

## CALENDAR

Thurs., May 19	W-ELCA General Meeting	10:00 am
Sun., May 22	Sunday School	9:00 am
	Worship	10:15 am

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to Reverend Dennis Hallemeier for leading our worship today. Pastor Hallemeier will also be here next Sunday.

The visitation for Ken Koebernick will be today, 4:00 pm—7:00 pm in the church sanctuary. Ken's funeral will be held tomorrow, 11:00 am, with the burial to follow at the church cemetery. A luncheon will follow at the American Legion.

## THOSE SERVING IN MAY

### Readers:

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Bud Osteboe

May 29<sup>th</sup> Ava Gruen

**Altar:** Larry & Arlis Ballwahn



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 15, 2022

**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.*

*\*(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)*

### **Announcements**

### **Gathering**

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

### **\*Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism,  
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,  
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,  
flowing freely from your throne:

through the earth,  
through the city,  
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;  
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.  
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,  
and our sin is drowned forever.  
You open the gate of righteousness  
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.  
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.  
You call us forth and send us out.  
In lush and barren places, you are with us.  
You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water  
and awaken your church once more.  
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.  
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,  
our Shepherd and Lamb,  
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

\*Gathering Hymn                      "Thine the Amen"                      **ELW #826**

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**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

Guide their feet as they move through life,  
protecting them from the pitfalls of darkness  
while they help to lead future generations  
into the warmth and promise of your light.  
We ask this blessing upon you,  
In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**AMEN!**

Let us congratulate the graduates !!

**Sending**  
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.^

\*Benediction

Sending Hymn                      "You Are Mine"                      **ELW # 581**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**THOSE SERVING TODAY**

Ministers: All God's People, Pastor: Dennis Hallemeier; Organist:  
Nalani Bever; Reader: Leonard Arndt; Altar: Arlis & Larry Ballwahn

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

LuAnn Bever-Denter, Florence Dougherty, Darlene Babbitt,  
Sacia Morris, John Acker, Lois Reineke, Judy Bever, Wynn Liersch,  
Gail Nastali, Carol Birkholz.

**IN THE MILITARY**

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Seth Tormoen, Danelle Dougherty,  
Robert Cale, Matthew Dutton.

W-ELCA Rep:

Remembering that we are always in God's hands and covered with God's love, we present this quilt to you as you graduate.

Before you were even formed, God knew you.

While in your Mother's womb, God named you.

At your birth, God's breath filled you with life.

Today we celebrate what you have become at this moment in time.

Council President: Presentation of St. Paul's Scholarship

### **Colossians 1:9-12**

May God grant You spiritual wisdom and understanding so that you may be able to see things from a spiritual point of view, and so that Your life may be worthy of God, and pleasing to Him.

And may you bear fruit in all that you do, and continue to grow in your understanding of who God is.

And may God give you the strength you need to endure whatever comes with patience and even joy, always giving thanks to God who, through Jesus Christ, has given you new life.

### **Blessing of Graduates**

And so we pray,

God of our beginnings,

We thank you for the gifts of these graduates;  
their excitement, their awesome wonder and curiosity,  
their open speech and encouraging words.

Their contributions have blessed and challenged us,  
and we have become a richer  
and more diverse community because of them.

As they step forward into the world that awaits,  
comfort their fears with the full knowledge of your divine presence.

Strengthen their resolve to walk in the footsteps of Jesus  
as a modern-day disciple in a world that needs his spirit.

P: For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

### **\*Prayer of the Day**

**O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Word**

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

### **First Reading**

*In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.*

### **Acts 11:1-18**

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup>But I replied,

'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup>But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup>This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup>At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup>He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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

### Psalm 148

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise the LORD, all you angels;  
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they were created,

<sup>6</sup>**who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

P: Here is food and drink for the journey.  
Take and be filled.

Distribution

*Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.*

Lamb of God

ELW p. 154

### Prayer after Communion

**We give you thanks, generous God,  
for in this bread and cup  
we have tasted the new heaven and earth  
where hunger and thirst are no more.  
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,  
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

### Blessing of Graduates and Scholarship Presentation

We invite the graduates along with their parents to the front of the church.

Bryce Gruen, son of Mark and Sarah Gruen  
Madelyn Gruen, daughter of David and Jennifer Gruen  
Thadyn Conner, son of Ryan and Rachel Conner  
Deacon Erdman, son of Hank Erdman and Sarah Culpitt  
Gracie Brandau, daughter of Daniel Brandau and Becky Hahn  
Brady Zimmerman, son of Jamie Zimmerman and the late  
Brad Zimmerman  
Franklin Wildes, son of Tina Wildes and Sam Wildes

P: In Galatians 3:26-27 we hear:

"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

(God, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.)

**OFFERING**

*Offering plates are located in the Narthex as you  
enter and exit the church.*

**Offering Prayer**

Living God,  
**you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together  
in your peaceable reign,  
and you welcome us all at your table.  
Reach out to us through this meal,  
and show us your wounded and risen body,  
that we may be nourished and believe  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

**Meal**  
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ^

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

ELW p. 152

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

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**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution

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

<sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing God’s will;**

<sup>9</sup>mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup>**wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds;**

<sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup>**young men and maidens,  
old and young together.**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over  
earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and  
praise for all faithful servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near  
the LORD. Hallelujah!**

**Second Reading**

*John’s vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has  
dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the  
tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new  
heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.*

**Revelation 21:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first  
earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy  
city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,  
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice  
from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

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### **GOSPEL READING**

*After washing the disciples’ feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus’ community.*

**John 13:31-35**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

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

**Sermon**

Reverend Dennis Hallemeier

**Hymn**

“We Are Called”

**ELW #720**

### **\*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.**