

MAY 22, 2022

6th Sunday of Easter



**St. Mark's Lutheran Church
933 Brookline Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15226
412-561-9575
Rev. Gregg Knepp
Phone: 443-397-5970**

Internet : stmarkbrookline.wixsite.com/smlc

Email : stmarklutheranchurch@verizon.net

Facebook : facebook.com/SMLCbrookline

Please join us on Zoom at 9:30 am Sunday

Join by computer using Zoom: Meeting ID = 856 2680 1615 Password = church
OR

Join by phone: Dial-in # = (301) 715-8592
Meeting ID = 856 2680 1615 Password = 280633

Our Purpose

We are called and empowered by God to lead our family friends, and community into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our Mission

We will listen to, equip, and accompany each person on their journey to know God's love and the plan of salvation.

+ + + + +
Introduction to the day
+ + + + +

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.

**St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
6th Sunday of Easter**

Order of Worship

* *Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

GATHERING

Pastor: Christ is risen!

Cong: He is risen indeed!

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

He is risen!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING

God Sightings

* *(Please stand.)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

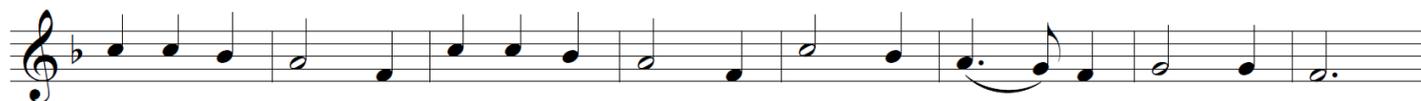
Gracious God ...

... have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from You and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to You, and uphold us by Your Spirit, so that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

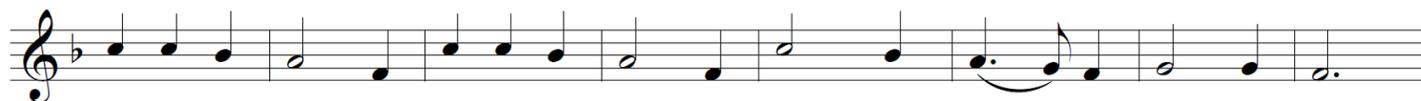
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. Amen.

* HYMN

Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded



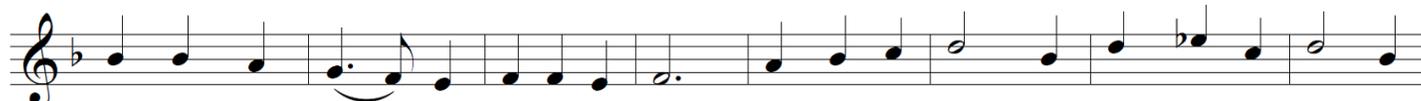
Day of de - light and beau - ty un - bound - ed, tell the news, the gos - pel spread!



Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ ris - en from the dead!



1. Sing of the sun from dark - ness ap - pear - ing. Sing of the seed from bar - ren earth green - ing.
2. Sing now of mourn - ing turned in - to danc - ing. Sing now the mys - t'ry, hope of our glo - ry.



Sing of cre - a - tion, al - le - lu - ia! Sing of the stream from Je - sus side flow - ing.
Sing with thanks - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Sing now of fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing.



Sing of the saints in wa - ter made ho - ly. Sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!
Sing the Lord's fa - vor last - ing for - ev - er. Sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

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* 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.

*** SONG OF PRAISE**

Praise be forever to our risen Lord!

Majesty, Worship His Majesty

Maj - es-ty, wor-ship His maj - es-ty. Un - to Je - sus be all
glo - ry, hon-or and praise. Maj - es-ty, king-dom au - thor - i - ty
flow from His throne un-to His own. His an-them raise. So ex - alt, lift up on
high the name of Je - sus. Mag-ni - fy, come glo-ri - fy Christ Je-sus, the King.
Maj - es-ty, wor-ship His maj es-ty. Je-sus who died, now glo-ri-
fied, King of all kings. Je-sus who died, now glo-ri-fied, King of all kings.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good things come: Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to think those things which are right, and by your goodness help us to do them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

(Please be seated.)

THE WORD

The first reading for today is from the 16th chapter of Acts.

Reader: Paul Ingold

FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15

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 67 (Please read responsively)

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

²**Let your ways be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³Let 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 upon earth.**

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

⁶**The earth has brought forth her increase;
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.**

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

Revelation 21:10, 22-22.5

The second reading for the day is from the book of Revelation.

¹⁰And 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.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And 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. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But 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.

^{22:1}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 ²through 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.

³Nothing 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; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And 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**



The Holy Gospel according to John's 13th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

John 5:1-13

¹After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

²Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes.

³In these lay many invalids — blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." ⁸Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." ⁹At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath. ¹⁰So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, "It is the sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat." ¹¹But he answered them, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Take up your mat and walk.'" ¹²They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take it up and walk'?" ¹³Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

"System Failure"

Pastor Gregg

SERMON NOTES

* HYMN

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1. I'm so glad, I'm so glad,
2. Satan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me, Satan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me,
3. When I was in trouble, When I was in trouble,



I'm so glad,
Satan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me, sing-ing glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah! Je-sus lift-ed me.
When I was in trouble,

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* THE 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

(A brief silence is kept for reflection.)

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace. Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Strengthen and sustain all who support vulnerable people across the world especially the Ukraine and Russia. Break barriers that prevent political enemies from working together for the well-being of all. Make a way for peace

and collaboration among the nations. Awaken elected leaders and government officials to work for peace for the needs of those who are oppressed. Empower government agencies and international organizations that provide for refugees and migrants forced to leave their homelands. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress especially. . . . As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation especially. . . . Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Merciful and gracious God, we thank and praise you for God, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

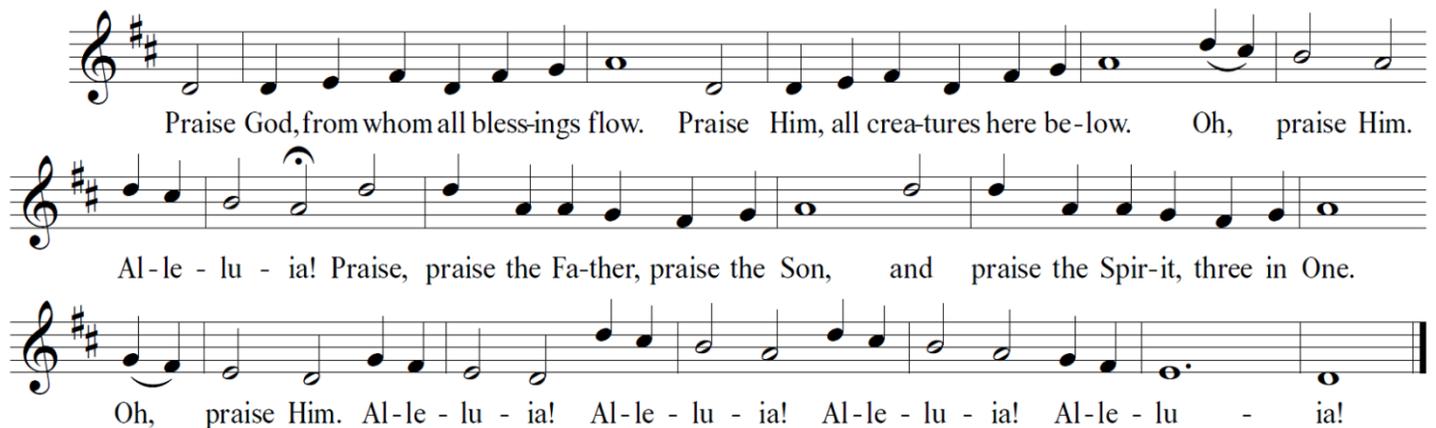
Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people. Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died when we meet together at your river of life. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

*** OFFERING SONG**



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low. Oh, praise Him.

Al-le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa-ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spir-it, three in One.

Oh, praise Him. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

*** OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are You, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As You have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise You and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*** 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.

*** PREFACE**

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, _____

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might. _____

Hea - ven and earth are full, _____ 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.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. In great love You sent to us Jesus, Your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened His arms to redeem us all.

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, therefore, His death, His resurrection, and His ascension, we await His coming in glory.

He is Lord, He is Lord! He is ris-en from the dead and He is Lord!
 Ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con-fess that Je-sus Christ is Lord.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of Your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy. Lamb of God, You
 take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us, have mer -
 cy. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

(At the usher's invitation you are invited to come forward to pick up your communion set. As the Pastor hands you the communion set, he will say "The body of Christ; given for you – The blood of Christ; shed for you." Once everyone has returned to their seats and is seated, we will commune together by eating the wafer first and then drinking the grape juice when the Pastor says – "Let us partake of the gifts we have received.")

Let us partake of the gifts we have received.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection You send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish Your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Your Son's resurrection, that we may show Your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

*** BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

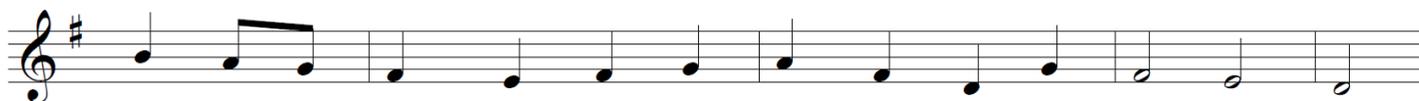
Amen

*** HYMN**

Soldiers of Christ, Arise



1. Sol - diers of Christ, a - rise and put your ar - mor on,
2. Stand then, in His great might with all His strength en - dued.
3. Pray with - out ceas - ing, pray, (your Cap - tain gives the word)
4. From strength to strength go on, wres - tle and fight and pray.



strong in the strength which God sup - plies through His e - ter - nal Son.
And take, to arm you for the fight, the pan - o - ply of God.
His sum - mons cheer - ful - ly o - bey and call up - on the Lord;
Tread all the pow'rs of dark - ness down and win the well - fought day.



Strong in the Lord of Hosts and in His might - y pow'r,
To keep your ar - mor bright at - tend with con - stand care,
to God your ev - 'ry want in in - stant pray'r dis - play,
That, hav - ing all things done and all your con - flicts past,



who in the strength of Je - sus trusts is more than con - quer - or.
still walk - ing in your Cap - tain's sight and watch - ing un - to pray'r.
pray al - ways, pray and nev - er faint, pray, with - out ceas - ing pray.
ye may o'er - come through Christ a - lone and stand en - tire at last.

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*** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news that He is risen!

Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

*You are invited to attend Pastor Gregg's Installation on June 5 at 3:00 pm.
Reception to immediately follow the service.*

Don't forget to wear RED on Pentecost!

Information to contact Pastor Gregg:

Cell phone: 1-443-397-5970 (It was printed incorrectly in the email that went to the congregation.)

Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 10:00-2:00 pm, Wednesday Noon – 4:00 pm
ANY TIME BY APPOINTMENT

We need strong legs and sharp eyes to help with the **Brookline Yard Sale on Saturday, June 4.**
Contact Cheryl Vergot (412-719-6205) if you are willing to help in ANY way!

Happy Birthday to . . .



| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Paul Bernhard | May 22 |
| Jenna Rose Zottoli | May 31 |
| Cathy Langhoff | June 2 |
| Ruth Smith | June 6 |
| Jennifer Bacvinskas | June 7 |
| Adam Tonti | June 15 |
| Sara Yingling | June 15 |

GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST

Geraniums are at a premium this year but we were able to get some. If you would like to make a gift to offset the cost in someone's honor or memory, we would appreciate the thoughtfulness. Please complete the form below and drop it in the bag on the secretary's door. The donations will be listed in the Pentecost bulletin.

Your Name _____ Amount _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

With Thanks to God for _____

To the Glory of God _____

Don't forget your gift of peanut butter and jelly for this month's Meals on Wheels Food Gathering. June's offering is canned vegetables. Please place your donation in the blue basket in the Breezeway. If you have a question, please see Sue Earley (724-825-8634)

| MEALS ON WHEELS Food Gathering | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| May | peanut butter and jelly |
| June | canned vegetables |
| July | canned fruit, especially crushed pineapple |
| August | Ziploc sandwich bags, paper towels |
| September | sugar free Jello & pudding mix |
| October | serving size cups of unsweetened applesauce, fruit in juice |
| November | peanut butter and jelly |
| December | canned vegetables |
| January | canned fruit, especially crushed pineapple |
| February | Ziploc sandwich bags, paper towels |
| March | sugar free Jello & pudding mix |
| April | Serving size cups of unsweetened applesauce, fruit in juice |



COMING JUNE 4

Spaghetti Dinner in memory of Katie Bee! Barvilchak

Where – Fairhaven United Methodist Church
2415 Saw Mill Run Blvd. 15234

Time 4-8 pm

Cost Adults - \$10, Kids - \$8

We will have - lots of Chinese auction items, - 50/50 raffle
And YUMMY FOOD!!!

All proceeds will be donated in memory of Katie



GOSPEL MESSAGE
May 22, 2022
6th Sunday of EASTER

Lifelong Learning

Graduates walk across the stage in cap and gown, receiving diplomas or degrees and pausing for pictures. The celebration marks the end of a time of learning and a transition to a time of doing. New jobs require orientation and more practical learning, but soon the employees are proficient at their work. The sheet metal apprentice becomes the expert journeyman. The accountant sees no more surprises in tax preparation. The retail worker masters the merchandise, the computer system, and dealing with difficult customers.

This movement from learning to knowing is not limited to work. We learn about civic issues and come to know where we stand. We learn about our faith and come to solid beliefs about our values. We learn about ourselves and who we are as people and settle into a sense of our own identity. One could call this process of learning and knowing through experience “lifelong learning.”

Jesus gives us an image of the Holy Spirit as teacher. But the Holy Spirit is not just any teacher; the Holy Spirit can teach us everything! The implication is that lifelong learning is less about information and more about what it means to be human, less about training and more about our relationship with God.

How do we experience the teaching of the Holy Spirit? Perhaps it is in the surprises of grace where someone’s generosity overwhelms us. Maybe it is in the nudges of knowing when an uncomfortable question opens up a place for us to reflect on our prejudices. Sometimes the font or table softens our heart in just the right moment to find a path for forgiveness.

With this promise of the Holy Spirit Jesus also leaves the gift of his peace, that in our learning and growing we may also know the peace that “surpasses all understanding” (Philippians 4:7).