



Welcome to Worship at Adoration!  
If you're visiting with us or new to  
our congregation, please sign the  
welcome book at the entrance to  
the church.

Today we welcome Pastor Gail  
Brodersen-Heins, who leads us in  
worship today. Pastor Gail served  
at St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran  
in the 2000s and is a member at  
Ascension Lutheran Church.  
Pastor Gail and Pastor Matt were  
blessed to work together for a short  
time at St. Matthew's in  
Wauwatosa.

"Two men in white robes"  
acknowledge the great mystery that  
scripture and the creeds attest to:  
"He ascended into heaven." Jesus  
has been taken up from us,  
ascending into heaven, back to the  
right hand of the Father. Yet he is  
taken up for us, both as a pledge of  
our own future bodily resurrection  
following his, but also as a means  
of empowering our witness to him  
on earth amongst all sorrowing  
flesh. Having descended from  
heaven to take up our flesh,  
fulfilling scripture and  
accomplishing our salvation, Jesus  
now ascends back from whence he  
came, bearing our humanity into  
the presence of God forever. Our  
human flesh, in all its frailty and  
redeemed glory, is now before God  
forever! So no longer are things in  
heaven and life on earth far apart,  
and no longer is the suffering and  
weakness of our own flesh far off  
from God's own life. Thus, the two  
men ask the gawking disciples,  
"Why do you stand looking up  
toward heaven?" Just as God has  
put God's great power to work in  
raising up Christ above all things,  
so in this same ascension God has  
given us a glimpse of the heavenly  
glory that we too one day shall  
share in, and that we share in  
already within the church, "which  
is his body, the fullness of him who  
fills all in all." Confident that  
Christ has brought our humanity  
on high, we are unleashed to be his  
people in this world.

## The Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

### Prelude

Barbara Regent

### Welcome and Announcements

## Gathering

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

*You are invited to stand.*

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at 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.

*Water is poured into the font*

**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.

**Alleluia! Amen**

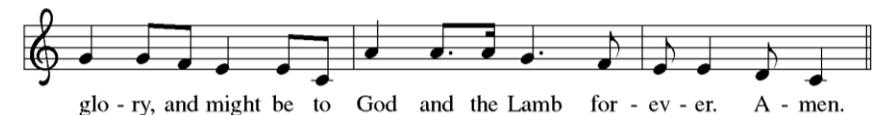
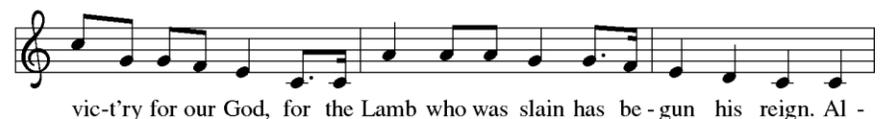
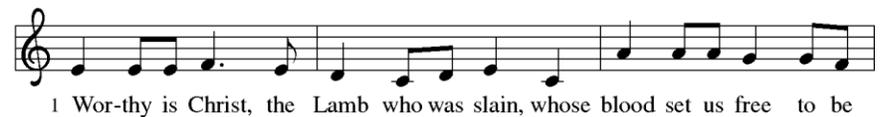
**Gathering Hymn *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus***  
**ELW #392**

**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 *This is the Feast (ELW Setting 8)***



*Continued on next page.*





### Prayer of the Day

Artist God, in the beginning you painted the world, the colors of the wind hovered over the waters, you made the rich diversity of the world with rainbow colors to make a home with humanity and all living things.

**We praise you for we are your handiwork, jars of clay made of dust, filled with your Living Breath, earth creatures in whom you have hidden great treasures, most importantly that we are made in your image. We are made to be in relationship with you, with others, and with the whole world.**

**We, too, are called to be like artists, noticing the beauty already in the world, beautifying the parts of the world that have faded because of sin, and recognizing ourselves, our neighbors, and strangers, as fearfully and wonderfully made. Receive our worship and our praise, from beginning to end, for in you we find new beginnings in our ends. Come, Jesus, as we worship with you, by grace and grace alone. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### Word

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

#### **First Reading: Acts 16:16-34**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>16</sup>One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup>While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." <sup>18</sup>She kept doing this for many days.

*Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.*



*Having heard the story of Paul and Silas freed from prison to convert the jailer, we sing together Psalm 97, which is also appointed for Christmas Morning. The Lord reigns, not the Roman Emperor. "The earth trembles," and we join Paul freed from prison in an earthquake. We pray that God will continue to "guard the lives of the saints."*

But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

<sup>19</sup>But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup>When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup>and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." <sup>22</sup>The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup>After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup>Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup>About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup>When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here."

<sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup>They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup>They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup>At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup>He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

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

### **Psalm 97 (Read responsively by location)**

Let us read Psalm 97 together, based upon our location  
*Lectern Side: The Lord rules: the earth is eager, joy touches distant lands. God is wrapped in thundercloud. Throned on justice, throned on right.*



*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit. This is the gospel text for Ascension Day, which is always 40 days after Easter.*



**Riser Side: Fire marches out in front and burns up all resistance. Overhead, God’s lightning flares, the earth shudders to see it.**

*L: Mountains melt down like wax before the Lord, the ruler of all.*

**R: Overhead, God’s justice resounds—a glory all people can see.**

*L: Idolators are the fools. They brag of empty gods. You gods, be subject to the Lord!*

**R: Zion hears, and is happy. The cities of Judah are joyful about your judgments, Lord.**

*L: You, Lord, You reach high in majesty above the earth. Far higher than any god.*

**R: Those who love the Lord hate evil; God shields their faithful lives and breaks the hold of the wicked.**

*L: Light will rain down on the just; Joy on the loyal heart.*

**R: Be joyous in the Lord God, you people of faith. Praise God’s holy name!**

## **Second Lesson: Luke 24:44-53**

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

<sup>44</sup>[Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

*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. This Sunday concludes our semi-continuous reading of the book of Revelation.*

*Although much of the book of Revelation dwells on the horrors of evil and the brutality of divine judgment, these concluding verses stress what Lutherans call “gospel”: what is coming is life with God, and Jesus is our opening to God. The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, “Come, Lord Jesus,” with all who respond to this invitation.*

*This passage is a reprise of several of the book’s themes— God reigns throughout time, the “eschaton” – God’s future is coming soon—and poetic images: the tree of life, the water of life, the city gates, the marriage of Christ to the church. Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. Jesus, who will come in the apocalypse to end the injustice under which the Christians are being persecuted, is both descendent from King David and is the root of the royal tree of life. The morning star, Venus, signals the approach of day. “Saint” here has its New Testament meaning: those who have been set apart by baptism into Christ and who thus live a godly life. Because of the horror of present and promised persecutions, the seer begs God for the fullness of heaven to arrive soon.*



*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 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

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

<sup>12</sup>“See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. <sup>13</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

<sup>14</sup>Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

<sup>16</sup>“It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

<sup>17</sup>The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”

And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

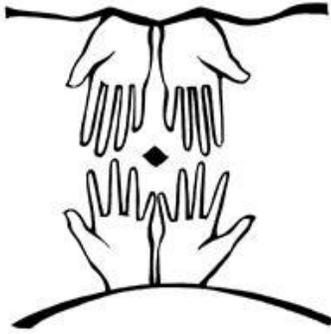
<sup>20</sup>The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

<sup>21</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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

**Sermon**

**Pastor Gail Brodersen-Heins**



*With a Heavy Heart...*

*We sadly announce the passing of Jim Goodwin. Jim passed away in the evening on Wednesday, May 25th. Please keep Judy and their loved ones in your thoughts and prayers.*



## **Hymn of the Day**     *Soon and Very Soon!*

**ELW #439**

*You are invited to stand.*

### **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.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

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

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

***For victims of the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas and for their loved ones...  
For all people, families, and communities affected by gun violence...***

***We hold the following people in our prayers:***

*Pat Koch; Ruth Bauer; Betty Wing; John & Kathy Imp; Ron Voegeli (son of Dick & JoAnn); Jackie (Jan Rinderle's niece)*

***We continue to pray for strength and recovery for:***

*Perry Buck; Dick Voegeli; Jan Rinderle; Pat (Cousin of Donna Babilus); Joani Bettin; Joyce Weinert; Bob Bauer; Lindsay Pelaez (niece of the Schmidt family); Akasha (Great-Granddaughter of Joyce Weinert)*

***We keep in our prayers:***

*Mary Binter Robinette (friend of the Regents), Keith (Sandy Eigner's brother-in-law), Susan (Darlene Witkowiak's daughter), 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)*



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.**

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.**

*Today we give our tithes and offerings by bringing them forth as we come to receive Communion.*

## *Meal*

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*You are invited to stand.*

## Preparation 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**



## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## The Proper Preface

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:





## Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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.**

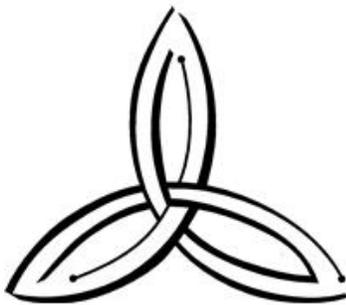
We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for  
 this earth.

## Words of Institution

### 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.



*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.*



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.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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.**

*Please be seated.*

### **Invitation to Communion**

#### **Lamb of God**

*Please wait to come forward for Holy Communion until we have completed singing the "Lamb of God."*

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.



*As we remember loved ones, especially those who died in military service on Memorial Day, we share in a prayer from the ELW Prayer Book for those in the Armed Services, a special resource created for Chaplains, military personnel, and veterans' groups.*



## Communion

**Hymn During Communion**  
**ELW #472 (instrumental only)**

*Eat this Bread*

*You are invited to stand.*

## Post-Communion Blessing

## 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.*

## A Prayer for Memorial Day

Let us pray. Eternal God, we give thanks for all those who have shown the greatest love by laying down their lives for others. We especially thank you for those in our military throughout history who have sacrificed their lives for their fellow citizens and for us who came after. As we remember their service, keep us mindful of all those for whom this day is a burden, and send your spirit of comfort to them.

Be present with all the women and men who are serving in the military today. Let them live for the peace known only from you. Help us to be worthy of their legacy, and keep us mindful of their service, that in all things we may live our lives in praise and thanksgiving to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

**Today's Lay Leaders**

Lector: Kathy Wakefield

Ushers: Bill & Kathy  
Wakefield

Altar Guild: Deanna Posig

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Today's flowers have been  
donated by  
Ted & Mardy Lazaris



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**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      *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*  
ELW#857**

**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*

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Crystal A. Januchowski, Office Manager

**Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

\*If you have a need that falls outside of these days/hours,  
please send an email or call the main number.\*

**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.**

