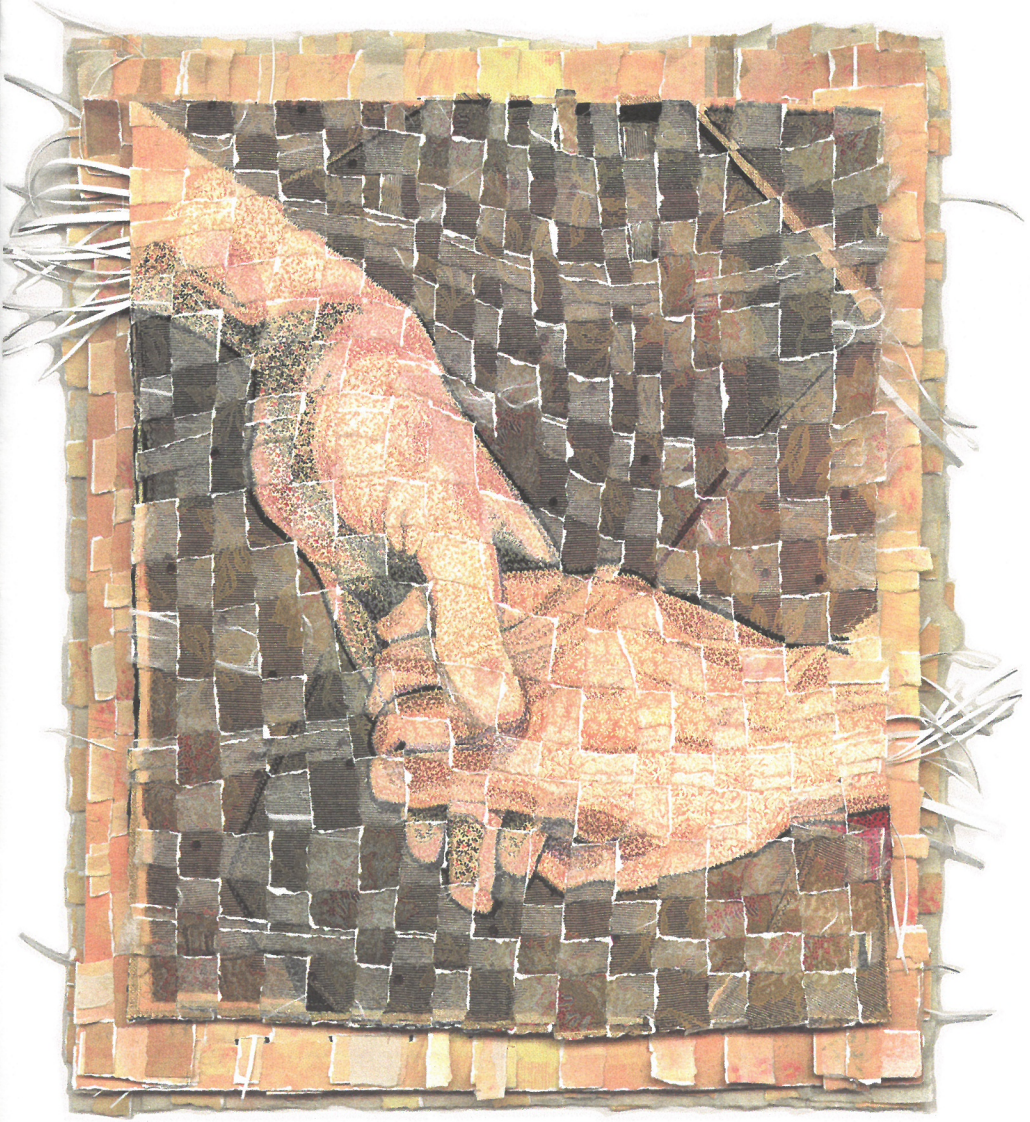
Abide in my love

JOHN 15:9



Highland Lutheran Church

38809 NE 41st Ave. La Center www.HighlandLutheranChurch.com 360.263.2302

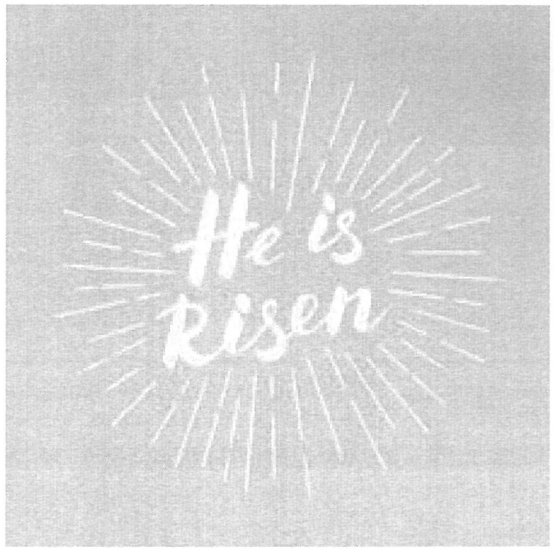
Welcomes You

Sunday, May 9, 2021
Sixth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME to worship today!

Would you like to read the Psalm today?
Let Pastor Erik know before the service starts.

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.



WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

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.

Prayer of the Day

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. Amen.

Music for Reflection

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Lector: Pastor Erik

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.

L: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98

Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the
sight of the nations.

You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.

(Continued on next page)

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
who comes to judge the earth.

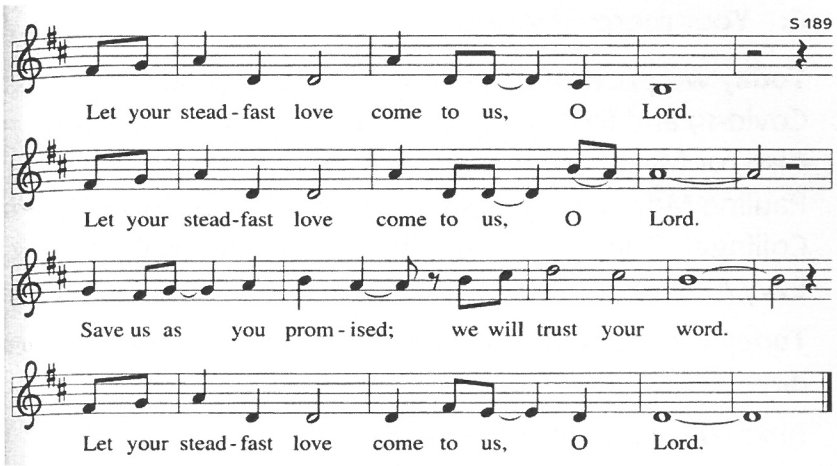
The Lord will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

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.

L: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord,
C: Thanks be to God.

~Message~

Hymn of the Day *Solo*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Hear us, O God.
C: Your mercy is great.

Today we pray for the Lord's care: for those impacted by Covid-19 and for the nation as we seek racial harmony. Also for Matthew Craig, Phyllis Grauer, Billie Rebello, Pauline Morrison, Dan Smith, Britney Thompson, Robert Collinger, Daniel Vickoren, Bruce & Nathaniel Cowan, & Evvy Allen~

Today we thank God for the lives of those marking special days this week.

Birthdays: 5/14 Amy Dunlap & Shane Robinson,
5/15 Linda Czech & Mike Kuschel~

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 OFFERING

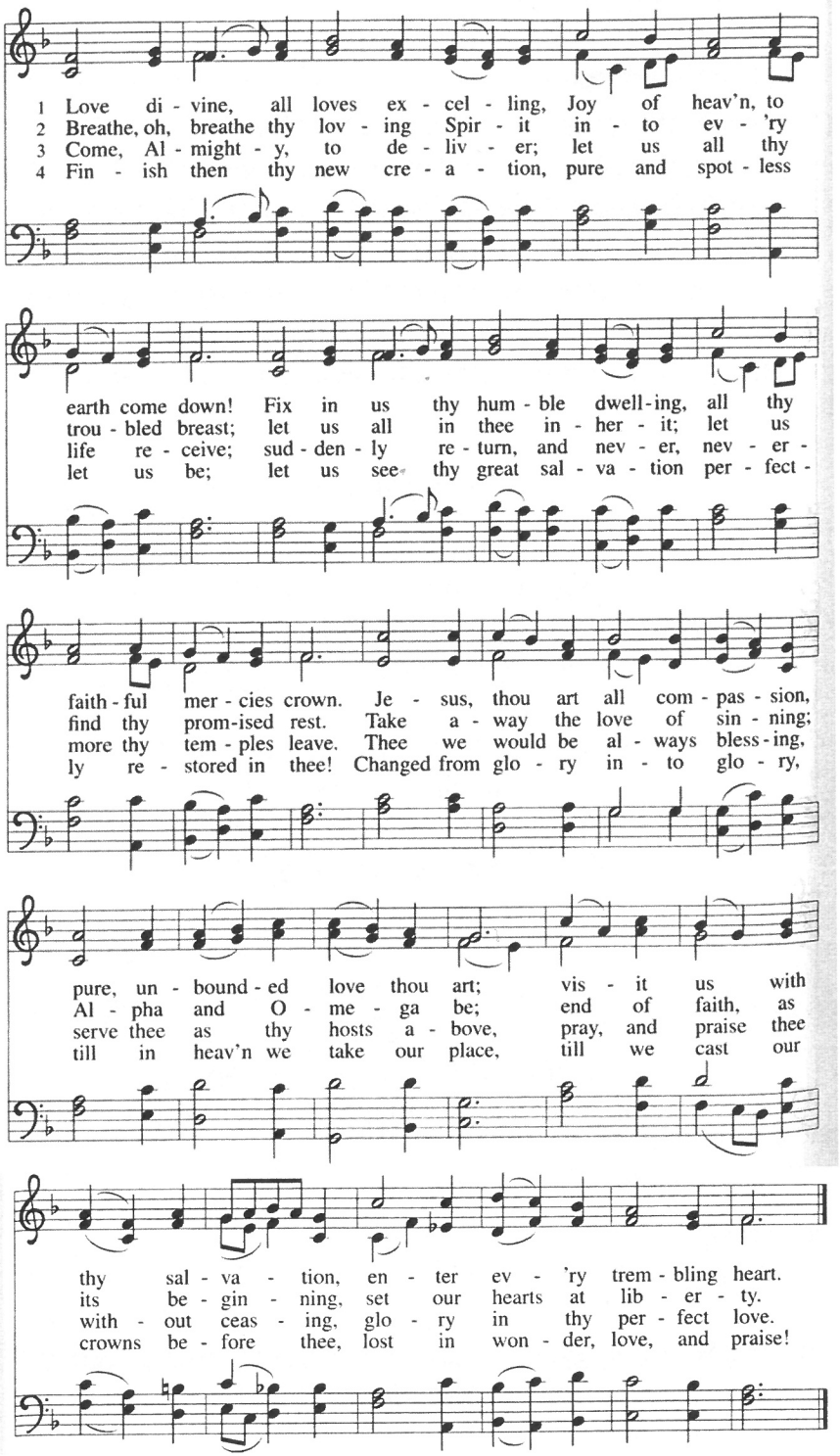
We invite members and friends to give in response to God's grace among us. Our offering is a sign of caring for the work of the Gospel and is a significant act of worship.

If you wish to make an offering to the church,
our mailing address is:
Highland Lutheran Church
38809 NE 41st Ave,
La Center, WA 98629

you can also give digitally through our website,
highlandlutheranchurch.com
or through the GivePlus app,
available on Android and Apple phones

Blessing

Sending Hymn ELW 631 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"
(music and lyrics on next page)



Announcements

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

To help us maintain social distancing, we would like for everyone to wait to be ushered out at the end of the service.

Our usher will start from the back rows and proceed to the front. Thank you for your patience!

Announcements

Annual congregational meeting: Our annual congregational meeting will be held following the service on Sunday, June 27th. We hope to see you there!

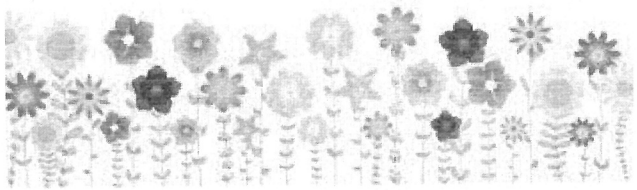
Council Openings: We have many church council openings coming up this year. Please contact Pastor Erik if you are interested in serving on Highland Lutheran's Church Council. Thank you!

Quilters are back! The quilters have been meeting again each Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall, from 9-12. No sewing or quilting skills needed. Come by and visit and see if this is something you would like to be part of.

Yard Help Needed: Now that the weather is warming up, our grass is growing faster than ever! Currently, we have one congregant who has been doing most of the yard care, and he would love some help. It involves using the riding lawnmower, so if you have never used one, please contact Lori or Pastor Erik to set up an orientation. Thank you!

Garage Sale: Highland's Social Concerns committee is holding its next garage sale on **Saturday, June 5th**. If you have good-quality items to donate please contact Sharon Price or Maggie Vickoren. Or just plan to come on by and make a purchase or two!

Happy Mother's Day!



FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

While 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?" 48"So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Psalm 98

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone 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.

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

[Jesus said:] "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."

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19.

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