



Lutheran Church of the Incarnation

Service of Holy Communion

May 6, 2018 10:00AM

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

A WARM WELCOME is extended to all who are visiting with us today. We hope that your worship experience is meaningful and that you will come again. We invite you to fill out a Welcome Card located in the pew and place in the offering plate. If you're looking for a church home, we encourage you to contact Pastor Jane or the church office (803) 256-2381.

Visit www.incarnationlutheran.com for bulletins, online giving, and more
Wifi Access: ILC_Members_5G PW: @ilc1921

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who stretches out the heavens,
who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

Amen.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Loving God,

we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ✚ Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 385 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! GELOBT SEI GOTT

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

TEMPLE TALK

CHILDREN'S TIME *ALL AGES of children are invited to come to the altar steps for conversation and bucket offering.*

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98

*It is sung by all, with the congregation singing the **bold** verses.*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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¹**Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.**

²O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.

³**You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.**

⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.

⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
 with the harp and the | voice of song.
⁶With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
 shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.
⁷Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
 the world and those who | dwell therein.
⁸Let the rivers | clap their hands,
 and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the earth.
⁹The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
 and the peo- | ples with equity.

SECOND READING 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: S124

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
 Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: John 15: 9-17

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

[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.”

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

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jane

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 708

Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

CHEREPONI

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM pg. 227-231

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes “Hear us, O God,”

*We respond: **Your mercy is great.***

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.**

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

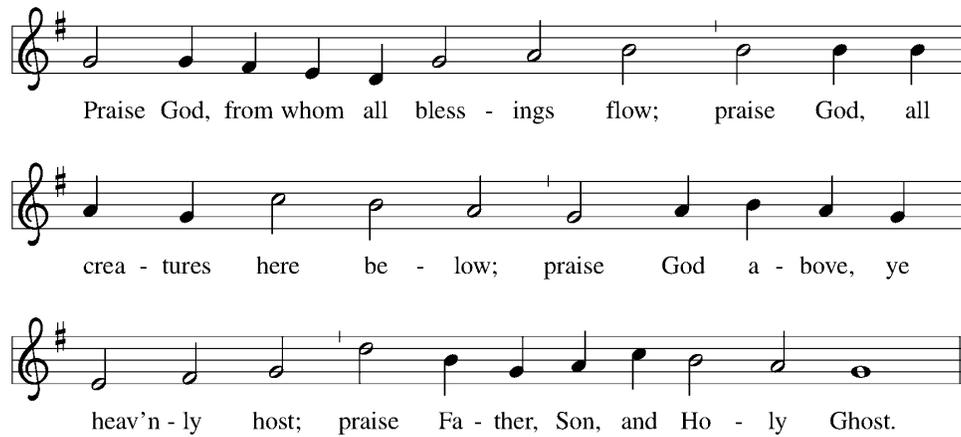
Offertory Anthem:

A New Commandment

Anonymous Composer

The assembly stands at the invitation of the presider as the offering and communion elements are brought forward.

OFFERTORY

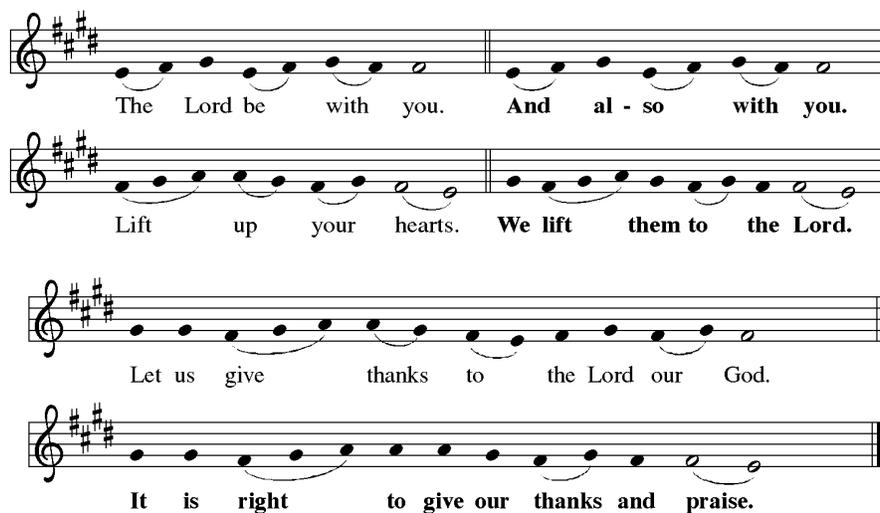


Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

OFFERING PRAYER

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. **And al - so 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:

SANCTUS: S130



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. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

... With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

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.

Come, Holy Spirit.

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.

Come, Holy Spirit.

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. **Amen.**

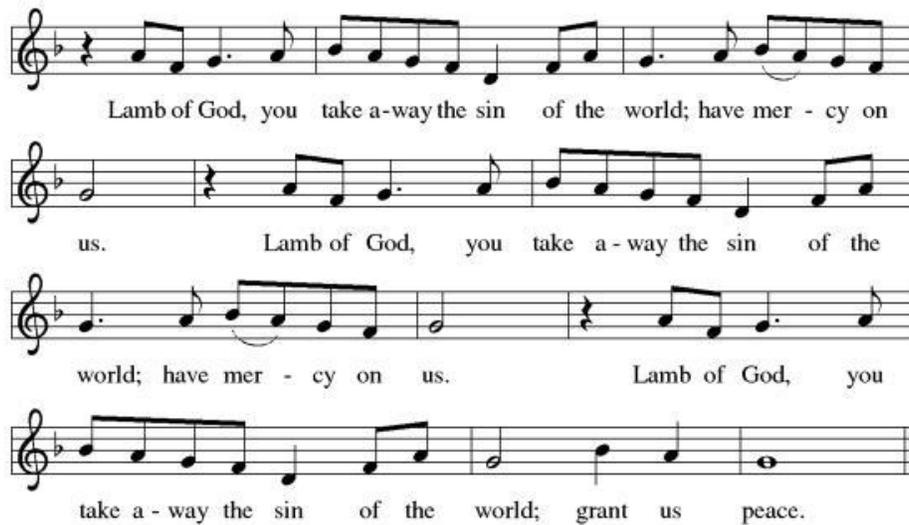
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

LAMB OF GOD: S135a



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.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to join in communion, trusting that Christ promises to be truly present. Whole wheat communion bread is served. Gluten-free bread is available upon request. Red communion wine is served: the first cup is a common cup (for drinking from) and the second cup is for intinction (dipping the bread). Those unable to partake of both elements are assured that the Church affirms our Lord's full presence in, with, and under each element alone. Those who choose not to receive Communion are welcome to come forward to the altar railing for a blessing.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

HYMN: ELW 496

One Bread, One Body

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

The Assembly Stands

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

SENDING

God send us out to be Christ's body in the world, sharing what we have heard and seen.

SENDING PRAYER

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy.
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: ELW 631

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers:	Team 2
Crucifer:	Amy Kehl
Acolytes:	Olivia Jackson, Gabi Nester
Lay Assistant:	Mel Eargle
Lector:	Russ Jackson
Communion Assistants:	Amy Kehl, Mary Kehl

TODAY IS CDC SUNDAY

Join us today as we celebrate the 38th year of ministry of our Child Development Centers. The mission and purpose of both Centers has always been to provide a Christian atmosphere for children to develop their fullest potential in a positive environment. The Devine Street and Byron Road locations are well regarded in the community. CDC provides a nurturing care for infants and children through 5th grade by offering year-round programming.

Our church campus CDC located in the educational building houses nursery, preschool and after school/summer programs. Approximately 150 children are cared for at the combined locations. location. The Byron Road location under the direction of Dorothy Hudson marked 10 years of ministry in September 2017. The children, their families and the congregation are blessed to have such caring individuals as part of this ministry.

BIRTHDAYS

Luke Johnson 05/06, Phillip Muller 05/12,
Jennifer Nyland 05/11, James Price 05/11, Carolyn Rast 05/07

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Ryan Black 05/08, Mary Karl Boepple 5/11, Rose Duncan 05/08, George Rushe 05/06

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we rejoice with the Black family as Kit Thomas Black is baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. We welcome Kit’s parents, Ryan and Emily Black and his godparents, Kevin and Angie Brazell.

The Murdock family shares these words with us: Out of all the emotions, fears, trials, and unknowns Abigail and her family have faced recently, one thing we have never felt is — alone. Thank you! We are thankful for Abigail’s strength and courage in these days of her recovery and our prayers continue for her and her family as they walk this journey.

SAVE THE DATES

Thursday, May 10 – Lutheran Men in Mission, home of Bill & Anjay Williamson

Sunday, May 20 – Immediately following worship will be a pizza lunch
(at no cost) with congregational conversations

Monday, May 21 – Deadline to receive articles/dates for our June newsletter

Wednesday, May 23 – 6pm supper and congregational conversations

Thursday, May 24 – 6pm Holy Guacamole gathering at CasaLinda Mexican Restaurant

Sunday, May 27 - Immediately following worship congregational conversations

May 31 – June 2 South Carolina Synod Assembly

Financial Update:	Actual	Plan	<i>Difference</i>
Last Week	\$ 3,613	\$ 3,583	\$ 30+
Month-to-Date	\$ 20,884	\$ 17,917	\$ 2,967+
Year-to-Date	\$ 69,874	\$ 71,669	\$ 1,793-

Current Concerns

Abigail Murdock, Walter Lindler, Cecilia Eaddy(CDC mother),
Delores DeJames (mother of Jeff DeJames), Sarah Parker (mother of Mike Parker), Harry Evans

New Prayer List Guidelines: Names will be on the prayer list and prayed for during the intercessory prayers for four Sundays. If you wish the name you submitted to continue, please notify the office at the end of the four weeks.

Summary from Steve Cook's Temple Talk on Sunday, April 29

Many of you are familiar with the council and how it works to serve our congregation. In fact many of you have served on the council and we are hopeful that many of you will volunteer to do so again in the future. We are aware though that many of you may not know much about the council or how it works. Some of you might not even care. Don't feel bad if that's the case. Personally, I had no idea of what council really did before I joined.

The church council conducts a great deal of business on behalf of Incarnation. In a nutshell the council worries about a lot of things so that you, the congregation, doesn't have to. However, there are some issues where the council cannot make a decision for the congregation. We have spent lots of time considering how to have a meaningful dialogue with church members about the blessings and the changes we are experiencing in Church Life. We want to include everyone in these discussions. New members, old members, our youth and guests and friends of the congregation.

With that in mind we will take the next several Sundays to discuss our church vision and mission. Over the next 4 weeks we will address the congregation with thoughts on the church of the past, what congregations look like today and how they are changing, volunteerism and future financial models of the church. In addition to the Sunday morning talks we will be providing written info on Wednesday nights along with further discussion.

On May 20 we hope you will join us for a forum after worship so we can get your feedback on these efforts. It is our hope that after receiving this feedback we will be able to formulate and propose a plan to move forward and present it for the consideration of the entire congregation.

Change is coming to Incarnation. That is inevitable. I think there are two ways people tend to view change. One is with fear, skepticism and apprehension. The other view of Change and what it might bring, and the one I hope that Incarnation embraces, is to view the coming change with excitement. With optimism. And with Joy for what God has in store for us.

Summary from Susan McArver's Temple Talk on Sunday, April 29

The Church Council is actively engaged in evaluating our congregation's needs as we go forward in mission. Council members will be giving Temple Talks for three weeks, followed by a series of opportunities for discussions about our next steps. The following is a summary of the Temple Talk given on April 29th by Susan McArver: Incarnation was founded in 1921 as a Lutheran congregation to minister to those in the fast-growing suburbs of Columbia, when the corner of Devine and Sims represented the outer edge of those suburbs. Like most churches during the 1950s and 1960s, Incarnation grew along with the Baby Boomer Generation, and church provided a major place for families to come together. Women often provided the backbone of the volunteer labor at a time when many of them did not work outside the home. Times are different now, and we are a smaller congregation. Life seems more hectic these days (is it really . . . ?) with many activities and occupations demanding our time. But Incarnation is blessed with the ministry of our two Child Development Centers and the vitality of many young families and fresh faces. On any given Sunday morning, we represent a very healthy mix of ages. Take a look at the numbers of children coming up for our children's sermons, the enthusiasm of our Confirmation students who love going to "Faith Alive" events at Lutheridge, and the large group we have going to the Youth Gathering this summer in Houston! We are in a fortunate place to build and grow as we look to our future ministry. And we want to be able to provide the same ministries of support and spiritual home for this generation of worshippers as we have done in the past. Incarnation is part of the larger Evangelical Church in America, the ELCA, whose motto is, "God's Work, Our Hands". The Church is not a social club we "join," like the Rotary Club. The Church is the body of Christ in the world, and we are called to be the open arms of Christ. Over the next few weeks, we will be discussing our future, and how each of us can participate in the work of this congregation. The Church Council invites you to join us as the Spirit moves among us!



South Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Lutheran Church of the Incarnation

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

www.incarnationlutheran.com

email: office@incarnationlutheran.com

803-256-2381

Pastor Jane Mitcham

Interim Pastor

pastor@incarnationlutheran.com

Ethan Overcash

Youth Minister

youth@incarnationlutheran.com

Teresa Boykin

Director of Child Development Centers

cdc@incarnationlutheran.com

Dorothy Hudson

Director of Byron Road

Child Development Center

Dr. Patrick Hawkins

Director of Music & Organist

music@incarnationlutheran.com

John Edwards

Parish Administrator

office@incarnationlutheran.com

Amy Kehl

Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@incarnationlutheran.com