



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 19, 2019
**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 Lord is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today the Lord Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

Holy Baptism

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Baptismal Sponsors: We present Gideon Cruz Young for baptism.

P: Makayla, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Gideon baptized into Christ?

M: I do.

P: As you bring Gideon to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with Gideon among God's faithful people,
bring Gideon to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach Gideon the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in Gideon's hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture Gideon in faith and prayer,
so that Gideon may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

P: Makayla, do you promise to help Gideon grow in the Christian faith and life?

M: I do.

P: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Gideon in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

S: I do.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Gideon and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

C: We do.

*(The assembly stands and joins in the Profession of Faith)

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: I believe in the Holy Spirit,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

You are invited to celebrate the baptism of Gideon Young, confirmation of Katie Gruen, and graduation of Avery Arndt with a time of fellowship in the church basement immediately following today's service.

Don't forget we begin our summer worship time next week. Worship time will be 9:00 AM.

We are having a meeting of all those who can volunteer to help with Vacation Bible School on Thursday, June 6, at 7:00 PM in St. Paul's Fellowship Hall. Please mark your calendar.

Vacation Bible School will be held on Sunday, July 7 - Thursday, July 11. This is a combined VBS with The Norwalk Methodist Church and Peace Lutheran. Church in Tomah. All children of the churches, those children related to the members of the churches, as well as children in the community are invited and welcome to attend.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

The Tomah Community will host a Feed My Starving Children Mobile Food Pack on July 12-13. This is the fifth time FMSC has come to Tomah. The success of hosting the Mobile Food Pack depends on two things: donations before the event and volunteers during the event.

During the two days of the pack, about 500 volunteers will be needed (100 for each two-hour shift). Volunteer registration will begin the first week of June.

Approximately \$80.00 will feed one child for a year. If you would like to make a donation make your check payable to "Feed My Starving Children" and write "Tomah Area MobilePack Event #1907-085AU" in the memo line of your check.

We are planning to participate with other Wilton-Norwalk area churches at the event. We will coordinate a two-hour shift for those interested in volunteering. Look for more information in the weeks to come.

Helen and Evan Summerfield, Linda Bauer, Linda Finnigan, Bob Sullivan, Lois Schultz, Stuart Thayer, Becky Smith, Ian Hefner, Florence Krause, Steve Zirk, Judy Bever, Al Strazdin, Barb Brown, Drew Thurston, Tracy Dechant, Eleanor Spohn, Louie Voltz

Calendar For May 20 – May 27

Sun., May 26	Worship	9:00 AM
Mon., May 27	Memorial Day	
	American Legion @ Lutheran Cemetery	10:00 AM

**the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BAPTISM

Gideon Cruz Young, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

**C: Blessed be God, the source of all life,
the word of salvation,
the spirit of mercy.**

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal

life. Sustain Gideon with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

P: Gideon, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: Amen

Council President, Dan Buchholz:

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me

Will have the light of life. (Presentation of Candle and Certificates)

Presentation of quilt by Arlis Ballwahn, W-ELCA representative

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and
redeeming word to all the world.**

Special Music

"Borning Cry"

Austin, Darrick, and Ethan Hendricks

***GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: 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.

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.

P: For this holy house,

We thank you for the gifts of this graduate;
his excitement, his awesome wonder and curiosity,
his open speech and encouraging words.
His contributions have blessed and challenged us,
and we have become a richer
and more diverse community because of him.

As he steps forward into the world that awaits,
comfort his fears with the full knowledge of your divine presence.
Strengthen his resolve to walk in the footsteps of Jesus
as a modern-day disciple in a world that needs his spirit.

Guide his feet as he moves through life,
protecting him from the pitfalls of darkness
while he helps 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 Avery!

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"We Are Called"

ELW # 720

Dismissal:

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

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People Pastor: Cathleen Morris Organist: Nalani Bever

Greeters: Carolyn Dougherty and Kathy Cale Reader: Justin Arndt

Altar: Anita Steinke and Julie Acker Communion Server: Kathy Cale

Ushers: Leonard Arndt, Jerry Von Haden Greg Bever, Steve Brandau, Sr.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Katie Wallace, Shirley Meranti, Ron Clark, Carol Osteboe, Lorayne Denter, Ed Bauer,

Blessing of Graduate

Pastor: In Galatians 3 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.”

-Galatians 3:26-27

Arlis: Remembering that we are always in God’s hands and covered with God’s love, we present this quilt to you as you graduate.
(hand quilt to parents)

Pastor: Parents, we invite you to wrap Avery in his quilt.

Arlis: 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.

Pastor: Let us bless Avery. You’re invited to place a hand on his shoulder or raise your hand as a sign of blessing. Let us pray...

May God, who has begun a good work within you,
continue that work until the day when Christ Jesus returns.

May your love overflow more and more;
may you continue to grow in knowledge and understanding,
so that you can clearly discern what really matters,
and so that you may stand pure and blameless before God.

The God who calls you is faithful, loving and merciful.
As God walks with you on this next step in life, go in peace. Amen.

and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

***Canticle of Praise**

“This is the Feast”

ELW p.149

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

FIRST READING

In defense of his earlier baptism of pagan 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’ own testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

A reading from Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the

circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵“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. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰This happened three times;

then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The 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. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If 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?" ¹⁸When 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

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

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

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

⁴**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,

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

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

⁹mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to our Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

ELW p.153

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

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

Lord's Prayer

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.

Distribution

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

"Lamb of God"

ELW p. 154

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Living God,
you have greeted us in our brokenness
and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us.
Risen to new life with you,
send us now to bear your healing love
into the wounded world,
in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

SENDING

(We invite Avery, his parents, and sponsors to come to the front of church)

P: People of God, do you promise to support our sister and pray for her in her life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in Katie the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Dan: Let us rejoice with our sister in Christ. (Presentation of Gift)

**C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**)

***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us show signs of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

*Offertory Hymn

"Create in Me"

ELW #186

*Offertory Prayer

Risen One,

**as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore,
meet us now in this meal.**

**Nourish us to follow you,
using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary,
and all for your love's sake.**

Amen.

¹²**young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

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

¹⁴**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.

A reading from Revelation 21:1-6

¹I 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. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And 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;

⁴he 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."

⁵And 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." ⁶Then 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"

ELW p. 151

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.

The gospel according to John 13:31-35

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little 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.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By 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

*Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" **ELW #631**

(We invite Katie, her parents, and sponsors to come to the front of the church.)

Affirmation of Baptism

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Katie, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of her baptism.

S: We present Katie Ann Gruen who desires to make public affirmation of her baptism.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Katie, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called Katie to yourself, enlightened Katie with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished Katie in the community of faith.

Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.
C: Amen.

What My Bible Verse Means to Me

Katie Ann Gruen

Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

K: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Blessing: 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 Graduate

And so we pray,

God of our beginnings,