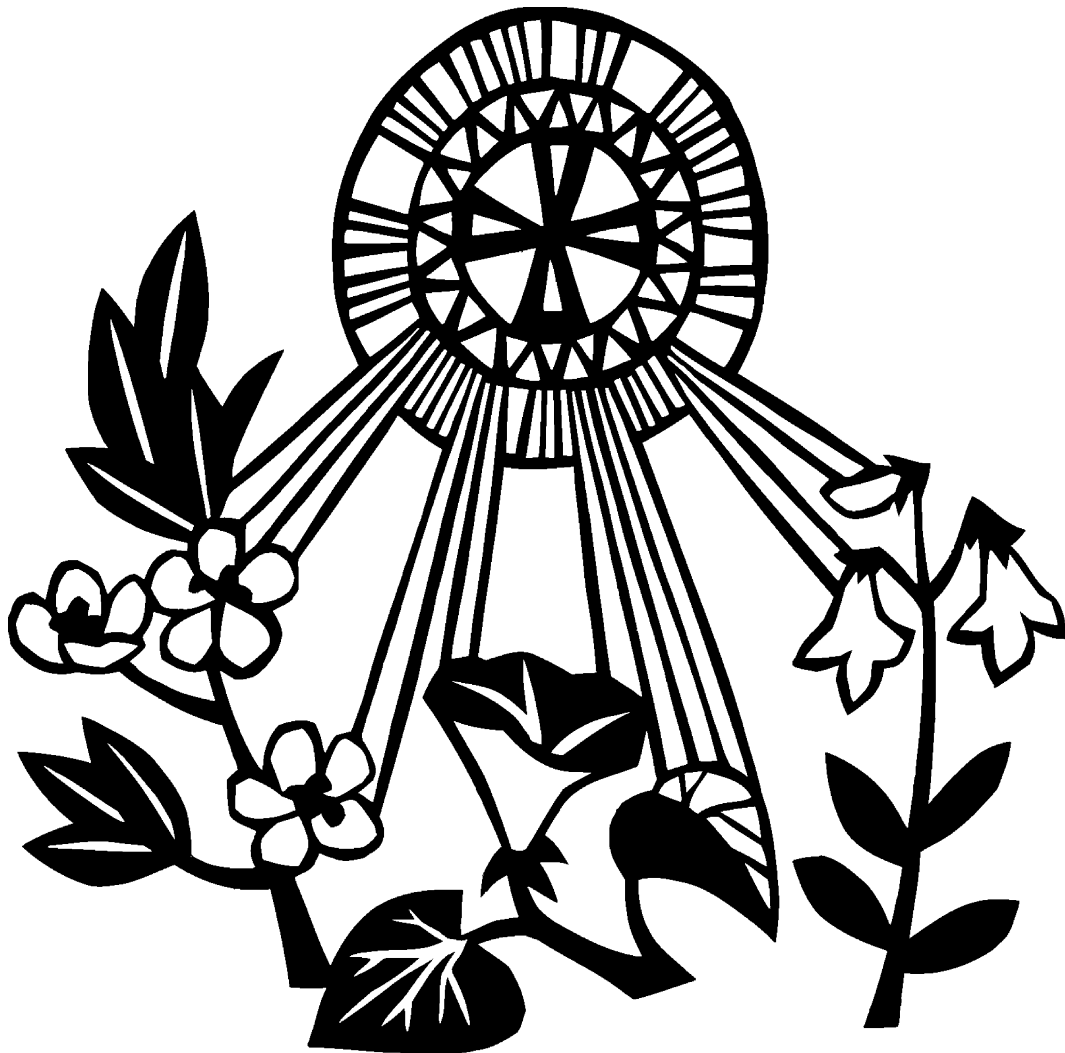


# HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 14, 2023



## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.



## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to offer God's Word of Love, Grace, Mercy and Justice to our homes, congregation, city and all creation.**

### **Welcome**

We are delighted you have come to worship. Relax, sing, and center yourself on the presence of God here today. Let the congregation and this bulletin guide you and follow along as you are able. Join us after the service for refreshments. We look forward to meeting you. **Mask: we ask that if you aren't feeling well, have a cold, or cough, have been around someone that is sick, or simply feel like something is coming on, please wear a mask. It takes a little effort from everyone in order to stay safe and healthy.**

### **Visitor**

Please complete the attendance card located in the pew, you may also include prayer, concerns, and other information you would like the church to know. If you are interested in meeting with the pastor, learning more about our community, or becoming a member, please make a note on the card.

### **Music**

If you don't know a song, sing along as you are able, and don't worry about getting it right. Just praise.

### **Children are Welcomed Here**

Children enrich our worship experience. The sounds of crying, laughing, and talking are welcome in our church; these sounds are a true gift and remind us of God's presence. Children may find crayons and coloring sheets helpful during worship, you can find some in our narthex.

### **Holy Communion**

The congregation will be celebrating Holy Communion this morning. All are welcome no matter your background. Both wine and grape juice, and gluten-free bread are offered at the table. **In an effort to keep everyone safe and healthy, we ask that you stand 3 feet from others.**



## **This Morning Worship Service Begins With**

**PRELUDE** *Jesus Lover of My Soul arr. Gordon Young*

Ma-Li Lin

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.  
*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;  
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;  
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.  
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.  
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

*Refrain*



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:  
 cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you  
 and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the  
 power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our  
 sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us  
 again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness  
 of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

## KYRIE

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

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

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

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

### Jesus, Remember Me

(ELW 616)

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

**Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31**

A reading from Acts.

*In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 66:8-20**

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

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

**Our God has kept us among the living  
and has not allowed our feet to slip. R**

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

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

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

**I will enter your house with burnt offerings  
and will pay you my vows—**

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

**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;**

**I will give you oxen and goats. R**

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

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

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

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

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

## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

A reading from 1 Peter.

*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.*

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 reverence. Keep your conscience clear, 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 persons, 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable proclaiming the word of God.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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.

## **GOSPEL: John 14:15-21**

The holy gospel according to John.

**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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

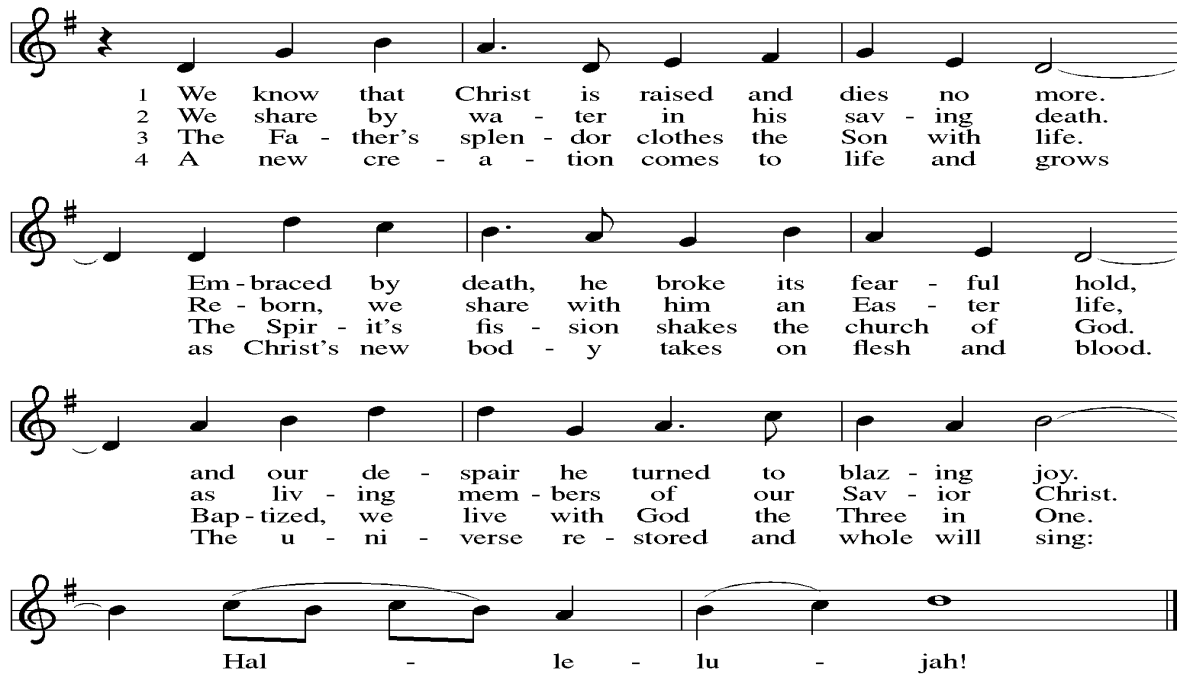
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## **SERMON**

Pastor Toni Castañeda Carrera

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
 2 We share by wa-ter in his sav-ing death.  
 3 The Fa-ther's splen-dor clothes the Son with life.  
 4 A new cre-a-tion comes to life and grows  
 Em-braced by death, he broke its fear-ful hold,  
 Re-born, we share with him an Eas-ter life,  
 The Spir-it's fis-sion shakes the church of God.  
 as Christ's new bod-y takes on flesh and blood.  
 and our de-spair he turned to blaz-ing joy.  
 as liv-ing mem-bers of our Sav-ior Christ.  
 Bap-tized, we live with God the Three in One.  
 The u-ni-verse re-stored and whole will sing:  
 Hal - le - lu - jah!

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**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**

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

All the earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creations. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick or grieving. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures. Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers, anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child. Support all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks to the apostle Matthias and all your saints. Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

For what else shall we pray for today?

*We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.*

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

*The usher will now pass with the offering plate.*

**MUSIC** *In the Garden arr. Bill George and Dino Kartsonakis*

Ma-Li Lin

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

**OFFERING**

**Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**  
*Offering Song*

(ELW 184)

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.



## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

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:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

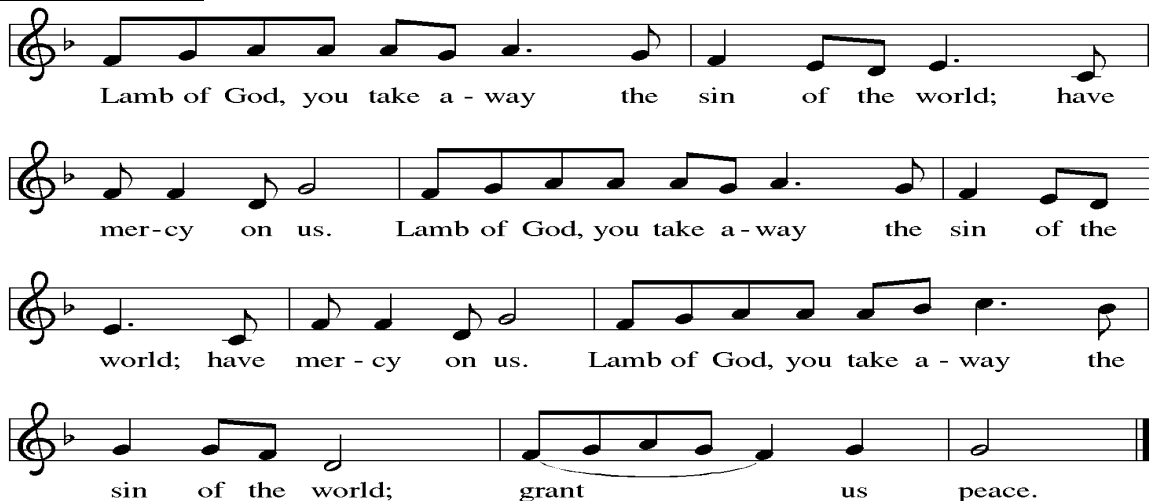
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## COMMUNION SONG



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.

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

**Alleluia! Sing to Jesus**

(ELW 392)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to  
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your  
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight in -  
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you  
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus  
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the  
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on  
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."  
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"  
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah arr. Rick Parks*

Ma-Li Lin



***Please offer your prayers throughout the week for the following individuals:***

**Special Prayer:**

God of peace, give leaders of nations the wisdom to choose peace over war, dialogue over conflict. Comfort those who are in fear and are caught in the middle of the conflict.

**For healing:**

Sandy, Patrick Tapia, David Dias

**For trust in your mercy:**

Jason Meadows

**For wholeness and well-being:**

Roy Stone

**For strength and healing in fighting cancers:**

Barbara "B" Wilke, Beverly Harris, Jennifer Yates, Johnny Birge, Will Terry, Jaha Blackwell, Sam Gros, Debra Lande, Tim Pugh

**For hopefulness and strength:**

June Gough, Family of Rosemary Kuhn  
For all people in the military who are deployed or serving our country.

**Memorial Candles are lit in memory of:**

Kathryn Jean Koch, Rosemary Kuhn, Bob Halvorson, Elizabeth Woodbury

As a reminder, this community is inclusive and welcomes all of God's people. The rainbow candelabra located on the altar serves as a reminder of this community's inclusive and intentional welcome to the LGBTQ+ community.

The paschal candle located at the entrance of the sanctuary is used by our congregation as the welcoming light of Jesus Christ. In the same way that it has traditionally been utilized as light to the world.

If anyone would like to add or re-add a name please email or call our office.

[hollyluth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hollyluth@sbcglobal.net) (323)667-1212

## **HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

### **101st Year,**

We are a congregation of the Southwest California Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Email: [hollyluth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hollyluth@sbcglobal.net) Phone: (323)667-1212

Website: [www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net](http://www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net) Youtube: HLCstudios

**In Today's Liturgy**

Sermon: Pastor Toni Castañeda Carrera  
Assisting Minister: Karla Richards  
Lector: Tom Scott

**Upcoming Calendar at a glance**

Food Pantry Delivery on Mondays 8:00 am  
Food Pantry Distribution on Wednesdays  
10:00am-1:00pm  
Mariposa Ministry May 20<sup>th</sup> (3rd Sat. of the month)

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Plants are given to the glory of God