



Central Lutheran Church

**Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 14, 2023**

**Rev. Veronika Czutor
Pastor**

Central Lutheran Church, ELCA

1000 Easton Rd., Dallas, Texas

God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.

Please turn off your cell phone.

This service is being livestreamed to our neighbors near and far on Facebook.

Most of the sanctuary- including all leaders and worshippers- is on camera.

BELL PEAL (10:30 am)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN MEDITATION

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

P Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

C Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

P Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

C Amen.

As We Gather at Your Table



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

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.

THIS IS THE FEAST

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For 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. ²⁴The 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, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From 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, ²⁷so 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. ²⁸For ‘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.’

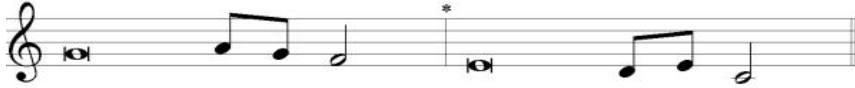
²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which 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.”

L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 66:8-20

Sung responsively.



- ⁸Bless our | God, you peoples;
let the sound of | praise be heard.
- ⁹**Our God has kept us a- | mong the living
and has not allowed our | feet to slip.**
- ¹⁰For you, O God, have | tested us;
you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.
- ¹¹**You brought us in- | to the net;
you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.**
- ¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.
- ¹³**I will enter your house | with burnt offerings
and will pay | you my vows—**
- ¹⁴those that I promised | with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.
- ¹⁵**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams;
I will give you ox- | en and goats.**
- ¹⁶Come and listen, all you | who believe,
and I will tell you what God has | done for me.
- ¹⁷**I called out to God | with my mouth,
and praised the Lord | with my tongue.**
- ¹⁸If I had cherished evil | in my heart,
the Lord would | not have heard me;
- ¹⁹**but in truth | God has heard me
and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.**
- ²⁰Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing | love from me.

SECOND LESSON: 1 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but 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; ¹⁶yet 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. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For 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, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who 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. ²¹And 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, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L Word of God, Word of Life
C Thanks be to God

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Veronika



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the fourteenth chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord

READING OF THE GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This 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.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will

know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They 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

SERMON

Pastor Veronika

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

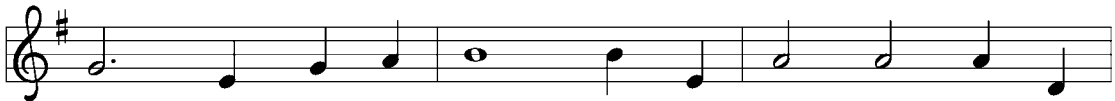
HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 696

Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult



1 Je - sus calls us; o’er the tu - mult of our
 2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life’s wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
 vain world’s gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, “Chris - tian, fol - low me:”
 kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus’ sake.
 keep us, say - ing, “Chris - tian, love me more.”
 plea - sures, “Chris - tian, love me more than these.”
 be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

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.**

THE PRAYERS

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people
according to their needs.

Please sit or kneel for prayer.

The response to each spoken petition is:

P Lord, in your mercy

C Hear our prayer.

People with prayer needs: **Lydia** Landfair, **Jan** Hare, **Lorraine** Coussons, **Jean** Staffeld,
Mary Haynie, **Andrew** Lott, and **Dawn** Gray.

The prayers conclude:

P ...through your son Jesus Christ, our Lord

C Amen.

THE PEACE

*The peace we share is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us and the reconciliation we have with
one another in Christ Jesus. Please offer a symbol of reconciliation to one another.*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

THE OFFERING

*We give thanks for what God has first given us. Our ministry to the people of East Dallas is supported by your
offering. An offering plate is available in the narthex after worship. You may also use our online giving
through **Vanco, PayPal, or Givelify** (available in the App Store) or continue to mail your offerings to our
office.*

MUSICAL OFFERING: “*Oh, Sing to God Above*”

*Oh, sing to God above a hymn of joyful greeting,
a song of grateful love in the new day's light repeating:
you made the sea and sky, the sun and stars in splendor;
delight shone in your eye—all your works were filled with wonder.*

Refrain

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Oh, sing to God above: Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Oh, sing to God above: Alleluia!*

*Oh, sing to God above a hymn of praise and blessing,
a song of grateful love, hope and faith our hearts expressing:
creation lifts its voice to tell your might and glory,
and we, too, will rejoice to proclaim the saving story. **Refrain***

Oh, sing to God above: Alleluia!

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. Generous God,

**C in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.
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.

PREFACE

It is indeed our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY



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, 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Blessed are you... With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P 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.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P 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.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P 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.

C Amen.

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 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 and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

C Thanks be to God

COMMUNION

As you come forward for the Sacrament, please sanitize your hands with the sanitizer found on the first pew. Communion will be distributed at the altar rail. You may kneel or stand. The host will be dipped in the chalice and placed in your hand. If you prefer to receive only the host, please tell the ministers. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please fold your arms in front of your chest. At this time there is no consecrated grape juice.

The body of Christ, given for you

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Follow the guidance of the ushers if you decide to walk up to the Altar to receive the Sacraments.



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, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Meditative organ music is played as the congregation receives the Holy Communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. Gracious God,

C in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

BLESSING

P The God of all, who raised ✠ Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 546

To Be Your Presence



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here,	to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold,	to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest,	to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,	to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear,	to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold,	to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed,	to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice,	and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,	
right up - hold,	al -
love ex - pressed,	le - lu - ia!
church, re - joice,	

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

C Thanks be to God.

Acknowledgments:

Liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Gathering Hymn: *As We Gather at Your Table*

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carole Stream, IL 60188

Hymn of the Day: *Jesus Calls us O'er the Tumult*

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851-1922

Musical Offering: *Oh, Sing to God Above (Cantemos al Señor)*

Text: Carlos Rosas, b. 1939; tr. *With One Voice*

Spanish text © 1976 Resource Publications Inc.

English text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Sending Hymn: *To Be Your Presence*

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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Central Lutheran Church

God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.



Central Lutheran Church
Dallas, Texas 1922-2022

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

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Organist: Harold Knight, PhD

Administrative Assistant: Rachel Brown

Church Office:

214-327-2222 |

central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com

1000 Easton Rd. Dallas, Texas 75218

CentralLutheran.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors, we are glad to have you with us and invite you to come again!

Pr. Veronika's Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10 am - 2 pm; other days/times by appointment.

Serving in Worship today: Usher: Paul Bierwagen, and Lector: Paul Chambers

Ushers & Lectors needed: Please sign up on the bulletin board in the education building.

Updated Directories are available in the narthex. They include the new members' contact information.

Service Day: This **Saturday May 20 from 9am – 12pm** we will have a service day at White Rock Center of Hope. We will begin with a tour, then have folks get involved with a variety of projects. Projects typically include restocking the food pantry, sorting and processing donated clothing, and getting office work done that cannot occur during the weekday. We will also have sitting work available for those who would like it. Sign the Count me in Sheet in the narthex if you would like to go. This service day is a joint project with Gloria Dei Lutheran in Garland.

The church council meeting has been moved due to Mother's Day. It will be next **Sunday, May 21 at noon.** Everyone is welcome to attend.

Registration is ongoing for VBS 2023. VBS this summer will be on June 26-30, 9am-noon. This QR code takes you to the general VBS information page on our site, and to registration. Contact Alesia Pearson (214-215-7670 or alesia-r-pearson@swbell.net) if you can help that week or set up the week before.



Mark Your Calendars for these upcoming events:

- May 20:** Service Day at WRCOH, 9am-12pm
- May 21:** Church Council Meeting, Noon
- May 27:** Bill Slonecker's Memorial Service, 3pm
- May 29:** Memorial Day, office closed



Scan this QR code (or go to linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch) to connect with us, join our mailing list, or donate online.

Our Prayer List: Please submit your prayer requests to the church office via email (central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com) or via phone (214-327-2222).

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT

For healing

Ruth Steiner
Jackson & Tracey Murtha
Bonnie Sato
Lorraine Coussons
Charlotte Breedlove
Dawn Gray
Bryan Helm
Selena Dybdahl

Relationship

Sister of Susan and Judy
Friends of Jan Moody
Sister of Harold Knight
Grandmother of Kyle Rush
Neighbor of Harold Jones
Bethany CDC Teacher
Brother-in-law of Paul Chambers
Sister of Mary Glenn

Church Members

Mary Haynie
Pat Buie
Don Smith
Mario Montejo
Kris McDowell
Patsy Schoen
Yvonne Muirhead

Those in Mourning

Bill Slonecker's family

Jerry Krause's family