

Morning Star Lutheran Church

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 25, 2025

Order of worship on video slides

WORSHIP MINISTERS, MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Pastor: Rev. John Mouritsen

Ministers of Music: Mr. Neal Hayes, Dr. Katie Ann McCarty

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Janet Kobe, **Church Sexton:** Mr. Jeff Miller

AV Technicians: Ellen Moretz, Madeleine Leonard, Victoria and Elizabeth Hollingsworth

Nursery Attendants: Mrs. Chrissy Stublaski, Mrs. Teresa Scott, **Chapel Manager:** Mrs. Susan Lyttle

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

GREETERS: 9 *a.m.* Gail Frankenburg, Mike Medlin; 11 *a.m.* Buddy Swayney, Debbie Swayney

USHERS: 9 *a.m.* Rick Fliss, Cindy Fliss, Bob Burnell, Mike Medlin;
11 *a.m.* Ray Brooks, Dennis Burgoon

COMMUNION: 9 *a.m.* Roger Lyman, Robin Logan, Dick Swiontek, Rosie Fuller,
Patti Szmuriga, Deb Allen, Ralph Edelman
11 *a.m.* David Kobe, Diane Doak

READER: 9 *a.m.* Grace Baker; 11 *a.m.* Ray Brooks

ALTAR GUILD: 9 *a.m.* Rosie Fuller; 11 *a.m.* Andrea Comer

COUNTERS: Al Carr, Doug Covell

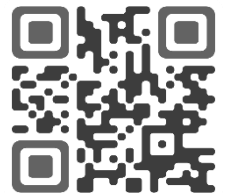
ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME PASTOR CARRIE BISHOP! Pastor Carrie is preaching and leading worship at both services today. Her professional career started as a freelance watercolorist, but to better accommodate her growing family, she became a public school art teacher. She taught K-12 in three different states, but God had different plans. Her husband died from colon cancer in 1999, and the Holy Spirit began to tug on her heart. After 20 years, she left teaching to attend The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, receiving a Min.Div in 2007. Her first call was at Calvary Lutheran, Spencer, followed by a call to Mt. Hermon, Concord. She retired in 2019, and, with the exception of 2020, she has served two Interims and now is a supply preacher. The thread that runs through each step in her professional life is God's gift of a creative imagination. She strives to bring the Good News of resurrection life into worship. Always joyful and playful, she delights to meet all God's children. These days, she's also a caregiver for her 103-year-old dad, and 97-year-old mother-in-law. This tiny congregation of two, with an average age of 100, keeps her ever thankful that God is directing this path.

THIS WEEK'S prayer concerns list, Taking Faith Home, latest *Beacon*, and children's bulletins are located on the credenzas in the Narthex. Seasonal devotional books are also available. Please take your bulletin home or recycle in the Narthex bin.

A NEW TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY began on April 29. Beverly Elwell and Bob Small are leading the series, which is titled "Martin Luther and the Reformation." Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. to take part in the study.

REGISTER FOR MSLC DAY CAMP! Registration for Morning Star's Day Camp "I'll Do My Best" is open! Camp runs June 23-27 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and includes music, crafts, Bible study, games, good food and fun. The camp fee is \$50 and open for rising kindergarteners through rising fifth graders. You can register by using the following QR code:



JOIN US TO CELEBRATE A NEW GALLERY EXHIBITION! On June 6, the Gallery at Morning Star will be holding the opening reception for its Summer 2025 exhibition, "Resonate: The Music Around Us, The Music Within Us." Come to the Gallery between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to see the new art, enjoy food and fellowship, and even hear live music from Luis Hernández and Calle Cuba. And be sure to visit the Gallery's current exhibition, "The Art of Remembering," before it closes later today.

DONATE YOUR EYEGLASSES! The Social Ministry Team invites donations of used or new prescription eyeglasses, sunglasses, and over-the-counter reading glasses. All will be taken to Charlotte-area optometrists who recycle them so that they might serve people in need. Baskets are in the Narthex and church office. Please contact Jan Durr at janrobbinsdurr@gmail.com for more information.

THIS WEEK IN MINISTRY AND MISSION AT MORNING STAR

SUNDAY, MAY 25

~ Pastor Carrie Bishop Preaching ~

9:00 a.m. ~ Non-Traditional Worship, *nursery available*

10:15 a.m. ~ Faith Formation for Children & Youth, various classrooms

11:00 a.m. ~ Traditional Worship, *nursery available*

MONDAY, MAY 26

~ Memorial Day ~ Church Office CLOSED ~

9:00 a.m. ~ Walkers in the FLC Gym

11:00 a.m. ~ AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall & Choir Rooms

7:00 p.m. ~ Coming to the Table Discussion via Zoom

TUESDAY, MAY 27

11:00 a.m. ~ Centering Prayer in FLC Living Room 134 and Zoom

11:00 a.m. ~ AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall & Choir Rooms

6:00 p.m. ~ Women's VdC Reunion Group, Admin. Conference Room

6:00 p.m. ~ Men's VdC Reunion Group, FLC Conference Room

6:15 p.m. ~ Instrumental Praise Ensemble Rehearsal, Worship Center

7:00 p.m. ~ Tuesday Night Bible Study, Fellowship Hall & Kitchen

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

- 9:00 a.m. ~ Taking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS), FLC 108
- 11:00 a.m. ~ AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall & Choir Rooms
- 1:00 p.m. ~ Staff Meeting, Administrative Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. ~ Spirit Bells Adult Bell Choir, Bell Room
- 6:00 p.m. ~ YOGA for all levels, Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. ~ Youth Time with Meal, FLC Gym & Kitchen

THURSDAY, MAY 29

~ Synod Assembly in Greensboro ~

- 10:00 a.m. ~ Coffee & Bible Study with PJ on Facebook
- 10:30 a.m. ~ Tuesday Night Bible Study Planning Meeting, FLC Conf. Room
- 7:05 p.m. ~ Praise Choir & Chancel Choir rehearsal, Choir Room

FRIDAY, MAY 30

~ Synod Assembly in Greensboro ~

- 9:00 a.m. ~ Walkers in the FLC Gym
- 11:00 a.m. ~ AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall & Choir Rooms
- 5:00 p.m. ~ HS Youth Activities, Youth Room 110

SATURDAY, MAY 31

~ Synod Assembly in Greensboro ~

- 10:00 a.m. ~ AA Meeting, Fellowship Hall & Kitchen

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

~ Blood Drive ~ Graduation Milestone Celebration ~

- 9:00 - 2:00 p.m. ~ OneBlood Big Red Bus in parking lot
- 9:00 a.m. ~ Non-Traditional Worship, *nursery available*
- 10:15 a.m. ~ Faith Formation for Children & Youth, various classrooms
- 10:15 a.m. ~ Family Life Mission Team Meeting, Admin. Conf. Room
- 11:00 a.m. ~ Traditional Worship, *nursery available*
- 12:30 p.m. ~ Council Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 2:00 p.m. ~ Girl Scout Troop 387 Meeting, Various FLC Rooms

SCRIPTURE READINGS ON LAST PAGE

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First Reading: Acts 16:9-15 ⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5 ¹⁰ And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. ²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day — and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. ^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Gospel: John 14:23-29 ²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."