



# St. John's Lutheran Church

*Serving God and the ELCA  
in the Metropolitan New York Synod*

May 5, 2024

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

*We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.*

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### Prayer of the Day

**Pastor/Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**ALL** And also with you.

**Pastor/Leader:** Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for all of us, joys beyond understanding. Pour your love into our hearts, that we may share with everyone your promises, which exceed all that we could ever desire; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**ALL** Amen.

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### Today's Hymns for the 10:30 Worship Service

Prelude	<i>Fugue in D Major</i>	<i>William Selby</i>
Gathering Hymn	O God Beyond All Praising	ELW 880
Hymn of the Day	In Christ There Is No East or West	ELW 650
Offertory Anthem	<i>King of All Ages</i>	<i>Paul Isom</i>
Communion Hymn	Where Charity and Love Prevail	ELW 359
Sending Hymn	Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds	ELW 367
Postlude	<i>Laudation</i>	<i>Gilbert M. Martin</i>

<sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit took control of everyone who was listening. <sup>45</sup> Some Jewish followers of the Lord had come with Peter, and they were surprised that the Holy Spirit had been given to Gentiles. <sup>46</sup> Now they were hearing Gentiles speaking unknown languages and praising God.

Peter said, <sup>47</sup> “These Gentiles have been given the Holy Spirit, just as we have! I am certain that no one would dare stop us from baptizing them.” <sup>48</sup> Peter ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, and afterward Cornelius asked him to stay with them for a few days.

Pastor	The Word of the Lord.	... <i>OR</i> :	Leader	Word of God, Word of Life.
All	Thanks be to God.		All	Thanks be to God.

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who is truly confident that Jesus is the Christ, has been born of God— and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this: that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who knows that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Pastor	The Word of the Lord. ... <i>OR</i> :	Leader	Word of God, Word of Life.
All	Thanks be to God.	All	Thanks be to God.



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*gospel*

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**GOSPEL READING**

*New Revised Standard Version*

**John 15:9-17**

**9 AM Acclamation:**

Pastor     The Holy Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_ Chapter.  
All         **Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God, forever.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

**9 AM Response:**

Pastor     The Gospel of the Lord.  
All         **Praise be to Christ, praise be to Christ, praise be to Christ, forever.**



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