

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
May 10th, 2026 – Sixth Sunday of Easter
Pastor Stephanie Newman

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude

John Joanette

GATHERING

(Please Stand)

Thanksgiving for Mothers and Those Who Mother

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for mothers and for all who share in the gift of nurturing life. Gracious God, you are the source of all love and life. Like a mother hen who gathers her brood, you draw us close and call us beloved. We thank you for mothers who have given us life, for those who have raised us, guided us, and shown us compassion. We give thanks for laughter shared, wisdom offered, and love that endures. Blessed are you.

C: Your love nurtures us and makes us whole.

P: Gentle Christ, you draw near to the brokenhearted and carry us in times of need. We remember those for whom this day is heavy: those who long to be mothers, those who have lost children, those estranged or grieving, and those whose experience of mothering has been marked by pain or absence. Like a mother who refuses to abandon her child, you remain with us in every sorrow. Hold all who ache in your mercy and surround them with your care. Blessed are you.

C: Your love nurtures us and makes us whole.

P: Holy Spirit, you move among us, creating community and calling forth love in many forms. We give thanks for all who mother in ways beyond biology—grandmothers, aunts, mentors, teachers, friends, and all who show up with courage, patience, and grace. We give thanks for those who have been strong for us, and we entrust to you the wounds left by those who could not be. Gather us together under your wings and renew us in compassion, that we might be bearers of your love in the world. Blessed are you.

C: Your love nurtures us and makes us whole.

P: Holy One, you gather us as your children, as a mother hen gathers her brood beneath her wings. You shelter us, hold us close, and remind us that we belong to you. You are our mothering God—tender, fierce, and full of compassion.

Help us to honor one another, to care for one another, and to reflect your nurturing love in all we do. We join with saints and angels, giving you thanks and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

Lift High the Cross

ELW 660 (Vss. 1,2,4)

The 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

P: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Song

God Welcomes All (twice)

ACS 978

Cross-Generation Message

WORD

First Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:8-20

The Psalm will be read responsively

A: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

C: Our God has kept us among the living, and has not allowed our feet to slip.

A: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

C: You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

A: You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

C: I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows

A: those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

C: I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.

A: Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

C: I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.

A: If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

C: but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

A: Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

The congregation will please stand as able & comfortable

Gospel Verse

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
(Lights off after Gospel Verse)

ELW 172

The Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to: **John 14:15-21**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you."

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Congregation will please be seated

The Sermon

Pastor Stephanie Newman

*The Congregation will please stand as able
(Lights on after Sermon)*

Hymn of the Day

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

ELW 735 (Vs.1-3)

** Pass Info Slips to Side Aisle and Prayer cards to the inside aisle*

Confession and Forgiveness

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 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 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, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Apostles Creed

P: Freed and forgiven, let us confess the faith we share.

**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 into hell.
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.**

The Prayers

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Gracious God, you are near to the brokenhearted and a present help in times of trouble. We lift before you all who are sick, suffering, or in need of healing—in body, mind, or spirit.

We pray especially for *(pause to name those on your list)*

And now, we invite your prayers—you may name aloud or hold in your heart those in need of God's healing and care.

(pause)

Surround them with your presence, bring comfort in pain, strength in weakness, and hope in the midst of uncertainty.

Be with those who care for them—family, friends, and medical teams—granting patience, wisdom, and compassion.

God of mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Offering

Special Music
Offertory

We Are an Offering

Chancel Choir
ELW 692

Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God,

C: 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, Amen.

Communion

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.

P: P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

You Are Holy

ELW 525

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

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, f

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 new life. Receive the risen Lord.

(Please be seated)

Communion Distribution

Lamb of God

Lamb of God

ELW 195

Communion Hymns

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW 756 (1-4)

Let Us Break Break Bread Together

ELW 471 (1-3)

Soul Adorn Yourself

ELW 488 (1-4)

Praise the One who breaks the darkness

ELW 843 (1-3)

Prayer after Communion

P: 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,

C: Amen.

(The Congregation will please stand as able and comfortable)

Pastor's Blessing

Blessing

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

Joyful, Joyful

ELW 836 (Vs.1-3)

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God.