

*We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinabek Nations, and the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.*

*This territory is also covered by the Toronto Purchase, Treaty 13 of 1805, and the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today, our community is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island. We gather by these territorial lands and waters to worship, listen, learn, share, and heal together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.*

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RICHMOND HILL

# The Seventh Sunday of Easter

MAY 12, 2024



PRELUDE *Ethan Kwan*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We thank you, risen Christ,

For these waters where you make us new,

**Leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.**

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,

like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls,  
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

**Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.**

Clothe us with mercy and forgiveness.

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

**Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.**

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**HYMN ELW # 482 I COME WITH JOY**

**I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved, and free;  
the life of Jesus to recall  
in love laid down for me.  
in love laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread.  
in Christ's communion bread.**

**As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,  
each proud division ends;  
the love that made us, makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends.  
and strangers now are friends.**

**The spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen but ever near,  
is in such friendship ever known,  
alive among us here  
alive among us here.**

**Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done.  
We'll go with joy to give the world  
the love that makes us one,  
the love that makes us one.**

**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.**

# KYRIE

## Congregation:

*Refrain* S184

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

## Leader:

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity all;  
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
Let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the lord. **Refrain**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;  
That we may live out truth and justice and grace,  
Let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the lord. **Refrain**

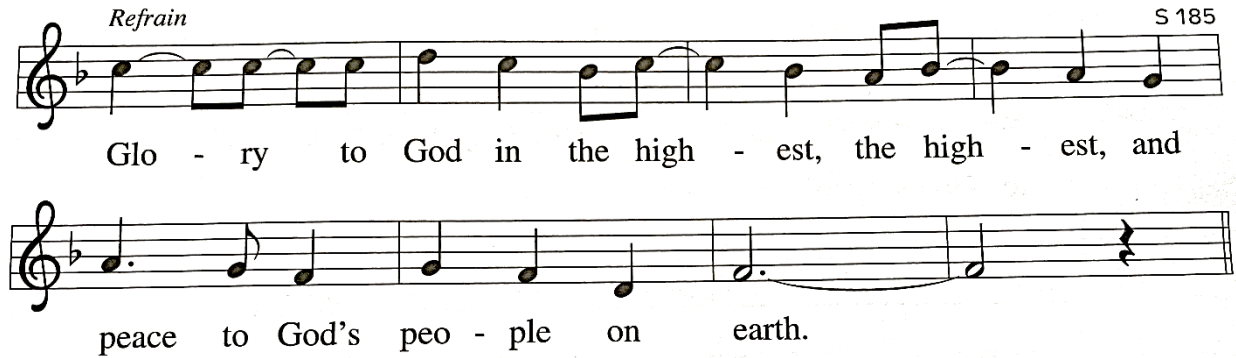
For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;  
For life and for love, for our work and our play  
Let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the lord. **Refrain**

For your Spirit to guide, that you center our lives in the water and the word;  
That you nourish our souls with your body and blood,  
Let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the lord. **Refrain**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### Congregation:

*Refrain* S 185



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

### Leader:

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you,  
We give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Refrain**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
In the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen. **Refrain x 2**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own,  
and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit  
transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### WORD

#### ACTS 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection."

So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

#### PSALM 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
**nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**

Their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
**and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,  
with leaves that do not wither;

**everything they do shall prosper.**

It is not so with the wicked;

**they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
**nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
**but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

#### 1 JOHN 5:9-13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S 188



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.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

JOHN 17:6-19

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me.

I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”  
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

**HYMN: ELW # 498 UNITED AT THE TABLE**

***Refrain* United at the table**

**All our joy is joined in song**

**United in the faith**

**All our joy to God belongs**

**We will praise God, we will sing**

**Alleluias with hymns and with psalmody**

**We will praise God for the love**

**That sustains us eternally. *Refrain***

**We will praise God, we will feast**

**At the bountiful table of life and grace**

**We will praise God and give thanks**

**For communion with ev'ry race. *Refrain***

**We will praise God, we will play**

**Alleluias with rhythm and instruments**

**We will praise God for the love**

**That invites all creation to dance. *Refrain***

**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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made 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.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.**

**He 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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments.

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

Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation.

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

Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. Call all hearts and imaginations to works of compassion and healing. We pray for the people of Ukraine, Russia, Haiti, South Sudan, Israel, Palestine, and all places where hatred and violence rules.

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



Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm.  
Comfort those in any affliction. We pray especially for Ingrid, Jean,  
and all in our thoughts and hearts this day.....

*pause*

Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death.

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

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and  
unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, bless those who share  
motherly love to other's children, console those for whom this day is  
difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings.

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

Your saint's dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who  
have gone before us in faith. Inspire us by their witness.

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

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. **Amen.**

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

#### OFFERING

*The offering will now be received and may God bless the gifts of your life*

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made  
known to the disciples. Receive these gifts and the offering of our lives,  
that we may be your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

#### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, Holy Love, Holy Wonder,

out of silence and emptiness you created the heavens and the earth.

The oceans sing your praise. The rivers chant your glory.

Out of Abraham and Sarah's dead end, you made promises,  
you granted laughter,  
you brought forth descendants to continue your story.  
Out of the deathly power of oppression and slavery you  
liberated your people and blessed them with water, bread, wine.  
Out of their lifeless wandering from your justice and mercy  
you sent them prophets who sang poems that serenaded them back to you.  
In your great compassion for every tribe and nation, you sent Jesus,  
to bring everyone out of the tomb of hatred and sin  
and into the life of your love.  
He fully embodied your compassion,  
lifting up the poor, raising up the lowly,  
forgiving the sinner, suffering and dying  
so that no one need suffer injustice and fear any more.  
Out of the death of his own tomb,  
you raised him up so your story of love will not end.  
In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body,  
given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Together with one voice, we celebrate the paschal mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**  
Send your Spirit to fill us with the joy of the resurrection.  
Grant us hope beyond our comprehension.  
Bless these gifts of bread and wine,  
so that the endless life and love of Jesus may dwell in us,  
and flow from us through acts of love for our neighbours.  
Holy God, Holy Love, Holy Wonder,  
we give you more praise than we can utter,  
as we await that great day when the feast of your love has no walls,  
no exceptions, no end,  
when we gather with Christ, by the Spirit, and know life in you:

love that cannot die,  
love that enlivens our weary bones,  
love that exceeds every hope and dream,  
love, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.....

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

*you are invited to eat your bread and drink your wine as you hear the words  
"the body of Christ given for you" "the blood of Christ shed for you"*

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Christ strengthen us  
and keep us always in his grace. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send  
light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven  
to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection  
that we may show your glory to all the world; through Jesus Christ,  
our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy.  
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**HYMN: ELW # 645 CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION**

**Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,  
chosen of the Lord, and precious,  
binding all the Church in one,  
holy Zion's help for ever,  
and her confidence alone.**

**To this temple, where we call you,  
come, O Lord of Hosts, and stay;  
come with all your love and kindness  
hear your people as they pray;  
and your fullest benediction  
shed within these walls today.**

**Here bestow on all your servants  
what they seek of you to gain,  
what they gain from you forever  
with the blessed to retain,  
and hereafter in your glory  
evermore with you to reign.**

**Praise and honour to the Father,  
Praise and honour to the Son,  
Praise and honour to the Spirit,  
ever three, and ever one,  
one in might and one in glory  
while unending ages run.**

**DISMISSAL**

**Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**    *Ethan Kwan*