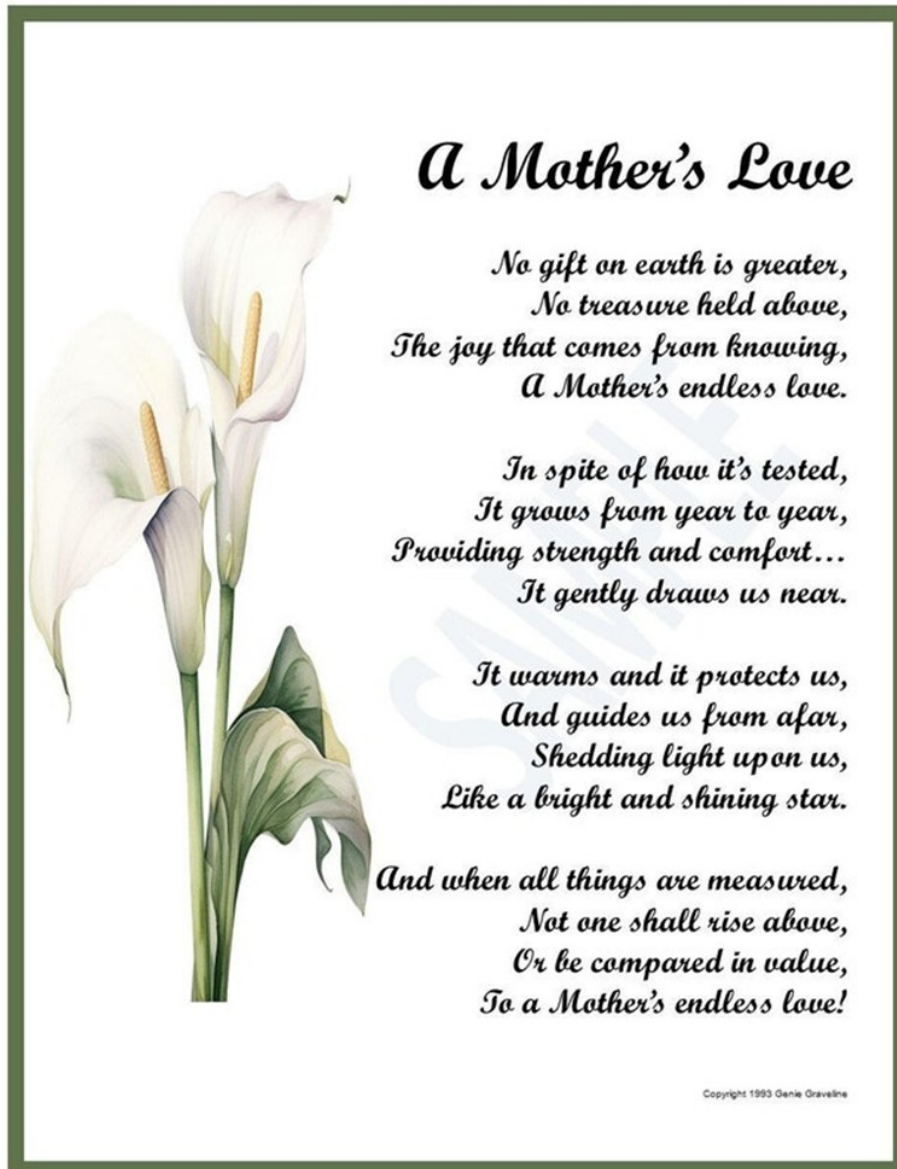


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton WI
Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2026
Inviting People to Journey with Christ's
Family In Spreading God's Love and Mercy

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

**Indicates people should stand as they are able.*
Welcome and Announcements

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

GATHERING

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

Hymn

"You Are Holy"

ELW#525

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the lamb!
Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.
We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.
We thank you for the waters that nourish us .
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels,
giving you honor and praise, now and forever.
Amen.

We ask that all members join the Women of ELCA and pray this prayer as
you rise in the morning, and as you prepare to retire each evening.

Lord, Jesus Christ, I bring to you:

Jada, Myles, & Conner Garske; Britain Hahn; Amara Brandau; Chase
Brandau; Avery Brueggen; Riley, Aria & Hudson Brueggen; Nolan &
Logan Buchholz; Thadyn & Ayawyn Conner; Vanessa & Elliott Ornes; Lailah
Eckes, Maevis Shock; Lena Ornes; Porter Sorenson; Josie Ornes; Brooklyn,
Madelyn, Kaylin, Emma, Bryce, Marah, Bria, Ava, Katie, & Benjamin Gruen;
Braylee Zimmerman; MaKenzie & Cooper Powell; Wesson & Arden Mayne;
Vanessa, Mia, & Brek Anderson; Carlee, Collin, & Camden Neidfeldt;
Morgan Speicher; Krista & Sierra Cook; Franklin & Douglas Wildes; Sophia,
Derek & Deacon Erdman; Kody Tormoen; Callie Fleming; Miranda, Daphne
& Linus Arndt; Emma Elder; Bryson Lamb, Elizabeth Wildes; Alaina &
Braxton Holthaus; Jayda Leis; David, Sam & Zachary Ross; Gannon &
Ellory Tormoen; Jase & Margo Picha; Watson and Duke Sebranek, Violet
Ford, Hunter and Jaxson Puhl; Eason Kelbel; Cole, Caleb & Connor
Redding; Luke and Joelle Kroeger; Peyton Oelson, Greyson Resop;
Dakotah Adams; Kendall Christopherson, Hudson Birkholz; Alayna, Alivia &
Levi Wyttenbach; Brooke, Claire, Grace & Bree Olson; Dominic Young;
Avilynn McNamer; Ayla Arndt; Lainey Myers; Rylan and Tucker McCarthy;
Brynlee Jones.

That your spirit will dwell with them according to your will. That they will
grow in the knowledge of you and know that they are dearly loved by you. I
pray that you will protect them from deception by the evil one and all his
darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and
discerning what direction you have in mind for them. I also pray for children
throughout the world, that you would keep them in your care.
In Jesus name I pray.
Amen

Prayer after Communion

God blesses us and sends us out in mission to the world.

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
And the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
Bless you now an forever.
Amen.

Hymn **“Now Thank We All Our God”** **ELW #840**

Go in peace. Praise he Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Ministers: All God's People; Synod Authorized Minister: Karen Sparling; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Leonard Arndt; Acolytes: Confirmation Students

Linda, Jeremy Munson, Gordy O'Rourke, Kristy Gwin Solovey, Marilyn O'Rourke, Larry Arndt, Nick Evans, Collin Niedfeldt, Mark Drews, Carol Lydon Fronk, Brian, Ben Bender, Jeff Bruce, Darlene Diekrager, Jack Arndt, Diane Hornburger, Mike Escutia, Daniel Paulson, Marie Jacobson, Rick Brandau, Lenora Martin, Jenny Simpson Erickson, Wayne Connors

Dear Lord Jesus;

We lift to you our children and grandchildren. We ask that your spirit will dwell with them according to your will, that they will grow in the knowledge of you and know they are dearly loved by you. We pray for your protection from deception by the evil one and his darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and discerning your direction for them. We also pray for all children throughout the world that you will keep them in your loving care. In Jesus name we pray.

AMEN

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

Mother's Day Poem and Distribution of Roses

Hymn **“Come, Thou Almighty King”** **ELW #408**

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

A reading from Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you

worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent,³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p. 207

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heav’n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, (receive our prayer.)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Offertory Hymn"Give Thanks"Back of Hymnal

Prayer after Offering

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also 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.

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,

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**
¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**
¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.
¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**
¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;
¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**
²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

SECOND LESSON

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

A reading from 1Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to

shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.205

GOSPEL

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

The holy gospel according to John 14:15-21

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you

the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you will also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

Sermon

Karen Sparling
Synod Authorized Minister

Hymn

“Jesus Loves Me!”

ELW #595

***APOSTLE’S CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
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.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**