



**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**APRIL 28, 2024 – 8:30 AM**

### **Hymnal References:**

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship (Green Hymnal)  
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Hymnal)

*A limited number of ELW red hymnals may be found at the sanctuary doors on the usher tables. On occasions when hymns are from other resources, a limited number of printed sheet music may be found in a folder on the usher tables. Please return the red hymnals and/or sheet music to the folder at the conclusion of worship. Thank you!*

*You are invited to give your gifts and tithes to the Lord online through [PushPay](#). This can be done through the church website or the church mobile phone app.*

*Please register your worship attendance via yellow insert, the online “[yellow slip](#)” found on the church [website](#) (click on “[Worship with Us](#),” just below the live stream) or on the mobile phone app (click “Connect” then “Worship Check-In”).*

### **Receiving Holy Communion**

*Holy Communion is a Christian Sacrament – a Holy Rite where we receive God’s divine grace and presence – practiced to respond to God’s invitation to believe and trust in him. All those who would like to receive this Sacrament, or a blessing, are encouraged to approach the altar at the usher’s instructions with faith, humility, and reverence. Please follow the usher’s instructions to the altar rail. Those receiving communion should hold out their hand as the ministers come by with the bread and wine. Those receiving a blessing should fold their hands under the railing. **Gluten-free wafers** are available in the round container on the bread plate and should be taken by those who require them. For those who prefer **grape juice** rather than wine: the center ring of glasses on the communion tray is white grape juice.*

***For those who are not able to come to the railing, or who are not yet comfortable with coming to the railing, simply remain in your pew, and a communion assistant will come to you with the tray of elements for you to take while in your seat.***

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Prelude: “The Angel’s Song” arr. Stanford

Welcome and Announcements

Meditation

*We pause for a moment of silent meditation.  
Please stand as you are able.*

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Risen Christ, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Congregation: Amen.**

*We observe a moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.*

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ who overcame the grave, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

*(Ephesians 2:4-6)*

**Congregation: Amen.**

Pastor: The peace of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you!**

*Share the peace of the Lord with one another.*

## "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

ELW #836 / LBW #551

text by Henry van Dyke, Public Domain

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

### Praise and Proclamation

Pastor: Alleluia, Christ has risen!

**Congregation: Christ has risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Pastor: Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

*(1 Corinthians 15:20-22)*

**Congregation: Christ has risen indeed, Alleluia!**

# Hymn of Praise



(ALL) This is the feast \_\_\_ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!



(WOMEN) Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



(ALL) This is the feast \_\_\_ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!



(MEN) Pow - er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and hon - or, \_\_\_ bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



(ALL) This is the feast \_\_\_ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!



(WOMEN) Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing, hon - nor, glo - ry and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er A men.



(ALL) This is the feast \_\_\_ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!



(MEN) For the Lamb \_\_\_ who was slain has be - gun his \_\_\_ reign. Al-le - lu - ia.



(ALL) This is the feast \_\_\_ of vic-tor-ry for our God Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia!

Prayer of the Day (*in unison*)

Pastor: Let us pray.

**Congregation: O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**First Reading:** Deuteronomy 10:12-22 (*NIV*)

<sup>12</sup> And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, <sup>13</sup> and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

<sup>14</sup> To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. <sup>15</sup> Yet the LORD set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations—as it is today. <sup>16</sup> Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. <sup>17</sup> For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. <sup>18</sup> He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. <sup>19</sup> And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. <sup>20</sup> Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. <sup>21</sup> He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes. <sup>22</sup> Your ancestors who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

**Second Reading:** Romans 12:1-12 (*NIV*)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is

teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

<sup>9</sup> Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. <sup>11</sup> Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Lector: The word of God for the people of God.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Gospel Acclamation

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

*Please remain standing, as you are able*

### **Gospel Reading:** Matthew 25:31-46 (NIV)

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

<sup>34</sup> “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

<sup>37</sup> “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

<sup>40</sup> “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

<sup>41</sup>“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

<sup>44</sup>“They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

<sup>45</sup>“He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

<sup>46</sup>“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**Congregation: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon: “Called to Serve and Love”**

**Amanda Daniels**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”**

ELW #864 / LBW #549

text by Henry F. Lyte, Public Domain

Verses 1-2

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favor to our forebears in distress.  
Praise him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!

*Please remain standing, if you are able.*



## Rite of Covenant Membership

Pastor: The following people desire to profess their faith in Christ Jesus and covenant in membership as partners in the Gospel of Jesus Christ at Richland Lutheran Church. (As your name is called, please come forward to the altar rail).

- Greg and Kim Ward
- Mark and Maile Hansen

Friends, we are blessed to have you stand here today and thank God for your desire to follow him and partner with us as together we serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Having heard the Good News of God's love and grace through the person and work of His Son Jesus Christ I ask you now to profess your faith in Him and your confidence in salvation through Him.

Do you believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as is expressed in God's Word and professed in the Apostle's and Nicene Creeds? If so, answer: I do.

**New Members: I do**

Pastor: Do you trust in Jesus Christ alone as your personal Savior and Lord? If so, answer: I do.

**New Members: I do**

Pastor: Do you intend to the best of your ability and with God's help, to make diligent use of means of grace by regularly attending worship, studying the Bible, receiving Holy Communion, and coming to God in prayer? If so, answer: I do, with God's help.

**New Members: I do, with God's help**

Pastor: Do you intend to the best of your ability and with God's help, to live a Christian life in accordance with the Bible, to bear witness to Jesus Christ in your words and actions, and to support the work of this congregation as biblical stewards? If so, answer: I do, with God's help.

**New Members: I do, with God's help**

Pastor: Do you intend to the best of your ability and with God's help, to partner with Richland Lutheran Church in the Gospel of Jesus Christ to fulfill its God given vision and mission to "make disciples who worship, grow, serve and steward?" If so, answer: I do, with God's help.

**New Members: I do, with God's help**

Pastor: Do you intend to the best of your ability and with God's help, to participate in the ministry of the church by being a functioning and unifying member, not letting your church be about your preferences and desires, praying for your church leaders, leading your family to be healthy church members, and treasuring church membership as a gift? If so, answer: I do, with God's help.

**New Members: I do, with God's help**

Pastor: And you, Richland Lutheran Church, do you intend to the best of your ability and with God's help, to covenant with these in partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to encourage and support them as they follow Christ in faith and obedience, to lift them up and exhort them to love and good deeds, to receive them as fellow servants of Jesus Christ in relationship and ministry? If so, answer: We do, with God's help.

**Congregation: We do, with God's help**

Pastor: Let us pray... *(Pastor offers extemporaneous prayer for the New Members)*

Having now joined together in covenant partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ we are "confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." We welcome you into the membership of Richland Lutheran Church as fellow followers and servants of Jesus Christ.

Profession of Faith - The 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

### Prayers of the Church and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor: God has said, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven...now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." We now pray for God's people and all others according to their need. (*2 Chronicles 7:14-15*)

*The minister will conclude each prayer, "Lord, in your mercy," Congregation will respond: "Hear our prayer."*

Minister: We close our prayer together praying as our Lord Jesus taught us...

**Congregation: 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.**

*Please be seated.*

### Offering

Pastor: As we give, or recall what we have already given, help us to remember we do not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. Words of grace, words of truth, words of life. Bless us and these our gifts through Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Tithes and offerings may be given in the wood offering box located just outside the sanctuary doors in the narthex, or via the online giving portal found on the website and RLC smartphone app.*

Offertory Song: "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God" arr. Bach

*Please stand as you are able.*

## The Offertory



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## Offertory Prayer

Pastor: Gracious God,

**Congregation:** We give to you generously and willing to share with those in need. Help us to put our hope in you, not in wealth. For you richly provide us with everything for our enjoyment. Amen. (*c.f. 1 Timothy 6:17-19*)

## The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

**Congregation: We lift them to the Lord!**

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

**Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right and salutary ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



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.

## Eucharistic Prayer

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. (*Luke 22:17-20*)

## Invitation to Communion

Pastor: Feed us now, Heavenly Father, the bread of life, come down from heaven, which gives life to the world, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Congregation: Amen, come Lord Jesus.** (*John 6:32-35*)

*Please be seated.*

## The Distribution of the Sacrament

☐ 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.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. A square symbol (☐) is placed at the beginning of the first line of lyrics. The final note of the fourth staff is a double bar line.

### **"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"**

ELW #623 / LBW 327

text by Augustus M. Toplady, Public Domain

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

## "Let Us Break Bread Together"

ELW #471 / LBW #212

text Negro Spiritual, Public Domain

Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

### Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: We were once alienated from you God, and enemies. But now we have been reconciled by Christ's physical body through death. Presented to you holy, without blemish and free from accusation. Enable us, by this your body and blood, to continue in faith, established and firm, not moving from the hope held in the Gospel.

*(c.f. Colossians 1:21-23)*

**Congregation: Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Benediction

Pastor: May you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever. *(2 Peter 3:18)*

**Congregation: Amen.**

**“Lead On, O King Eternal!”**

ELW #805 / LBW #495

text by Ernest W. Shurtleff, Public Domain

Verses 1-2-3

Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come;  
Henceforth in fields of conquest your tents will be our home.  
Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong;  
And now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
And holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;  
For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums,  
But deeds of love and mercy the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears,  
For gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears.  
Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light;  
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!

Sending

Pastor: Go in God's peace. Shalom!

**Congregation: Shalom!**

The Postlude: “Lead On, O King Eternal” arr. Bender/Burkhardt









## Worship Assistants - Sunday, April 28, 2024 - 8:30 AM

Preacher:	Amanda Daniels
Liturgist:	Pastor Steve Ernst
Assisting Minister:	Pastor Steve Ernst
Acolytes	Soren Miles Trell Miles
Lector:	Lisa Frislie
Communion Assistants:	Pastor Steve Ernst Amanda Daniels Kathy Killand **** ****
Lead Ushers:	Jim Peterson Gary Weible
Assistant Ushers:	Fred Ball Marilyn Ball
Communion Prep (before 8:30)	Vicki Jordheim
Communion Clean Up 8:30/Prep 11:00	Vicki Jordheim
Projection Technician:	Lori Maier
GNMM Technical Team:	Drew Snyder Adam Pilger
Recycle:	Kathy Snyder
Safety Hosts	David Curran
Cashiers: (Monday)	Joanne Woehle Norene Eggers-Erlandson