

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In the St. Paul's Lutheran Church May/June Newsletter, you read an article about a special worship service offered during Holy Week. The article mentioned a cooperative online Good Friday service that included ELCA pastors from area churches.

I am pleased to announce that on Sunday, May 31, we will be offering a cooperative online service to celebrate Pentecost! Pentecost is the day in which we remember the Holy Spirit coming to the apostles. The pastors in the East Conference of the La Crosse Area Synod are joining together to create this special worship service for all parishioners and guests of the East Conference churches.

While some of the Pentecost online worship service will be done by the East Conference pastors, you too are invited to participate! Each congregation has been asked to submit short video clips of persons from their congregation speaking phrases for parts of the liturgy. If you, or you and your family, are interested in creating a short video clip for the service, please send me a text message at 608-865-1074, or email me at cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu to let me know. You will need to have a cellphone that takes videos so that your clip can be sent via email or text. Your clip would be due no later than Monday, May 24. Please contact me if you are interested in being a part of this special service, and I will email or text you your phrase and additional details.

Beyond this, we will be celebrating Trinity Sunday (June 7) with a special guest preacher! As you may recall, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was to have lead a worship service for the La Crosse Area Synod at the end of April 2020. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, that service was cancelled. However, you will still be able to hear Bishop Eaton in another context. As a way of celebrating the Holy Trinity, and recognizing that "We are church together," Bishop Eaton will be providing an online sermon for Trinity Sunday, June 7, 2020. Trinity Sunday recognizes the Holy Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Information will be sent to you regarding how to access Bishop Eaton's video sermon, the first week in June.

During this time when we are unable to worship in-person, we are reminded of Bishop Eaton's statement regarding her four emphases for the ELCA: "We are church, we are Lutheran, we are church together, and we are church for the sake of the world." May we join together (online) to worship on Pentecost Sunday with others in the East Conference of the La Crosse Area Synod. May we join together (online) to hear Bishop Eaton on Trinity Sunday with others in the ELCA throughout the United States.

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Cathy

