

Incarnation Lutheran Church
Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 24, 2020

During this time of quarantine due to the COVID-19 virus, this bulletin is designed for your participation in the worship service from your individual homes. We hope you will join with your church family at 10am each Sunday as we worship separately together as the people of God. It's exciting to see people sign in, greet one another, send little messages, etc. The service is also posted on Facebook should the 10am time not work for you on any particular Sunday. Thank you for being here. Thank you for worshipping together separately this day!

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.
We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

A Reading from Acts

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon

you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10

¹Let God arise, and let God’s ene- | mies be scattered;
let those who | hate God flee.

²**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive | them away;**
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the pres- | ence of God.

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;
let them also be mer- | ry and joyful.

⁴**Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one who | rides the clouds;**
I AM is that name, rejoice | before God!

⁵In your holy habita- | tion, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defend- | er of widows;

⁶**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners | into freedom;**
but the rebels shall live in | desert places.

⁷O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,
when you marched | through the wilderness,

⁸**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the | God of Sinai,**
at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.

⁹You sent a bountiful | rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance | when it languished.

¹⁰**Your people found their | home in it;**
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision | for the poor.

SECOND READING

A Reading from First Peter

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jane

SHARING THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

O God, call your people to be one, as you are one. Unite your church in the truth of your gospel, the love of our neighbor, and the call to proclaim your reign to all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Breathe life into your creation. Guide your people as we explore the mysteries of the universe. We pray for the work of scientists and mathematicians whose skill enriches our understanding. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make your justice known among the nations of the earth. Protect the vulnerable. Redirect those who use violence and greed as weapons. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Come to the aid of your children. We pray for those engulfed in grief, those without supportive families, and for all who are isolated, powerless, or afraid, that all may rest their anxieties in your care especially, Walter Lindler, The Rushe Family, Sivi Middelstaedt and Family, Jenny Gantt, and all those that are home bound. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give courage to all who embark on new ventures. We especially remember this day those who risked their lives to serve in our armed forces. Grant safety to those serving at home or abroad, and assure them of your never-failing strength. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give joy to those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially, Nicholas Boykin, Jordan Hall, and Welda McCullough. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire, Renew, and Empower those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week especially, Emmett Sowell. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open the ways of love, O God, in the pursuit of peace throughout the world, and bless the efforts of missionaries, healthcare professionals, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially, Jason Harris, Dr. Jordan Shealy, Katelyn Shealy, Melissa Corbett, Maureen Kelly, Sue Hoffmann, Ashley English, Dr. Duncan Norton, Ashton Rabern, Kathy Kehl, and all those who find themselves in harm's way. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Raise all your saints to eternal life. Until that day, we give you thanks for the faithful examples of those who have listened to your voice and now rest in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

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.**

OFFERING

So that the various ministries of the congregation may continue, please take a moment to place your weekly offering in a basket and then mail to the church or give your weekly offering online at this time.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Announcements!

Weekly Worship Schedule!

Morning Watch Weekday Mornings at 9:30 am via Facebook Live!

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00 am via Facebook Live!
Materials for Worship are emailed out each Friday and posted to Facebook each Saturday!

Online Giving!

We look forward to the day when we can worship together as a family again, but until then, please continue to support the mission of the church. You can use this image by scanning the QR Code with your smart phone's camera which will lead you to our Website for Online Giving!



Incarnation Lutheran Church
in grace, around, everywhere

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To Give online:
Focus your cell phone camera on the QR code below.
An ILC banner will appear at the top of the screen. Press on the banner to continue to ILC ONLINE GIVING / OFFERING. Press on the banner to create a profile and / or Login to give.



As part of our call process, we would normally be able to have a reception for everyone to be able to meet our candidate. Since that isn't possible in today's world, we have scheduled times you can meet Pastor Emily.

Zoom meeting
Sunday, May 24 at 6:00pm

Please use this link to sign up for a spot, or contact Savannah at 803-447-7275.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4DA8AA2BA02-meet>

Remember that we will have a congregational meeting over Zoom on May 28th. Ballots are due June 3 to the church, either by mail or dropped in the mailbox on Sims St. You are eligible to vote if you are a confirmed, contributing and communing member AND attend the congregational meeting.
If you need a ballot, please let Savannah know and she will mail one to you.

People of Incarnation,

Incarnation Lutheran Church has been through a lot over the last three years, led by the exceptional leadership of Pastor Jane. She began her ministry with us on Ash Wednesday of 2017 and has done a fabulous job in bringing our church to a place where we are ready to begin the next chapter. She has helped us re-establish a church governing structure, celebrated with us through good times and held us near through bad. Perhaps the most visible gift from Pastor Jane has been the establishment of the Building Committee to renovate our beloved sanctuary, which is almost complete.

Earlier this spring, we all thought that by now we would have celebrated Easter in our new sanctuary, called a new pastor and rejoiced in the ministries during Pastor Jane's interim time here. In normal times, we would have held a grand reception in the Fellowship Hall with delicious food and lots of hugging, celebrating her call here and the reopening of the sanctuary. As we all know, these are not normal times, and an in-person celebration won't be possible for quite some time. Please rest assured that Council fully intends to throw a great party celebrating the ministry of Pastor Jane when we feel it is safe to do so.

Until then, and in celebration of her absolutely wonderful ministry with us, Council is collecting a love offering for Pastor Jane. Please mail or drop a check at the church or use [the link online](#). We will present this gift to her before her last Sunday, June 14.

2020 Church Council

Prayer List

Current: Walter Lindler, The Rushe Family, Sivi Middelstaedt and Family, Jenny Gantt, and all those that are home bound.

Birthdays: Nicholas Boykin 05/28, Jordan Hall 05/29, Welda McCullough 05/25

Baptismal Anniversaries: Emmett Sowell 05/28

Financial Update - General Fund Offering			
	Actual	Plan	Difference
Month-to-Date	\$6,303	\$14,424	\$8,121-
Year-to-Date	\$72,785	\$96,160	\$23,375-