

Sixth Sunday of Easter



May 5, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church... Jesus says, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love” (John 15:9, NRSV). One way we do that is to gather in Christian community. Welcome, beloved ones!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” ELW #836

INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

This Sunday’s image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve. 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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P Beloved, we are called to love one another, because love is from God.

C **God’s love is poured in us from our birth.**

P We are called to extend the love of God to all people.

C **God’s love is taught to us through the witness of God’s faithful people.**

P We are called to proclaim God’s love in all that we say and do.

C **In all creation, in all our relationships, may God’s love be made known. Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P We have been called to follow Christ by obeying his one commandment: that we love one another as he has loved us. *John 15:12*
Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

C **Loving God, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.** *John 15:11*

P Christ loves us so much that he laid down his life for us and calls us his friends. *John 15:13*
If we can forgive our friends, how much more does Christ forgive us! Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR

SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENT AND TEACHER RECOGNITION

CHILDREN'S TIME

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

LESSON: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

PSALM 98

L ¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

C ²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

L ³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

C ⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

L ⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

C ⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

L ⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

C ⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy
before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

L ⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

LESSON: 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

ELW #631

APOSTLES' CREED

page 105

C **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 Pilot,
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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living
Lord.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE "For the Fruit of All Creation" (vs. 1) ELW #679

****OFFERING PRAYER**

P Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends and to know your will
in the world. Therefore we pray in Jesus' name that these offerings spread your
love near and far.

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

page 154

C **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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS	"Beautiful Savior"	ELW #838
	"In Christ There Is No East or West"	ELW #650
	"Let Us Break Bread Together"	ELW #471

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Shepherd God,
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Jesus speaks again today:

C **“This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I have loved you.”**

P Go in joy and faithfulness, knowing that you,
the chosen friends of Jesus, abide in Jesus’ love
and bear the gift of this love to the world.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN “Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing” (vs. 1, 3 & 5) ELW #389

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

** Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word*[®] *Worship Companion*. Copyright 2012.

Except as noted, the liturgy is reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Copyright © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS012988.

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS012988.