



Welcome to Worship at Adoration! If you're visiting with us or new to our congregation, please introduce yourself to Pastor Matt. We are glad you're here!

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.

We are honored to welcome Bishop Elias Kitoi, Diocese of Meru, who joins us in worship today. Bp. Elias has long been connected in the partnership between Adoration and Mulala and is in the United States visiting family. This Sunday, congregations in the Diocese of Meru and the Greater Milwaukee Synod will be praying for one another.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Today's worship service uses our red hymnal,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

Prelude

Barbara Regent

Welcome and Announcements

The Ringing of the Chimes

Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.
You are invited to stand.*

A "Creative" Call to Praise and Worship

Adapted from Psalm 148, Thanksgiving for Baptism, and Kiswahili Invocation

Hear the words of Christ, who says to us, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me."

**Let us begin our worship in the Name of God † the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Amen**

Praise the Lord! Across the heavens, from the heights, all you angels and heavenly beings: Sing praise! Sing Praise!

Sun and moon, glittering stars: Sing Praise! Sing Praise

Highest heavens, rain clouds: Sing Praise! Sing Praise!

**Praise God's name!—The name of the one whose word called
you forth and fixed you in place forever by eternal decree.**

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing.

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.



Let there be praise from the depths of the earth, from the creatures of the deep. Fire and hail; snow and mist; storms, winds; mountains, hills; fruit trees and cedars; wild beasts and tame; snakes and birds;

Princes and judges; rulers and subjects; men, women; old and young; everyone and everything in between;

Let us pray: **God, your splendor is above the earth and above the heavens. Give strength to all nations. Give glory to the faithful. Breathe upon the waters and awaken your church to praise 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. Alleluia! Amen**

**Gathering Hymn *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!*
ELW #364**

Greeting

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.

Canticle of Praise: “Bwana Asifiwe” –Chancel Choir

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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

Please be seated.

Word

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



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.



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.

First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.”

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson: John 13:31-35

A reading from the Gospel of John.

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him,

Young people are called forward for an age-specific reflection.



In the season of Easter, we will flip the order of our bible passages and hear sermons on the readings appointed from the Book of Revelation. The book of Revelation, written sometime in the late first century, applied traditional Jewish apocalyptic imagery to the situation of the early Christian church at a time when the Roman Empire commanded that emperors be worshiped as divine. Apocalyptic visions predict a cataclysmic final battle at which God will finally overcome evil. These visions are tied to “John,” which means “beloved of God,” and may be invoking the authority of the John in the original Jesus movement. The seven spirits are angels that oversee the seven churches to which the Revelation is addressed.

In apocalyptic literature, the present situation is so intractable that God will have to intervene to destroy evil and establish a new and just world order. Thus in the conclusion of the book of Revelation, when God has destroyed all evil and the final judgment is complete, God recreates the cosmos. The sea, that symbol of danger and the home of the mythical monster, is eliminated. Perfection is described as a city in which God and humankind reside together. God, who created at the beginning, now creates at the end.

“How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.”²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one.”

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Time

A Prayer for Children

You are invited to stand.

Acclamation

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

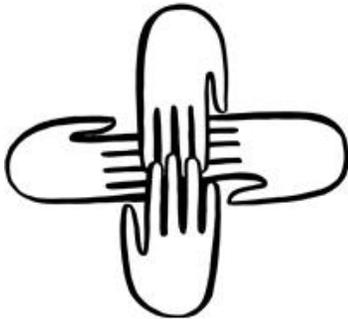
Preaching Scripture: Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from The Revelation to John, the twenty-first chapter.

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

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. Our hope is in God, who promises to make all things new for the believing community. God's promises are always realized both now and, in the future, and so in some ways we are already in the new Jerusalem, one with God, living without sorrow and death.



Today our creed and blessing are taken from the Masai Creed, used in many Tanzanian churches, and prayers shared by the Lutheran World Federation for congregations in partnership.

passed away.”⁵ 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.”⁶ 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.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Rejoice, For Christ is King* **ELW #430**

You are invited to stand.

Thanksgiving & Blessing for Global Partnership

Let us give thanks for the covenant and partnership between Adoration Lutheran Church and the Greater Milwaukee Synod and the Mulala Parish in the Diocese of Meru of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania.

Masai Creed (Based on the Apostles' Creed)

We believe in the one High God, who out of love, created the beautiful world and everything good in it. God created humankind and wants God's creatures to be happy in the world. God loves the world and every nation and tribe on the Earth.

We have known this High God in darkness, and now we know Him in the light. God promised in the book of His word, the Bible, that He would save the world and all the nations and tribes.

We believe that God made good this promise by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, a man in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and humans, showing the meaning of religion is love. He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross, and died.

He lay buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, He rose from the grave. He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.

We believe that all our sins are forgiven through Christ. All who have faith in Him must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live the rules of love and share the bread together in love, to announce the Good News to others until Jesus comes again. We are waiting for Him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.

Prayers for Partnership

We give you thanks, O God, for the mutual gifts we share in spreading God's mission.

Bless our congregations with the gifts of caring and proclamation. Strengthen our mutuality, trust, and interdependence, that we would grow deeper in our shared identity as the one body of Christ. **Amen.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the ways our partnership helps us see the world more broadly.

Send your spirit of inclusivity, and help our churches notice the excluded, the outcast, and the exile. Push us beyond the boundaries and encourage us to seek reconciliation, that we might show mercy to all in need. **Amen.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the vulnerability and boldness of our partnership.

Help us follow Jesus' example of openness, self-emptying, and honesty, that we might engage our partnerships with curiosity and an openness to the Spirit's turning. Tend to the places where our openness has led to pain and misunderstanding, trusting in your forgiveness. **Amen.**

We give you thanks, O God, for enlightening us to see our neighbors and siblings as partners in the gospel.

Empower us to notice the dynamics of power and privilege in our partnership. Center us on our humanity, our shared love of you and your Word, that we might seek equity and justice in our interactions. **Amen.**



We give you thanks, O God, for sustaining our partnership and our communities.

As we commit to continued relationship, send your Sustaining Spirit among our churches, that we tend not only to our needs, but to the needs of the environment, health of our communities, and the well-being of all your children. **Amen.**

Let us pray. **Gracious God, we thank you and ask your blessing on all the people who have shaped, nurtured, and grown the relationship we share with Mulala parish, that our relationships would continue to be strengthened by your Spirit. Amen.**

God the sower, you send your people out to plant the message of the gospel, and by the power of your Holy Spirit, your word does not return empty. Strengthen and bless our congregations as we seek to gather people into communities of faith and service, nourished by your word and sacraments, growing in faith, and testifying to your love in word and deed; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

**Partnership Offering Hymn: *Bind us Together, Lord*
WOV #748**

Refrain: Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Bind us Together, Lord, Bind us together, Lord; Bind us together in love.

(1) There is only one God. There is only one King.

There is only one Body. That is why we can sing: **Refrain**

(2) You are the family of God. You are the promise divine.

You are God's chosen desire, You are the glorious new wine.

Refrain

Prayers of Intercession

In this season of resurrection joy, let us offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and our world.



Let us pray...***We hold the following people in our prayers:***

Betty Wing
 Perry Buck
 Pat Koch
 Ruth Bauer
 John & Kathy Imp
 Lindsay Pelaez (niece of the Schmidt family)
 Akasha (Great-granddaughter of Joyce Weinert)
 Mary Binter Robinette (friend of the Regents)

We continue to pray for strength and recovery for:

Dick Voegeli
 Jan Rinderle
 Pat (Cousin of Donna Babilus)
 Joani Bettin
 Joyce Weinert
 Bob Bauer

We keep in our prayers:

Keith (Sandy Eigner's brother-in-law)
 Susan (Darlene Witkowiak's brother)
 Jeremy (nephew to Tom Nowakowski)
 Karen (Sandy Ringwall's sister)
 Caroline (Jill Lindberg's daughter)
 Scott & Debbie (family of Margaret Duris)
 Shelby and the Taylor Daniels Family (friends of Crystal Januchowski)

After each petition is read, name your specific prayers for the petition aloud or in the silence of your hearts.

Renewing God, the good news of your resurrection changed the world. We pray for the church.

Add your prayers for its leaders, mission, and unity.

Excite and inspire us to share your abundant life.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sustaining God, the earth abounds with signs of new life.

We pray for creation.

Name your prayers for the planet and all living things.

Nourish us so we can restore your awe-inspiring Creation.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sheltering Spirit, you enter into locked rooms and places filled with fear. We pray for the world: its nations and peoples.

Name your prayers for countries and conflicts and peoples.

Empower us to accompany all in turmoil throughout the world.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Encouraging God, you do a new thing among us. We pray for those who suffer in any way.

Name your prayers for healing and wholeness

Send us as your healing presence to places of hunger, pain, illness, or overwhelming sorrow.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Surprising God, you offer endless ways for us to delight in your grace. We pray for this community of faith.

Name your prayers for Adoration and our partners and the wider community.

Fill us with a sense of joy and wonder in exploring new paths of discipleship. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Resurrecting God, you make us alive in Christ. We pray for all the faithful witnesses who now rest in you.

Name those who have recently died and those grieving.

Plant the seeds of resurrection in the soil of our grief-filled hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**



*All are welcome at
Christ's table, and at
Adoration!*

*Jesus himself welcomes all
to the Lord's Supper.*



We offer to you these petitions and those we carry in our hearts, trusting in your abundant and ever-present mercy. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering

Offering Hymn *I Am Thanking Jesus (Asante Sana, Yesu)*

This Far By Faith #286



English I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing
Swahili A - san - te sa - na Ye - su, a - san - te sa - na Ye - su, a - san - te sa - na
Oji-vambo Tan - di tan - ga Ye - sus, tan - di tan - ga Ye - sus, tan - di tan - ga



Je - sus from my heart. I am thank - ing Je - sus,
Ye - su mo - yo - ni. A - san - te sa - na Ye - su, a -
Ye - sus mo - mu - ti - ma. Tan - di tan - ga Ye - sus,



I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing Je - sus from my heart.
san - te sa - na Ye - su, a - san - te sa - na Ye - su mo - yo - ni.
tan - di tan - ga Ye - sus, tan - di tan - ga Ye - sus mo - mu - ti - ma.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

You are invited to stand.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

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



Eucharistic Prayer

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.
In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross,
we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our
body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.

Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for
this earth.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it, 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 for
all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for
the remembrance of me.

Epiklesis (*Come, Holy Spirit*)

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:
The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you
embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of
the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body
and blood of Christ.

Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth.

Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise
you again: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

Amen, and amen. **Amen, and amen.**

**ON RECEIVING HOLY
COMMUNION**

You are invited to the Lord's Table by the Lord Jesus Christ himself. Therefore, Adoration Lutheran Church practices "Open Communion," which means we do not restrict anyone from receiving this grace-filled gift of God. Jesus loves everyone and welcomes everyone to his table of grace and peace. Gluten-free options are available.

We come forward to share in Holy Communion today. Please place used cups in the baskets on the end of the front pews.

You may choose to receive a wafer and a poured cup of wine or juice or a pre-sealed packet containing both a wafer and juice. Gluten-free wafers available by indicating your need to the server. All are welcome to come forth and receive a blessing.



The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, each in our native tongue:

*Baba yetu uliye mbinguni,
jina lako litukuzwe, ufalme wako uje,
mapenzi yako yatimizwe hapa duniani kama huko mbinguni.
Utupe leo riziki yetu,
utusamehe makosa yetu,
kama sisi tunavyowasamehe waliotukosea.
Usititie majaribuni, lakini utuokoe na yule mwovu.
Kwa kuwa ufalme ni wako,
na nguvo, na utukufu hata milele. Amen.*

***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.

Invitation to Communion

Communion

Hymn During Communion (instrumental only)

Let us Break Bread Together

ELW #471

You are invited to stand.

Post-Communion Blessing

Today's Lay Leaders

Lector: Bill Wakefield

Ushers: Jim & Wendy Haas

Altar Guild: Deanna Posig



Flowers today are given in honor of our outgoing Church Council Members: Larry Markiewicz, Sandy Eigner and Kathy Imp.



All copyrighted materials listed above are reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS017715 & printed and/or podcast/streamed by permission of OneLicense.net License #A-709652, CCLI Christian Copyright Licensing International # 3162482, and CCLI Christian Copyright Streaming License #CSPL190517. *Bind Us Together:* words © 1977 Kingsway Thankyou Music, admin. Integrity's Hosanna! Music in N., S., and C. America. *Asante Sana Yesu,* translation © 1986, arr © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. Liturgy elements from *sundaysandseasons.com*. Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Notes on the texts from "Resources for the Day," by Elaine Ramshaw, Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

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

Sending

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

Blessing

Hear these words of God's blessing and receive their power:

God the Father, in wondrous mystery, daily sustains the whole earth.

God the Son accompanies us through death and promises us new life.

God the Spirit empowers us to turn our Easter joy into service for others.

God, ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *We Are Marching in the Light of God*
ELW #866

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done. Thanks be to God.

Postlude***Adoration Lutheran Church***

A Congregation of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

3840 West Edgerton Avenue - Greenfield, WI 53221

Phone: 414.281.0414 www.adorationlc.com

adorationlutheran@gmail.com

The Rev. Matthew Schlake-Kruse, Pastor

Cell: (920) 484-8050 pastormattadoration@gmail.com

Barbara Regent, Worship Coordinator

Crystal A. Januchowski, Office Manager

Adoration is a Reconciling in Christ congregation, open and affirming to people of "all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions" or "LGBTQIA+." We strive that this can be a safe church space, especially for those who have been harmed by religion.



Adoration Lutheran Church, Greenfield Wisconsin