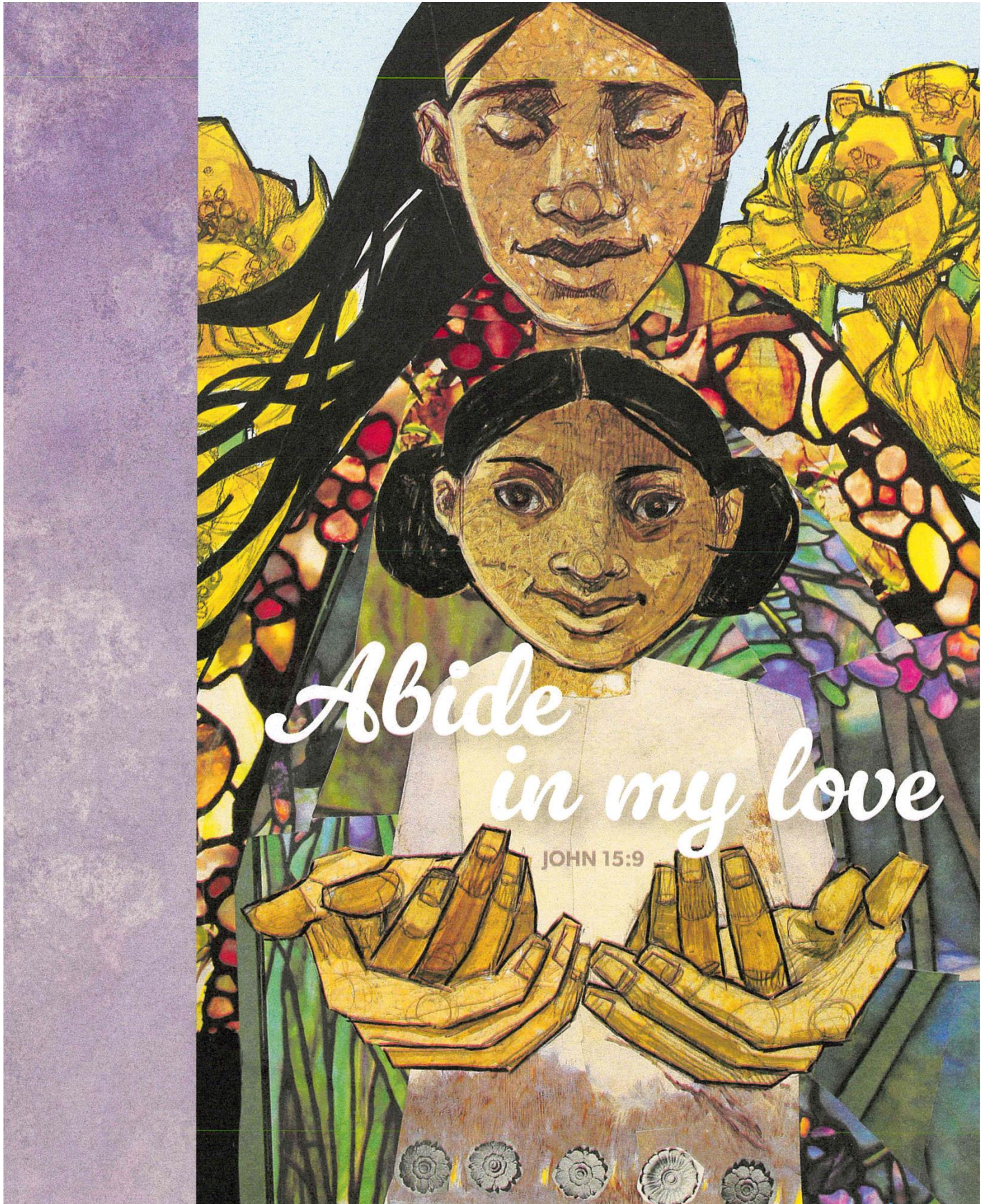


9:00 a.m.

WEB BULLETIN

May 5, 2024



*Abide
in my love*

JOHN 15:9

Morning Star Lutheran Church
Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m.

12509 Idlewild Road

704.847.4502

Office hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

May 5, 2024

Matthews NC 28105

www.mslcnc.org

WELCOME! We extend a heartfelt welcome to those who are single, divorced, married, widowed, LGBTQIA+, nonbinary or straight. We welcome you regardless of your skin tone, hair color, or the language spoken at your kitchen table. We work to be pro-community, anti-racist, pro-relationship, and pro-Jesus; which means you are welcome here. MSLC is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

INTRODUCTION: 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; 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.

Page numbers are found in the front of the cranberry hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

Hymn #s are found in the back of the cranberry hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS are available from an usher.

*The assembly is invited to respond with the words in **bold print**.*

+ *Standing as able*

* *Kneeling or sitting*

Morning Star Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral land of the Catawba Nation, "Yę iswą" (the people of the river). We acknowledge and honor our indigenous siblings as the first to love, pray, grow, celebrate, drum and sing upon this land we now occupy. We open our hearts to the work of healing and justice for all indigenous peoples.

The music of the prelude is a time to prepare silently for the worship of Almighty God, the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

Welcoming Scripture Sentences

Prelude

Beautiful Savior
Based on *ELW* #838

setting, Robert Hobby

Welcome

+Confession and Forgiveness p. 211

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Almighty God, 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. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, sitting or kneeling as able.

*Gracious God,


have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

+Gathering Hymn #821

Shout to the Lord (sung twice)


SHOUT TO THE LORD




My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.



All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of your might - y love.




My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;



let ev - ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.




Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise




to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the



sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;



for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.



Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP),

c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

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+Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

+Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. 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.**

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

(printed on back of bulletin)

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.

The word of the Lord. OR Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

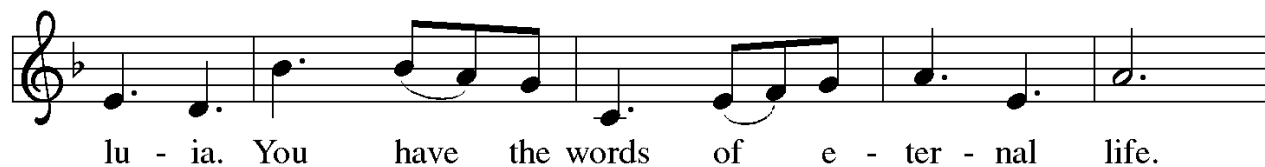
(printed on back of bulletin)

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.

The word of the Lord. OR Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

+Gospel Acclamation p. 216

Jeremy Young



+Holy Gospel: John 15:9-17

(printed on back of bulletin)

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.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Mr. Steve Lyttle

Sermon

Pastor Michael Dickson

+Hymn of the Day #253

He Came Down

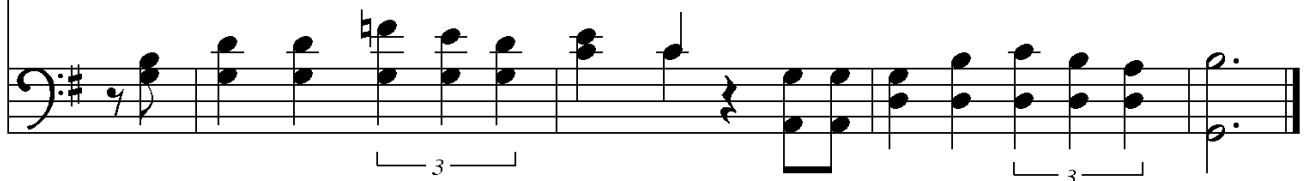
HE CAME DOWN



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;



Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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**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

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

+The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.



Offering Scan this QR code for electronic giving to MSLC:

Offering Anthem

Joyful Celebration

Pepper Choplin

+Offertory

I Give You My Heart

Reuben Morgan

4
This is my de - sire, to hon - or
8
You. Lord, with all my heart, I wor - ship You.
12
All I have with - in me, I give You
16
praise. All that I a - dore, is in You.
20
Lord I give You my heart, I give You my soul. I
24
live for You a - lone. Ev - 'ry breath that I take, ev - 'ry mo - ment I'm a - wake, Lord
28
have Your way in me. 2

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+Offering Prayer

+Great Thanksgiving p. 129

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Jeremy Young

☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

+Thanksgiving at the Table and Words of Institution

+Lord's Prayer p. 221 (traditional)

**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.**

+Invitation to Communion

Holy Communion (received by intinction at the front stations)

Agnus Dei #195

Lamb of God

Jeremy Young

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.

Communion Hymn #708

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

CHEROPONI

Refrain

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
 this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt.
 Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin
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Communion Hymn

Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God,

fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

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+Table Blessing

+Prayer after Communion

+Sending Announcements

+Sending Hymn #595

Jesus Loves Me

JESUS LOVES ME

1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;

lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,

yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.
Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

+Blessing

+Dismissal

Postlude

Cwm Rhondda

Paul Manz

Based on the tune at *ELW* #705

*All are welcome to come forward and watch the organist play the postlude.
The music of the postlude sends us out into God's world to do mission work.*

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SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

GREETERS: 9:00 a.m. Caren Ballantine, Martin Donahue
GREETERS: 11:00 a.m. Debbie Swayney, Buddy Swayney
USHERS: 9:00 a.m. Rick Fliss, Cindy Fliss
USHERS: 11:00 a.m. Dennis Burgoon, Bob Fennema
COMMUNION: 9:00 a.m. Roger Lyman, Gail Frankenburg, Jean and Dick Swiontek,
Judy Tompkins, Patti Szmuriga, Ralph Edelman
COMMUNION: 11:00 a.m. Tom Schick, Buddy Swayney, Debbie Swayney
READER: 9:00 a.m. Rich Ballantine
READER: 11:00 a.m. Sarah Hollingsworth
ALTAR GUILD: 9:00 a.m. Donna Miller
ALTAR GUILD: 11:00 a.m. Linda Turner
COUNTERS: Sarah Hollingsworth, Betty Jackson

MINISTERS, MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Pastor, Rev. John Mouritsen

Minister of Music, Mr. Edmund Tompkins
Associate Minister of Music, Dr. Katie Ann McCarty
Business Administrator, Mr. Jerry Sutton
AV Technician, Ulric Chadwick
AV Technician, Elizabeth Hollingsworth
Nursery Attendant, Mrs. Chrissy Stublaski

Minister with Youth, Mr. Mark Hustedt
Parish Secretary, Mrs. Janet Kobe
Church Sexton, Mr. William Bauer, Jr.
AV Technician, Victoria Hollingsworth
Chapel Manager, Mrs. Susan Lyttle
Nursery Attendant, Mrs. Teresa Scott

Gallery at Morning Star Curators, Ms. Amelia Osborne and Mr. Tom Eure

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK'S prayer concerns list, Taking Faith Home, and children's bulletins are located on the credenzas in the Narthex. Please take your bulletin home or recycle in the container in the Narthex.

WELCOME PASTOR MICHAEL DICKSON, Assistant to the NC Bishop, as he leads in worship today while Pastor John is away. Pastor Michael Dickson works half-time for the synod as a liaison and resource for congregations engaging issues of justice and advocacy. Additionally, he serves half-time as pastor for care and community ministries at First Lutheran Church, Greensboro. Michael is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill (2014) and Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (2021), but has also been formed by his time learning from Lutherans in Palestine, along the U.S.-Mexico border, and at Camp Agapé in the woods of North Carolina. He is passionate about accompaniment, the work of reconciliation, and our call to be a public church. He is excited to share, preach, and listen alongside congregations across the state as we contemplate how God is calling us into the world.

VISIT the Gallery at Morning Star show, *Renew*, before the exhibit closes on May 19. For more information, see the website at www.thegalleryatmorningstar.com. The next Gallery show, "roots & wings" is now accepting online submissions. To submit, visit www.thegalleryatmorningstar.com/call-to-artists

GIVE the gift of blood TODAY in the Big Red Bus which will be in the church parking lot from 9 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sign up at www.oneblood.org/donate-now and use location Morning Star Lutheran Church.

PLAN AHEAD and mark your calendar for these upcoming events.

- Sunday, May 12 is Mother's Day and **second Sunday food collection**
- Saturday, May 18, 2 p.m. Gallery tea on ecological burials
- Saturday, May 18, 4 p.m. Charlotte Bronze Handbell concert
- Sunday, May 19, 10 a.m. unified worship celebrating:
Pentecost, Youth Sunday, and Graduation Milestone
- Sunday, May 26, 10 a.m. unified summer worship continues
- Friday, June 7, 6 p.m. new Gallery exhibit "roots & wings" reception
- Sunday, June 9, 11:45 a.m. Church Picnic at Crooked Creek Park
- Sunday, June 16. 10:00 a.m. Lutheran Men lead worship
- Monday – Friday, June 24-28 SUMMER CAMP from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 - Register at www.mslcnc.org/daycamp

THIS WEEK IN MINISTRY AND MISSION AT MORNING STAR

SUNDAY, May 5

Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 9:00 a.m. ~ Big Red Bus Blood Drive in parking lot till 2:00 p.m.
- 9:00 a.m. ~ Non-traditional Worship in the Worship Center (nursery available)
- 10:15 a.m. ~ Faith Formation for children, youth, and adults in classrooms & conference room
- 11:00 a.m. ~ Traditional Worship in the Worship Center (nursery available)
- 2:00 p.m. ~ Girl Scout Troop 387 meeting in FLC gym and classrooms

MONDAY, May 6

- 9:00 a.m. ~ Walkers in FLC Gym
- 11:00 a.m. ~ AA Meeting in Fellowship Hall and Choir Room
- 7:00 p.m. ~ Worship and Music Mission Team meeting in Administration Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m. ~ Stewardship Mission Team meeting in FLC Conference Room

TUESDAY, May 7

- 11:00 a.m. ~ Centering Prayer in FLC Room 134 and Administration Conference Room
- 12:00 p.m. ~ The 12 x 12 AA Meeting in Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. ~ Women's VdC Reunion Prayer meeting in Administration Conference Room
- 6:00 p.m. ~ Men's VdC Reunion Prayer meeting in FLC Conference Room
- 6:15 p.m. ~ Instrumental Praise Ensemble rehearsal in Worship Center
- 7:00 p.m. ~ Bible Quest Study in Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. ~ Radiance Ringers rehearsal in Worship Center
- 7:00 p.m. ~ Connect Mission Team meeting in Administration Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, May 8

- 7:30 a.m. ~ Queen's Grant High School AP Testing in FLC Gym (till noon) – please no noise in FLC
- 9:00 a.m. ~ TOPS meeting in FLC Room 108
- 10:00 a.m. ~ Women of the ELCA Ruth Circle meeting in Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. ~ AA Meeting in Choir Room
- 1:00 p.m. ~ Staff Meeting in Administration Conference Room
- 6:00 p.m. ~ Yoga Class at Labyrinth (rain location Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 p.m. ~ Youth Dinner and Program in FLC Gym and Youth Room
- 7:30 p.m. ~ Young Clappers Youth Handbell rehearsal in Worship Center

THURSDAY, May 9

- 11:30 a.m. ~ Queen's Grant High School AP Testing in FLC Gym (till 3 p.m.) – please no noise in FLC
- 6:00 p.m. ~ Joyful Noise Ringers rehearsal in Worship Center
- 7:05 p.m. ~ Praise Choir and Chancel Choir rehearsal in Choir Room

FRIDAY, May 10

- 7:30 a.m. ~ Queen's Grant High School AP Testing in FLC Gym (till noon) – please no noise in FLC
- 9:00 a.m. ~ Walkers in the parking lot and grounds
- 11:00 a.m. ~ AA Meeting in Fellowship Hall and Choir Room

SATURDAY, May 11

- 10:00 a.m. ~ AA Group meeting in the Choir Room or on Patio

SUNDAY, May 12

Seventh Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day

Healthy Food Collection for the Matthews Help Center

- 9:00 a.m. ~ Non-traditional Worship in the Worship Center (nursery available)
- 10:15 a.m. ~ Faith Formation for children, youth, and adults in classrooms & conference room
- 11:00 a.m. ~ Traditional Worship in the Worship Center (nursery available)

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Psalm 98**SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6**

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

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

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

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I 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. ¹⁶You 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. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Next Sunday’s Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19.

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Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-R