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∞ SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ∞  
ORDER OF WORSHIP • MAY 5, 2024 • 9:00 AM  
✝ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

✝ GATHERING HYMN

IN CHRIST THERE IS NO  
EAST OR WEST  
ELW #650

**In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
but one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord close binding humankind.**

**Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.  
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;  
all Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.**

✝ INVOCATION

WL: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

✝ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. Trusting in God's promise, let us confess our sin.

All: **Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We build walls where you created doors. We exclude the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made.**

**Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

WL: Brothers and sisters in Christ, hear the good news:

*Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, all our sins have been forgiven. We are washed clean by the blood of the Lamb and are renewed and empowered to live as a people who tear down walls.

✝ HYMN OF PRAISE

ALLELUIA!

(to the tune "God Is so Good")

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Cantor: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, and blessing, and glory are his.*

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Cantor: Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing and honor, glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Cantor: For the Lamb who was slain  
has begun his reign. Alleluia!  
For the Lamb who was slain  
has begun his reign. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## ✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: Christ is risen!

**All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

WL: 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.

**All: Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

ACTS 10:34-48

R: Our first lesson on this Sixth Sunday of Easter is from the book of Acts, chapter 10.

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

"We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Then Peter said, “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

✝ VERSE

GOD WELCOMES ALL

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God’s love is strong and it never ends.**

✝ HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 15:9-17

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ!**

**TODAY’S MESSAGE COURAGE TO TEAR DOWN WALLS**

✠ MESSAGE HYMN

BUILD A LONGER TABLE  
TUNE: NOEL NOUVELET

**Build a longer table, not a higher wall,  
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.  
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,  
Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.**

**Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;  
where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.  
For any place where justice is denied,  
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.**

**Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.  
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.  
When we embrace compassion more than fear,  
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.**

**When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,  
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.  
So must our tables welcome those who roam.  
None can be excluded; all must find a home.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

*Giving Envelopes are available in the back of each pew  
Give online at [www.poporlando.com/give](http://www.poporlando.com/give)  
Text-to-Give by texting an amount to 407.543.1011*

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

✠ PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

WL: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

## ✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: As Jesus taught His disciples to pray, so we pray together:

**All: 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.**

## ✠ PAX DOMINI

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### COMMUNION HYMN

### ALL ARE WELCOME

*The melody and lyrics are printed on a handout.*

*The first stanza will be sung by the cantor alone:*

*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:*

*All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.*

**Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:**

**All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:**

**All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:**

**All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:**

**All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

## ✝ THE DISMISSAL

**WL:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve  
you in body and soul to life everlasting.

**All: Amen.**

## ✝ CHARGE & BLESSING *based on Psalm 121:5-8*

**WL:** Go out now in faith and with courage, trusting in God's promises.  
Remember how much God loves this world and loves you. Live and  
serve with love and joy, following in the footsteps of Christ.

May the Lord watch over you. May the Lord keep you from all harm  
and watch over your life. May the Lord watch over your coming and  
going now and forevermore.

**All: Amen.**

## ✝ SENDING HYMN BE NOT AFRAID!

**Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

**Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

## ✝ SENDING

**WL:** Go in peace! Serve the risen Lord!

**All: Thanks be to God.**

# TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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Liturgy from Lutheran Service Book.

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#### GOD WELCOMES ALL

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#### BUILD A LONGER TABLE

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

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#### ALL ARE WELCOME

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#### BE NOT AFRAID

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

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