



Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

Sixth Sunday in Easter
St. John's Lutheran Church
May 25th, 2025

Growing in Grace, Walking by Faith, Serving in Love

*(Please be aware that as we stream this service to a live audience you may appear on camera when you are worshipping with us. We welcome those who attend online and are part of our worshipping community! Please respond with the words in **bold** print and stand, as you are able at the places marked with an *.)*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Thanksgiving for Baptism:**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of + the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.
Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a
people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in
your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your
boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts
of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set
your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by
these waters that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” ELW #834**



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

***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.

***Kyrie:**.....ELW p.175



Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Lord, have . . .



so - tros. Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -
mer - cy. Lord, . . have mer - cy on



dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
us; O . . . Lord, have . . mer - cy.



Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Christ, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Christ, have . .



so - tros. Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie -
mer - cy. Christ, . . have mer - cy on



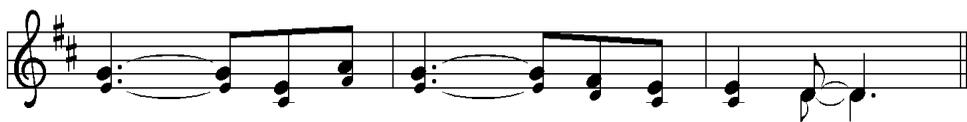
dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
us; O . . . Christ, have . . mer - cy.



Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Lord, have . . .



so - ñor. Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -
mer - cy. Lord, . . have mer - cy on



dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - ñor.
us; O . . . Lord, have . . mer - cy.

***Prayer of the Day:**

Let us pray. 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.**

First Reading:.....Acts 16:6-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁶They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; ⁸so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. ⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When 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.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and 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. ¹³On 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. ¹⁴A 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. ¹⁵When 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.

Psalm:.....Psalm 67

- ¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.
- ² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**
- ³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations on earth.

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

***Gospel Acclamation:ELW p. 179**



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

***Gospel: John 14:23-29:**

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

The Holy Gospel of John, the fourteenth chapter, beginning with the twenty third verse.

*Response after the announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

²³ 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. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ 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. ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ 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. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Response after the conclusion: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

Children’s Message:Pastor Keith Weatherford

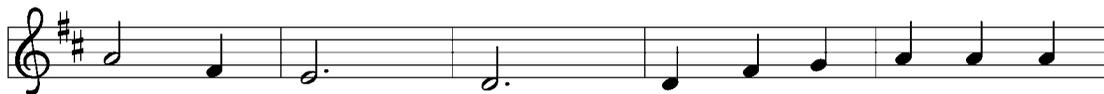
Sermon:Pastor Keith Weatherford

(Silence for reflection.)

***Hymn of the Day:“I want to Walk as a Child of the Light” ELW #815**



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

***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.**

***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.

(Each portion of the prayers ends with these words)

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

***Sharing of the Peace:**

...Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." (John 20:19)

As Christ welcomed everyone, let us open our hearts and lives and be like Christ to everyone we meet. The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

(The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say "Peace be with you" or similar words.)

Offering:

(An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need, and the communion table is set.)

Offertory Music: **"Canon of Grace"**
arr. Linda Lamb
Bells of St. John's

***Offering Prayer:**

Let us pray. 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.**

Please use the code here for a mobile device online giving.



***Great 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 to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, 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 angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



***Sanctus:** ELW p.181



San - to, san - to, san - to_es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to_es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to_es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to_es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the



nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.



di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

***Words of Institution:**

For in the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you, do this in 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 which is shed for you and for all people for the for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." As we have died with Christ so have we risen with Him. Remembering this life saving grace and resurrection, we join with all creation in praising Your name.

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Amen!

***Lords 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:**

(We celebrate this meal together at Christ's table, and all are welcome and encouraged to receive the forgiving and gracious presence of Christ in communion. Ushers will invite you forward starting from the rear of the sanctuary. Wine is the darker liquid on the outer portion of the tray. Lighter liquid is grape juice in the center of the tray. Gluten-free wafers available. Those who prefer not to commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.)

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

Lamb of God:ELW p.182



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



ten pie-dad de no - so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Communion Hymn:“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” ELW #779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

***Prayer after Communion:**

Let us pray. 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.

***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.



***Sending Hymn:.....“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” ELW #858
verses 1,4**



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

***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!

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Sunday, May 25

9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 am Fellowship

10:45 am Bible Study

Monday, May 26

Memorial Day– office is closed

Tuesday, May 27

Noon– WELCA Luncheon; bring a salad or side dish to share and enjoy fellowship and news about upcoming events.

Music this Summer

Connie and Gretchen would like to feature solos and special music this summer. If you have a piece you prepared or if you want to get something together, but don't know where to start, please speak with us. We are happy to help you and would love to feature your talents.

Submission for Bulletin, Wednesday at noon
Submission for Herald, the 25th of each month

In our prayers:

Linda McDonald, Susan Olson, Mike McDonald, Paula Blessinger, Diane Evans, Tammy Tetrault, Susan Boettcher, Rosita Moe, Bruce Gottwig, Bob Sorensen, Deb Berg, Meg Biggs and family, Richard Bomar, Jeff Shirley, Jeremy Stockstad, Tatiana Ceaicovschi, Randy Holmes, Kamila Ruth Baker, Vicki Alpiner, Brent Bushnell, Tom Andersen, Sally Indreland, Jana Clark, Ann Hadley, Mary Lou Hadley, Dan Jacobson, Craig Steenberg

For those in residential living centers, extended care or homebound:

Mary Marty, Rev. Wayne Olsen, Rosita Moe, Esther Fuehrer, Julie Wolff, Adeline Rasmussen, Susan DeBree, Jimmie McGee

For those who are deployed and getting ready to deploy.

For those who have died and now rest in God's merciful care:

All the Saints in Heaven

For Christ's Flock: The Lopach Family, The Paul Family, The Ruedisili Family, The Schendel Family

For Missionaries: Missionaries around the world; Willie Langdji in Cameroon

St. John's Lutheran Church Staff

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Keith Weatherford 406-442-6270

pastorkeith@helenastjohns.org

Choir Director/Music Coordinator:

Connie Conley 406-431-6835

connieconley@yahoo.com

Youth & Family Ministry; Organist:

Gretchen Munding 917-439-0093

youthandfamily@helenastjohns.org

Church Office:

Bonnie Stevens 406-442-6270

Worship Assistants

Presiding: Pastor Keith Weatherford

Acolytes:

Altar Guild: Jennifer Wintersteen, Mildred Twingley, Mait Board

Communion: John Munding, Gwynn Munding, Anne Langdji, Micah Langdji

Head Usher: Gail Vennes

Lector: Neal Ruedisili

Pianist/Organist: Gretchen Munding

Prayer Station: Bing Crosby

Sacristan: Mildred Twingley

Streaming/Power Point: Angela Conley

Church Council

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