



Central Lutheran Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024

The Rev. Veronika Czutor, Pastor
Harold Knight, PhD, Music Director
Rachel Brown, Administrative Assistant

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

MUSICAL MEDITATION *Prelude on "The Church's One Foundation"*

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, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C Amen.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

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

Sung by the congregation

This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia.
Worth is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
And honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation.
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever, Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God,
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign,
Alleluia, Alleluia

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

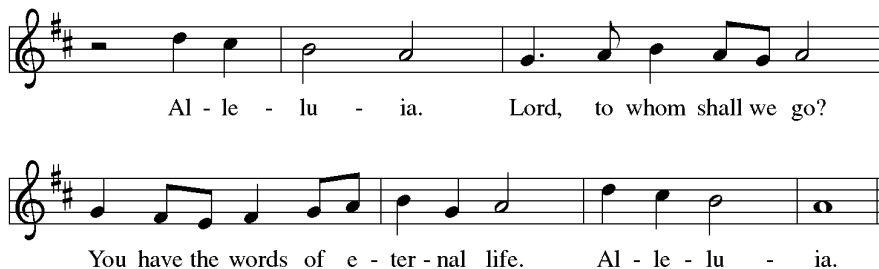
L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Veronika

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.

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord**

READING OF THE GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you O Christ**

SERMON

Pastor Veronika

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

NICENE 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.

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, **Linda** Gourley, **Jean** Staffeld, **Archie** Huizenga, and **Rebecca** Huizenga.

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: Faith, Hope and Love

Sung by the choir

Refrain: Faith, hope and love, let these endure among you;

and the greatest of these is love, the greatest of these is love

If I speak with the voice of angels, but do not love,

I am like a noisy gong, a clanging cymbal.

I am nothing, I am nothing without love. (Refrain)

If I see all that's held in mystery, feed and clothe the poor,

If my faith should call me on to move a mountain,

Still I'm nothing, I am nothing without love. (Refrain)

In the end, when the earth is silent, when all things pass away,

We shall see the face of God in shining splendor;

There are three things that will lead us to that day. (Refrain)

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. Risen One,

C you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. 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 The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

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. If you prefer, you can also bring the pre-packaged communion kit with you to the altar rail.

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. Shepherding God,

C you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

C Amen.

In Christ Called to Baptize



1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
 2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
 3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
 4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
 a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
 the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
 for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
 Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
 By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
 E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
 One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
 in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
 In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgments:

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Musical Meditation: *Prelude on “The Church’s One Foundation”*

Music: Van Denman Thompson

Gathering Hymn: *The Church’s One Foundation*

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley 1810-1876

Hymn of the Day: *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760-1842

Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Musical Offering: *Faith, Hope and Love*

Text: 1 Corinthians 13:1-2, 8-13; Francis Patrick O’Brien, b. 1958

Tune: Francis Patrick O’Brien, b. 1958

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Sending Hymn: *In Christ Called to Baptize*

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

Text © 1995 Pilgrim Press

<h2>Central Lutheran Church</h2>	
	
<h3>Evangelical Lutheran Church in America</h3>	
<p>Pastor: The Rev. Veronika Czutor 972-904-0245 reverend.veronika@gmail.com</p> <p>Music Director: Harold Knight, PhD harchie74@gmail.com</p> <p>Administrative Assistant: Rachel Brown 214-327-2222 central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com</p>	<p>1000 Easton Rd. Dallas, TX 75218</p> <p>www.CentralLutheran.org</p> <p>www.facebook.com/CentralLutheranDallas</p>

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: Ushers: Lydia Landfair and Jeff Lowry; Lector: Alesia Pearson

Ushers & Lectors needed: Please sign up on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary.

During the Easter Season we will collect items to create blessing bags with. Blessing bags are bags of food we can give to people in need that we meet in the wider community. We will assemble the bags after the worship service on **May 19**. We plan to collect 20 of each of the following items:

- small packages of cookies
- fruit cups
- small packages of crackers
- peanut butter crackers
- Vienna sausages
- water bottles
- juice boxes

Lunch, Learn, & Grow: We have once-a-month "Sunday School" for all ages on the first Sunday of the month. Join us for a lunch and discussion of the Bible and our Lutheran heritage. Our next meeting will be **today, after the worship service in the Parish Hall**. Come join the fellowship and ministry together! All are welcome!

Discussion Groups: Central is starting an experiment as part of our progress with the Congregations Lead Initiative (a national program with the ELCA). The goal of this experiment is to foster connections between members and neighbors.

Four times a month, on the second and fourth Wednesdays and Saturdays, we will lead discussion groups in various places in the neighborhood. During these discussions, there will be a central theme that we will ask meaningful questions about. As we open discussion, we hope to learn more about each other on a deeper level. Our first week's theme is Happiness and how to find it.

Our first meetings will be on **Wednesday, May 8 at 6:30 pm, and Saturday May 11 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall** at Central. We hope to see you there!

Visitation: If you or someone you know is in need of visitation from Pastor Veronika or one of our visitation team, please contact the church office at central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com or at 214-327-2222.



Open this QR code (or go to linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch) to connect with us or make your offering 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

Irisz Gonda
Archie and Rebecca Huizenga
Frank Seuberling
Linda Gourley
Maribeth Kilday
Jarold Quarles
Lisa Yater
Joshua Hutcheson
Johnathon Prestenberg

Relationship

Friend of Pastor Veronika
Friends of Janis Farrow
Friend of Harold Knight
Sister of Julie Atkins
Friend of Myke Riley
Father of Lisa Barse
Cousin of Anne Monson
Nephew of Irene Hallmon
Friend of Jan Moody

Church Members

Lydia Landfair
Don Smith
Mario Montejo
Nancy Nulisch
Carol Paschetag
Suzanne Schwenn

Kris McDowell
Yvonne Muirhead
Mary Swenson
Judy Christiansen
Jean Staffeld

Those Who Mourn

Víctor Chacón on the loss of his grandmother, Aleida.