



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 24/25, 2025
6:00 pm and 8:45 am
Holy Communion

First Lutheran Church, Kearney, NE

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude “*A Festive Trumpet-Tune*” by Gilbert M. Martin
Reed Wagner, organist

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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 denied our need for daily new birth. We have scorned the means you provide to fertilize and cultivate our growth in grace. We have closed ourselves to pollination by others of your redeeming, particularly those whose fruits differ from ours. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, revive us, and open us to your gifts, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Processional Hymn

"Come, We That Love the Lord" ELW 625



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou-sand sa - cred sweets
4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;

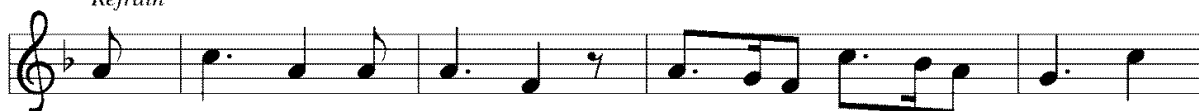


join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -



sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.
heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad.
heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.
man-uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

Refrain



We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on:



we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, refrain. Music: Robert Lowry Music and text Public Domain

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.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray.

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Word

L: A reading from Acts, the sixteenth chapter.

L: ⁶They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; ⁸so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. ⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us. (*Acts 16:6-15*)

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ²³ Jesus answered Judas (not Iscariot), “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.” (*John 14:23-29*)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

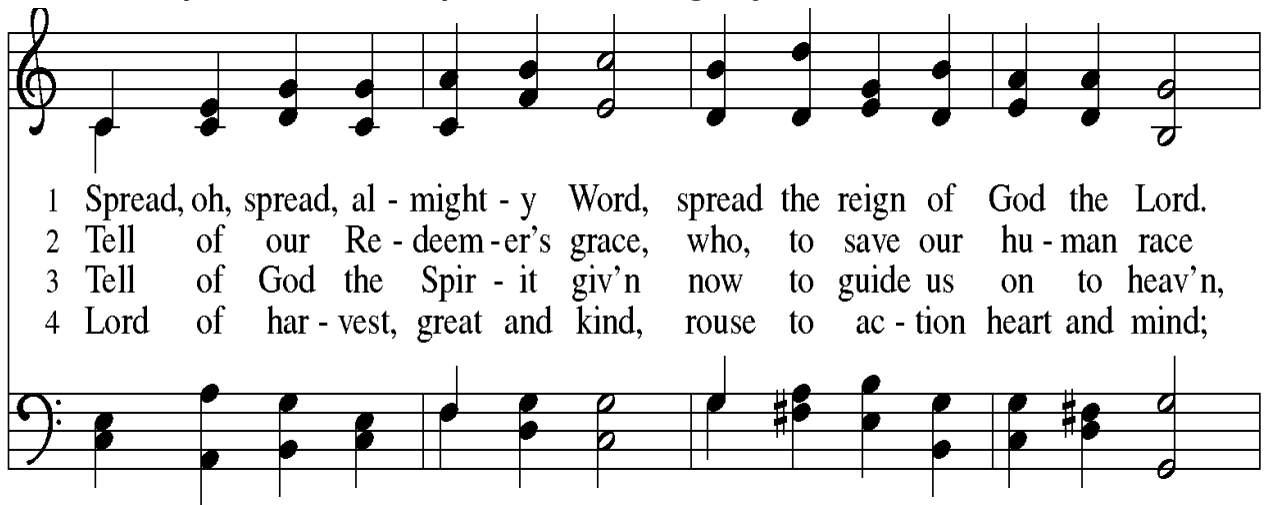
Children’s Message And “Noisy” Offering

Sermon Pastor Rick Carlson

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

"Spread, Oh Spread, Almighty Word", ELW 663



1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.
2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race
3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;



Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav-en's gifts ex - tend to all.
and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.
strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.
let the gath - 'ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774-1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt. Music: J.A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704 Text
© 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Apostles' Creed

L: With the whole church, let us profess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

L: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence for reflection.

L: Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are ill or struggling. We pray especially for...

Skyler Marie Adams	Rocky Geiser	Denise Scott
Jim Anderson	Larry Giddings	Addison Sullivan
Bertha Boyer	Kelsey Gronewold	Tony Tauer
Vicki Buschelman	Kerry Journey	Eunice Warner
Gregory Carrico	Ron Kruse	Misty White
Wayne Deterding	Emily McArthur	Dean Wiese
Terry Eirich	Lane Nansel	Miranda Wright
Leonard Fowler	Eileen Richter	
Tyler Freeland	Brent Roemmich	
Randy Fritson	Garth Scism	

Prayers of Comfort and Peace for:

- *Sharon Liljehorn on the death of her husband, Jim*
- *Carl Weber's family and friends on his death*

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: We give you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ. Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

Please be seated.

Meal

Offering “*Baroque Trumpet*” by Gordon Young
Reed Wagner, organist

Offertory Response “As the Grains of Wheat” ELW 465

Refrain Only

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff concludes the refrain with a double bar line.

Text: Didache, 2nd Cent; Marty Haugen b. 1950. Music: Marty Haugen Text and music © 1990 TIA Publications, Inc.
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Offertory Prayer

L: Let us pray.

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

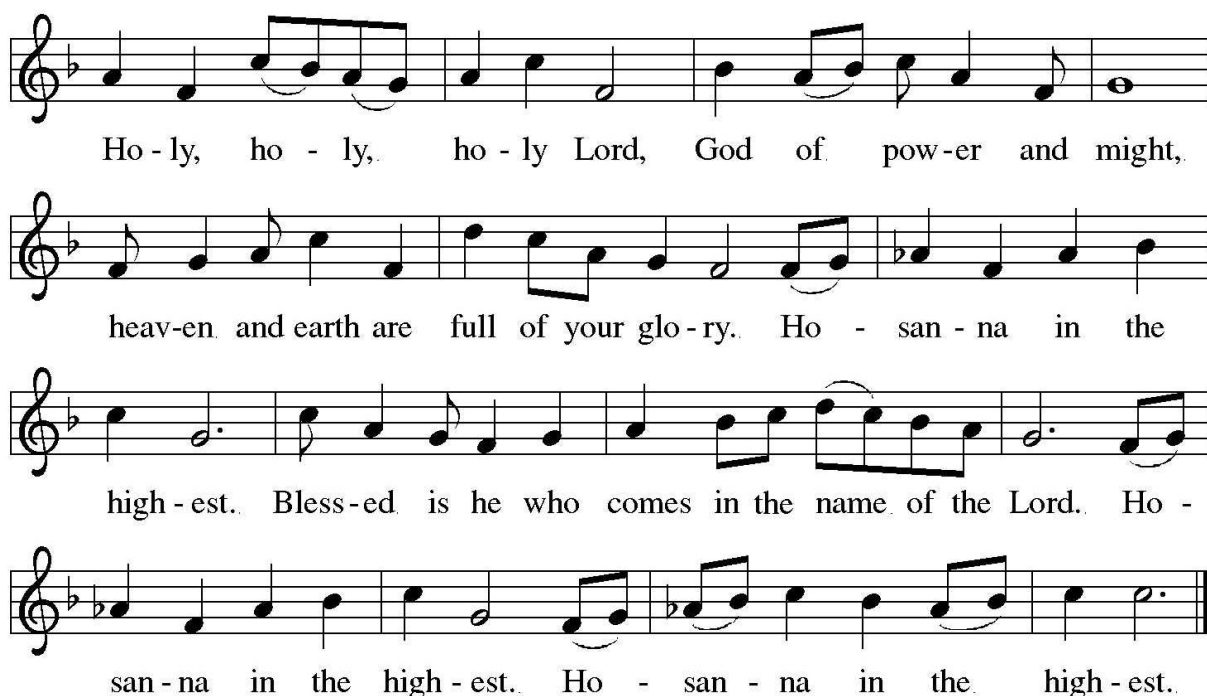
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus



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. 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.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Invitation To Communion

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

We practice open communion at First Lutheran. All are welcome to receive the elements. Gluten-free wafers are available. In addition to the cups filled with wine (red) in the tray, there are cups containing grape juice (clear) in the center.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Communion Music

"The Angelus" by Gordon Young

Reed Wagner, organist

Please stand as you are able.

Table Grace

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

L: Let us pray.

Living One,

in this feast you have made yourself known to us.

Send us now to tell of your wonders,

sing of your glory,

and proclaim your risen life

to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The triune God,

who was, who is, and who is to come,

Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,

light your way with resurrection dawn,

now and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

"This is My Song", ELW 887



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3. Music: Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957.
Text sts. 1-2 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Pub Co., st. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Pub Co. Music © Breitkopf & Härtel
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of CCLI #1093735

Dismissal

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

“Christe, der du bist Tag und Licht BWV 1096”

by Johann Seb. Bach

Reed Wagner, organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The New Nursery is OPEN!** – do you need a quiet place to take your child? The nursery is available for you to use. Services are live streamed inside. Located by the café area.
- **Worship Schedule**—Saturday 6:00 pm, Sunday 8:45 am & 10:30 am
- **Church Office Hours**—Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.
- **Brookestone Garden Services: First Sunday** monthly at 2:00 pm
- **For the hard of hearing FLC offers a loop system** for wearers with a “T” (t-coil) setting.
- **Prayer Chapel**—across from Centennial Hall, a place for quiet prayer
- **S.A.F.E. Center donations** - for May are disposable plates, cups and silverware.
- **Volunteer of the Month** – for May is Adam Wegner. Adam contributes countless hours representing the Imaging Team and covering the sound booth. He also volunteers as the I.T. person for the church office. Thanks for all you do, Adam!
- **First Lutheran Church Preschool Registration:** Registration is open to the public – for 2025/2026
- **Communion registration**—Please register annually to maintain membership. Registration cards in pew racks & on Welcome Stations.
- **Visitors**—please complete a visitor card, found in the pews.
- **Wednesdays | Now through June 25 | 10:30 am** – Adult Bible Study, Fellowship Hall (see FLC website for details)
- **Sunday, May 25** - 11:00 am Service changes to 10:30 am
- **Monday, May 26** – Church office closed for Memorial Day
- **Saturday, May 31** – Young Parents & Kids Play Date: Dryden Park 10:00 am
- **Sunday, June 8** – 9:50 am – Hymns of Faith, Pentecost Party - Sanctuary
- **Sunday, June 15** – 9:45 am – Budget Forum in Centennial Hall
- **Sunday, June 29** - 9:45 am Annual Meeting in Centennial Hall
- **July 14 – 17 & 20** - Vacation Bible School!
- **August 2** – First Lutheran Habitat Work Day
- **September 14 – 20, 2025** - Adult Mission Trip to North Carolina (details to follow)



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

**First Lutheran Church ~ 3315 G Avenue ~ Kearney, NE 68847
308-237-5544 ~ office@firstlutherankearney.org**

**Rev. Dr. Michelle Holley Carlson, Presiding Pastor
Rev. Dr. Rick Carlson, Preaching Pastor**

**Assisting Ministers:
6:00 pm –
8:45 am – Amy Behrhorst
10:30 am – Dana Ernst**

Organist: Reed Wagner

Copyright Information

Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003295.

Kyrie and Gospel Acclamation - Mark Mummert, b. 1965 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission of OneLicense #A-705218

Prelude: *Fantasia in a-moll* by Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) Creative Commons 4.0. Public Domain

Offertory: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* arr. John A. Behnke (c) 1998 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by Permission of CCLI #1093735

Prelude: *"A Festive Trumpet-Tune"* by Gilbert M. Martin (c) Lorenz Publishing Co. 1969

Offertory: *"Baroque Trumpet"* by Gordon Young (c) 1983 by Fred Bock Music Company. All rights reserved.

Communion: *"The Angelus"* by Gordon Young(c) 2000 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

Postlude: *"Christe, der du bist Tag und Licht BWV 1096"* by Johann Sab. Bach CC

