy Cross Lutheran Church
2740 Parker Ave.
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
www.felcwpb.com

The Rev. Dan Baker, Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Michael A. Breznen, Pastor

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Order of Worship

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – *Holy, Holy, Holy*



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

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.

CONFESSION

P: Called and gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us come humbly before God and our brothers and sisters in the faith, confessing our sins, known and unknown, trusting in God's gracious word of forgiveness. Our merciful father, who brings life out of death and transforms us into new creatures through his redeeming word, knows the depths of our hearts. Let us make a confession of our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

C: We come to you in sorrow for our faults and confess to you our weakness and unbelief. Although in Christ our light has come, we too often prefer the darkness of sin. Forgive us, fill us with your Spirit and free us from the shackles of our failings. Give us once again the joy of your salvation and make us instruments of peace and love in the world.

ABSOLUTION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . . .

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

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.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

God’s children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God’s commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

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.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: - Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON – “Seek Ye...”

Pastor Michael Breznen

HYMN OF THE DAY: - Holy, Holy, Holy (Lindell Cooley)

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APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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 INTERCESSION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

THE DISTRIBUTION – CONTINUOUS FORMAT

We practice Open Communion at Holy Cross and First Lutheran. If you believe that the Holy Sacrament carries with it the promises of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life and are a **baptized Christian** – you are welcome to receive. We do ask however, that younger children who have not yet been instructed in the meaning of the sacrament - please come to the chancel for a blessing, but refrain from receiving. Grape juice is located in the center of the communion trays.

BLESSING / BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL HYMN – *Beautiful Savior*



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

WELCOME to all and thank you for joining us in worship today as we give thanks and praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We pray that the service will be meaningful and uplifting for you. If you are a first-time visitor, please sign the Guest Register. You are invited to stay for coffee and refreshments following the service. We very much would like to greet you and hope to make you feel welcome.

Serving in Worship Today

Presiding: The Rev. Michael Breznen	Supplicant: Dianne Breznen
Assisting: Dianne Breznen	Celebrant: The Rev. Michael Breznen
Liturgist: Dianne Breznen	Crucifer: Tom Kalorgis
Lector: Susan Moncher	Comm. Asst.: Tom Kalorgis, Dianne Breznen
Gospeler: Dianne Breznen	Music & Video: Sera Butz
Preaching: The Rev. Michael Breznen	Sound: Ken Burton

Remember in Prayer

We pray for peace between nations and peoples and for just resolutions to the conflicts throughout the world – especially the people of Israel and Ukraine; for all members of our armed services and law enforcement personnel; for our country and our nation’s leaders; for the Church, Church leaders, for Youth for Christ, and all faithful witnesses to the Gospel; for our missionaries – **Anthony and Soyoung Sellari** and their work in Egypt. We also pray for God’s healing presence to be with: **Carson Lanza; Judith Miller; Cheryl Grunwald** – cancer (LeeAnne granddaughter of Lori Kinney); **Logan** – heart complications (2-month old cousin of Todd Parrish); **Ken Wolf** – throat cancer (friend of Todd Parrish); **Lori Kinney** - impending eye surgery; **Malary Palmer** (Todd Parrish’s cousin) – chemical dependency; **Delores Crouse** (hospitalized); **Patrick Murphy** – addiction; **Elizabeth Ducally**- breast cancer (Tracy Graham's mother); **Nina** (Todd Parrish’s friend) – brain surgery; **Dale Bedwell** (recovering from stroke complications); **Cyndy Sellari** - for healing; **Joan Cannon** – health issues; and members of the **Holy Cross and First Church** families who are at home and unable to attend.

For Holy Cross members who are ill: **Marilynn Dahl, Diane Stieber, Linda Greenhill, Claudia Gonzalez, John Johnson, Katie Mangan.**

Holy Cross special prayer needs: **Allan Anderson, Patrick McIvor, The Family of Joan Khan, Wayne Warner, Gertrude Thaler, Jyl & Family, Memphis Rose.**

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**First & Holy Cross
Lutheran Church**
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Church Office Hours
Monday – Wednesday – Friday
9 am until 1 pm