

# East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW – Byron, MN

May 16, 2021: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion / Graduate Recognition

Pastor Paul Thompson Organist: Pat Nelson

## INTRODUCTION

*In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.**

## **GATHERING SONG**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (ELW 631)*

## **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **HONOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26**

A reading from Acts.

*In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.*

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus — <sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us — one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." <sup>23</sup>So they proposed

two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 1**

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**<sup>2</sup>Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**<sup>4</sup>It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**<sup>6</sup>For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

**SECOND READING: 1 John 5:9-13**

A reading from 1 John.

*God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.*

<sup>9</sup>If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son.

<sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.  
Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN OF THE SEASON *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!* (WOV 674)**

*Alleluia! Jesus is risen!*

*Trumpets resounding in glorious light!*

*Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!*

*Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!*

**REFRAIN**     *Jesus is risen and we shall arise.*

*Give God the glory! Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL: John 17:6-19**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus prayed:] <sup>6</sup>“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.

Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I

have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *What Wondrous Love Is This* (ELW 666)

## **CREED**

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\***

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

\*Or, “who proceeds from the Father.” The phrase “and the Son” is a later addition to the creed.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

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.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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.**

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**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**

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing (ELW 543)*

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS019935. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE VISITING!**



If you're visiting, please sign our guestbook in the narthex.  
*Worship times rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf.*

**OFFERING:** You may leave your offering into the offering plate/basket as you leave (*no offering plates are passed, due to Covid*).

**MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**



**EAST:** 9:00 am early worship  
**WEST:** 10:00 am West JAM / Coffee hour  
**WEST:** 11:00 am late worship

**THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US**

**EAST Note:** Anyone interested may join Altar Guild  
**Altar Guild:** May - Deanna Bakken  
**Deacon:** May - Glenda Mueller

**East Reader: Reader:** Pastor reading scriptures

**East Acolytes:** Ushers covering this duty

## TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please wear a mask, use hand sanitizer, and remain socially distant from other family groups. Thank you!*

### RECOGNITION FOR EAST GRADUATES: TODAY



Today during the service, we'll honor our graduates.

**2021 Graduates:** Iris Koehler, Ava Myhre, Aleya

Robinson **2020 Graduates:** Haley Baier & Shane Myhre

*(whom we could not honor last year due to the pandemic)*

### MEMORIAL DAY Services at East St. Olaf: May 31



The Kasson Legion will lead brief Memorial Day observances Monday, May 31 at the Zion Cemetery at 7:50 a.m., and at the East Cemetery at 8:00 a.m.

### Contributions

(05/02 & 05/09) Current \$3,735, Benevolence \$50, and

In Memory of Lyle Carstensen \$20.

## HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

*Deadline for bulletin information – Wednesdays by 7:30 pm.*

*Submit any newsletter info by the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.*

<b>05/16</b>	9:00 am	East worship/communion, honor graduates
	10:00 am	West coffee hour – to honor our graduates
	11:00 am	West worship/communion, honor graduates
<b>Mon.</b>	9:00-Noon	Pastor Paul at office
<b>Wed.</b>	7:00 pm	BOTH Confirmation at EAST
	7:30 pm	<u><i>Deadline to submit any bulletin info</i></u>
<b>Thur.</b>	9:00-Noon	Pastor Paul at office
	7:30 pm	<u><i>Deadline to submit NEWSLETTER INFO</i></u>
<b>Fri.</b>	-----	Pastor Paul's day off-work
<b>05/23</b>	9:00 am	East worship
	10:00 am	West coffee hour
	11:00 am	West worship ( <u>NO</u> communion)

## COMING UP AT EAST & WEST

**May 26 (Wed.):** 7:00 pm BOTH Confirmation class at EAST  
7:30 pm Deadline to submit any bulletin info

**May 27 (Thur.)** NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEER DAY at office  
(9:10-print, 9:30-fold, 9:45-collate)

**May 30 (Sun.)**

9:00 am East worship  
10:00 am West coffee hour  
11:00 am West worship

## TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**East Prayers:** Mike Senjem, Darlene Myhre, Jim Olson (*of Rochester area*), Rita Distad, Peggy Andreason, Bill Fritts, Dianne Kearns, Steve Wilson, Maryann Schultz, Royce (*Jenny Schwanke's son*), Ashley (Pyfferoen) Hunzeker, Sylvia Torstenson, Dawn Otteson (*friend of Distad's*), Emily Nagel (*girlfriend of Schultz's grandson*), Viola Olson, Steve Jensen, Julie Andreason, Heidi Guenius (*cousin of Becky Brakke*), Dale Boelter, David Distad, Sally Iverson, Carol Severson, and John Heydt (*brother of Pat Nelson*).

**West Prayers:** The family of Joanne Larsen (*Dan Larsen's mother*), Dave Peterson, Scott Larsen (*friend of Tina Baudoin*), Ardean Bjornson, Darlene Hanson, David Thoe, Kurt Connelly, Kelly Keckhafer, Boyd Pew, Bill Tietje (*brother of Carma Bjornson*), Joann Tiegen, Cindy Senjem, Philip Senjem, and Matt Miller (*nephew of Carma Bjornson*). Those serving in our military: Erika Smith - (*granddaughter of Carma & Ardean Bjornson*), and Tully Hovda (*son of Todd & Cathy Hodva*).

## CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

**PASTOR Paul Thompson:** (*Please call before driving to the office.*)

**Cell Phone:** 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

**Office hours:** Monday and Thursday

9:00 am-Noon... OR by appointment (*Day off-work is Friday*)

**SECRETARY Gina Moser:** (*Please call before driving to the office.*)

**Office Phone:** 507-365-8222 **Cell Phone:** 507-951-4964

**Emails:** eastwest@kmtel.com AND certainty@kmtel.com

Please send all emails for Gina to both of her email addresses.

**Office Hours:** Tues. & Thursdays 10:00 am-Noon

**OUR WEBSITES:** [eaststolaf.org](http://eaststolaf.org) OR [weststolaf.org](http://weststolaf.org)

**OUR JANITORIAL SERVICE:** Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

**COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:**

President: Brian Mueller 252-8078

Gary Kearns - Home: 206-3158, Cell: 254-5285

Bryan DeCook - Cell: 208-1590

**VISITS FOR OUR MEMBERS**

If you know of anyone who may like a call or visit from Pastor Paul or from another member, please contact an East deacon:

Glenda Mueller: 696-5753, Pat Cahill: 507-365-8766, or Jane

Williams: 507-271-2272.