

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026



Holy Cross Lutheran Church, ELCA

holycrossmtnhome.com

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Mountain Home, AR 72653

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Dan Schmidt, Music Director



We're glad you're here!
Visitors are invited to fill out a visitor card and place it in
the offering plate. Join us for fellowship after worship!
Thank you to Sue & David Hahn for hosting today.

As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

Sharing of the Peace

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you!

L: Let us offer this gift of God's peace to one another.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

L: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

L: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*). Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CHORUS

J=80

F B♭6 D/A Gm F/C C7 F B♭6 D/A Gm

Spir - it of the liv - ing God fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God,

F/C B♭/C C7 F B♭ F G7/F C/E Dm7 C7 F

fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spir - it of the

B♭6 D/A Gm F/C B♭/C C7 F

liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

Greeting

L: 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.

Kyrie



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.



Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray the prayer of the day together;

C: 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 Word

First Readings

Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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, ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ 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.' ²⁹ "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. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ 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."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;

let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You 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—**

¹⁴ those that I promised I 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 oxen and goats.**

¹⁶ Come 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.**

¹⁸ If 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.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ 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, ¹⁵ 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, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ 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, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ 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 lives, were saved through water. ²¹ 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, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

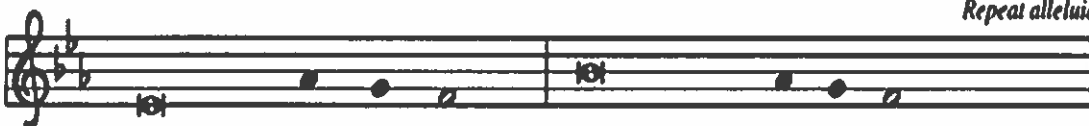
L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but

you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ 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."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Hymn ELW#401

"Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading"



Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.

- 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
- 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
- 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.
 It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

Refrain



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,
 nor rootless liberty;
 turn disquiet to contentment,
 doubt into certainty. *Refrain*

5 Keep us fervent in our witness,
 unswayed by earth's allure.
 Ever grant us zealous fitness,
 which you alone assure. *Refrain*

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 into hell. 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 the People

After each petition of the prayers:

L: Merciful God; **C: Receive our prayer.**

Call Committee, Gloria Fenter (Friend of Judy Hoover), Pam Guth, Pat Hacker (Former Member), Wayne Heinz (Close Friend of the Hamilton's), Chris Holm (Cleo Holm's Daughter), Troy Koch (Friend of Dan Jones), Dorothy Meyer, Dan & Donna Schmidt, Dion Stanford (Marita's Husband), Matt Zipperer (Former member), and for all our homebound members and friends. Those serving in uniform, for our enemies and those we find hard to love, and for all who travel.

Offering & Offertory - Love Offering for Serenity

Change my heart, O God; make it ev-er true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 3/4 time. The first two staves are vocal lines with lyrics. The third and fourth staves are piano accompaniment, featuring a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a single eighth note in the left hand.

Offering Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Holy Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Words of Institution

L: 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

L: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

L: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

L: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.

Holy Communion

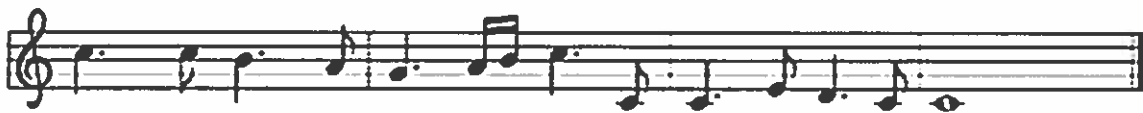
All who are repentant of their sins and believe in the Real Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Sacrament are welcome to receive the elements. As usual, the wine is the dark liquid and the grape juice is the light liquid. Please be cautious and only touch the cup you choose to commune with. Those who are not communing may come forward, with arms crossed upon the chest, to receive a blessing.

Communion Hymn ELW#474

"Bread of Life from Heaven"



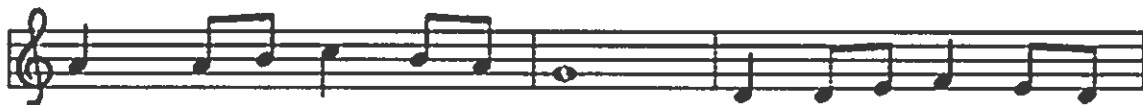
Bread of life from heav-en. your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



1	Break	now	the	bread	of	Christ's	sac -	ri -	fice;	giv -	ing
2	Seek	not	the	food	that	will	pass	a -	way;	set	your
3	Love	as	the	one	who,	in	love	for	you,	gave	him -
4	Dwell	in	the	one	who	now	dwells	in	you;	make	your
5	Drink	of	this	cup	and	de -	clare	his	death;	eat	this



thanks,	hun -	gry	ones,	gath -	er	round.	Eat,	all	of	you,	and	be
hearts	on	the	food	that	en -	dures.	Come,	learn	the	true	and	the
self	for	the	life	of	the	world.	Come	to	the	one	who	is
home	in	the	life -	giv -	ing	Word.	Know	on -	ly	Christ,	Ho -	ly
bread	and	be -	lieve	Eas -	ter	morn;	trust	his	re -	turn	and,	with



sat -	is -	fied;	in	Christ's	pres -	ence	the	loaves	will	a -	bound.
liv -	ing	way,	that	the	full -	ness	of	life	may	be	yours.
food	for	you,	that	your	hun -	ger	and	thirst	be	no	more.
One	of	God,	and	be -	lieve	in	the	truth	you	have	heard.
ev -	'ry	breath,	praise	the	one	in	whom	you	are	re -	born.

Refrain

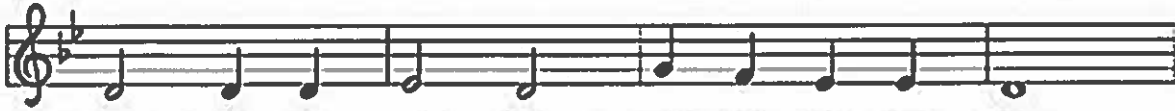
Prayer After Communion

Sending

Benediction

Sending Hymn ELW#800

"Spirit of God, Descending Upon My Heart"



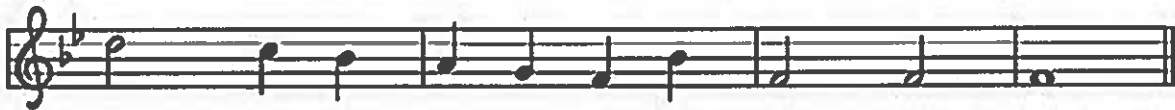
1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sics,
3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



and make me love you as I ought to love.
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

~FAITH & FELLOWSHIP~

WELCA's Monday Morning Workshop: The ladies gather every Monday morning at 9:00am to sew and share in fellowship.

Senior Exercise Class: A gentle exercise class that accommodates senior aches and pains. Join us Tuesdays at 1:00pm for some good stretching, moving and fellowship.

Hope Circle is on the **Fourth** Tuesday of each month at 10:00am. Study lessons from *Gather* magazine, a publication of WELCA.

Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10:00am. We study the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday along with good fellowship. Join us for some interesting discussions.

***Bible Study Attendance on 5/6: 8 ***



Timeline for 40th Anniversary Celebration (May 16th, 10am-2pm)

- 10:00am – Gather
- 10:30am- Tree Dedication w/Bishop Becca;
Quilts given to honor our VETS
- 11:00am-1:00pm- Lunch
- 10:30am-2:00pm- Petting Zoo

We would like those who are able to bring a dish to make our 40th anniversary picnic complete. The meat, chips, and beverages will be provided, but we would love to have side dishes and desserts to complete the picnic. Please bring your favorite picnic dish for all to enjoy! There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Thank you.



Altar Guild Request

This year Pentecost is Sunday, May 24th. The Altar area will be adorned in the color of red. To add to decorating this area, the Altar Guild is requesting parish members to donate red flowers to add to the beauty of the altar area. If you can donate a red flower, please have your flower of choice at the church Friday, May 22nd, or Saturday, May 23rd. If you have any questions, please call Carol Wheeler at 488-5044. Thank you from The Guild.

♥ H A P P Y ♥

Mother's Day

Those Serving This Week:

Worship Leader & ALM: Pastor Mike Clark & Jan Clark

Music: Dan Schmidt

Ushers: Kathy Owen & David Deterding

Altar Guild: Kathy Scott

Counters: Lisa Streu & Judy Hoover

Ministers: All the members of HCLC

Church Attendance 5/3: 41

This Week at Holy Cross

Mon. 5/11	8:30am-12:30pm 9:00am 11:00am	Church Office Open WELCA Workshop WELCA Monthly B-day Celebration @Pizza Hut
Tue. 5/12	8:30am-12:30pm 1:00pm	Church Office Open Senior Exercise Class
Wed. 5/13	8:30am-12:30pm 9-11am; 1-3pm 10:00am	Church Office Open Food Pantry Bible Study
Thur. 5/14	8:30am-12:30pm 9:30am	Church Office Open Church Council Mtg.
Fri. 5/15	8:30am-12:30pm	Church Office Open
Sat. 5/16	10am-2pm	40 th Anniversary Celebration
Sun. 5/17	9:00am 10:00am	Worship w/Bishop Becca Fellowship

Those Serving Next Week:

Worship Leader & ALM:

Bishop Becca Middeke-Conlin & Kathy Scott

Guest Organist: Mary Baumann

Ushers: Judy Hoover & Pete Cvengros

Altar Guild: Carol Wheeler

Counters: Judy Hoover & Lenora Walejko

Ministers: All the members of HCLC

