



# Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



*We Welcome you to Worship!*

**May 25, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.**

The People of Covenant are called to:

**Gather, Grow and Go Serve**

...With God's Love!



**Kyrie**

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**Hymn of Praise**

*This is the Feast*

pg. 140-141

## **Prayer of the Day**

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. **Amen.**

## **WORD**

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

### **First Reading**

**Acts 16:9-15**

*A reading from Acts, the sixteenth chapter.*

<sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup> When 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. <sup>11</sup> We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup> and 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. <sup>13</sup> On 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. <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> 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. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading**

**Revelation 21:10,22-22:5**

*A reading from Revelation, the twenty first and second chapters.*

<sup>10</sup> And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. <sup>22</sup> I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup> The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup> Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup> People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup> But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.<sup>22:1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup> they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

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## **Gospel**

**John 14:23-29**

*The Holy Gospel according to John, the fourteenth chapter.*

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> 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. <sup>27</sup> 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. <sup>28</sup> 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. <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe." The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Pastor Anne Andert

**Hymn of the Day**      *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*      ELW 815

## Prayers of Intercession

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.*

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. **Your mercy is great.**

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. **Your mercy is great.**

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. **Your mercy is great.**

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 (See Prayer Insert) < full 5 second pause >. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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. **Your mercy is great.**

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. **Your mercy is great.**

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. **Amen.**

## **Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.*

## **Announcements**

### **Offering Prayer**

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. **Amen.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **Liturgy of Holy Communion and 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.**

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**

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O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

## **Invitation to Communion**

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

## **Communion Hymns**

*Lamb of God*

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*Jerusalem, My Happy Home*

ELW 628

*I Am the Bread of Life*

ELW 485

## **Post Communion Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

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. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **Blessing**

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. **Amen.**

**Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**



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*(Electronic donations from a debit/credit card now accepted.)*



## Announcements:

- ✝ Thank you for being at Worship! More events and Worship opportunities at [Covluth.org](http://Covluth.org)
- ✝ VBS is July 14-19! If you'd like to volunteer that week or be a host for the staff contact Karla
- ✝ **Pastor Wendy's away through June 9** Pastoral Care is still available, contact the office
- ✝ **The office is closed for Memorial Day May 26-** We remember why this day is so important
- ✝ **Wisconsin Historical Society** shares 'We will Always be Here' historymakers display in June
- ✝ **Lunch Bunch meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month June 4 at 11:30 at Deak's** in Stoughton
- ✝ **June 8** Let us celebrate Graduates and Scholarship recipients during Worship Service
- ✝ **Book Group is not meeting in June: Join the 2nd Thur in July at 1pm July 10** Gateway Room
- ✝ **Feed our Souls-** the 2nd Fri of the month- **June 13** 10:30a-1:30p at St. Marks in Madison
- ✝ **Social Action Team** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, Join **June 16** at 630pm in the Gateway Room
- ✝ **Bible Study Returns June 18 at 530pm** gathering Wednesday Evenings in the Gateway
- ✝ **Jr Bible study offered June 18, July 2 and August 6 at 5:30** during the adult Bible Study
- ✝ **Community Juneteenth Celebration** at UMC Stoughton **June 22 1-4pm** Everyone is invited
- ✝ **Indigenous Action Team** gathering **June 29 at 11am in the Sanctuary-** Join for a short trip
- ✝ **Blood Drive with Red Cross June 30 1-6pm** in the Youth room, sign up online or walk in!

### WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** *Anne Andert*; **Acolyte:** *Jacob Kettner*;

**Greeter/s:** *Helga and Jack Cope*;

**Assistant Minister:** *Jean Sime*; **Lector:** *Ingrid Thompson*;

**Communion Assistant:** *George Craig, Jessica Diebold, Donna Tarpinian*;

**Ushers:** *Larry Olson, Sue Richards, Judy and Matthew Heil*;

**Altar Guild:** *Jean Sime*; **Communion Prep:** *Norm and Jean Sime*;

**Organist/Pianist:** *Meghann Proper*;

**Sound/projection:** *Lars Forde, Amanda Burian*;

**Altar Flowers:** *In Loving Memory of Marilyn Nelson by Maggie Hagen!*

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