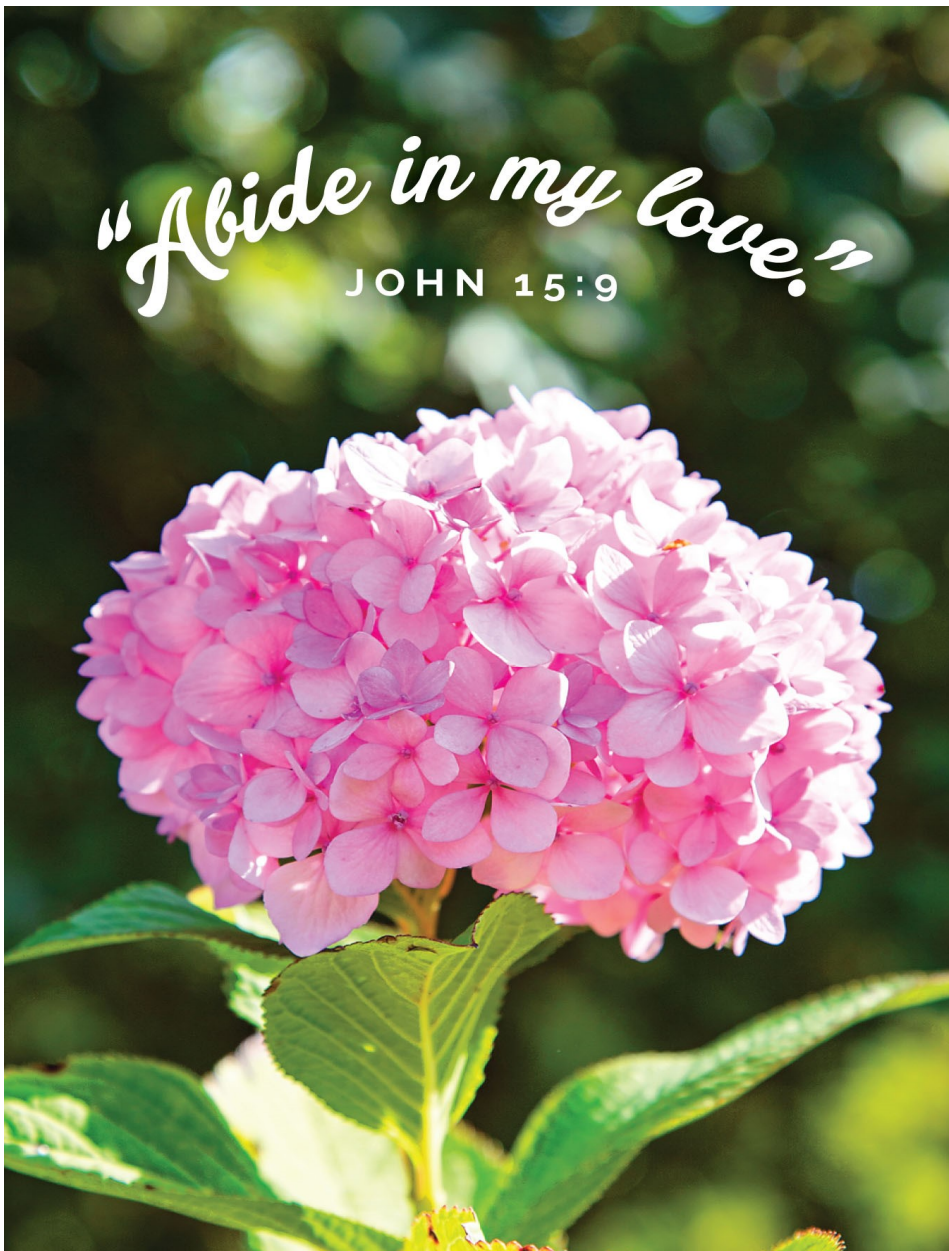


Elim Lutheran Church  
Sunday, May 9, 2021  
Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Recorded Worship

*"Abide in my love."*  
JOHN 15:9



## WELCOME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

Pastor: 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 your 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.

**All: Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN: JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!

3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.

well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.

Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.

teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

## GREETING

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

All: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: O God,

All: **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.**

## PSALM 98

Leader: <sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

All: <sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Leader: <sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of  
Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

All: <sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

Leader: <sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.

**All:** <sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

Leader: <sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,  
the world and those who dwell therein.

**All:** <sup>8</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge  
the earth.

Leader: <sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with  
equity.

## READING: 1 JOHN 5:1-6

Leader: A reading from the book of 1 John.

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This 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.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

## **GOSPEL: JOHN 15:9-17**

Pastor: The holy gospel according to John.

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

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

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

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

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Skit by Elim’s Confirmation Class: *“Jesus’ Friends Bearing Fruit”*  
(Madison Bishop, Casey Davison, Aidan Fusco, Dahlia Gen,  
James Nordquist, Spencer Prime and Pastor Kathryn)

## **SERMON:**

Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson - *“What a Friend we Have in Jesus”*

## HYMN OF THE DAY: MOTHERING GOD, YOU GAVE ME BIRTH



1 Moth - er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright  
2 Moth - er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing  
3 Moth - er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of



morn - ing of this world. Cre - a - tor, source of ev - 'ry  
me your food of light, grain . . . of life, and grape of  
pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I root and



breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.  
love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.  
grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342–c. 1413

Music: NORWICH, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936

Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Leader: Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Today we pray for the Moravian Church, giving thanks for the life and witness of Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Peaceful God, we pray for the family of Carlos Gonzalez who lost his life while in police custody in Alameda. Be with those police officers as well, and give our Police Departments wisdom for training on how to handle people suspected of a crime -- especially people of color. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering, provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities, especially, those listed, those battling the coronavirus and those we name silently and aloud (brief silence). Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**



Leader: Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives . Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

Leader: O God, bless all those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and celebrations of all kinds, this week. Fill our hearts with love and acceptance, Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

Leader: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**All:** Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *“Less Like Me”* by Zach Williams  
Performed by Kevin Jensen-Unger

CCLI Song # 7136017

Hank Bentley | Mia Fieldes | Zach Williams

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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Pastor:** Wellspring of joy,

**All:** through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.  
Satisfy the hunger still around us,  
and send us as joyful witnesses,  
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## BLESSING

*Response after blessing:* **Amen**

## SENDING HYMN: 10,000 REASONS

Chorus

**Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name**

Verse 1

**The sun comes up it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies  
before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes**

Chorus

**Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name**

Verse 2

**You're rich in love and You're slow to  
anger  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find**

Chorus

**Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name**

Verse 3

**And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore**

Chorus

**Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name**

CCLI Song # 6016351

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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## EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

### SENDING

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Leader: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Next Week:

### Sunday, May 16, 2021 Ascension of Our Lord

**Theme:** In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

**Read Ahead:** Acts 1:1-11 / Psalm 47 / Luke 24:44-53



Thank you to the following people  
for contributing to today's service:

The Rev. Kathryn Gulbranson, Interim Pastor .....Officiant  
Richard Maxon ..... Readings and Prayers  
Lauren Haile, Paul Haile ..... Music  
Kevin Jensen-Unger ..... Special Music  
Madison Bishop, Casey Davison, Aidan Fusco, Dahlia Gen, James Nordquist,  
Spencer Prime and Pastor Kathryn ..... Elim Confirmations—Play  
Susan Rodkin ..... Announcements  
Andy Hohenner ..... Extinguishing of Candles  
Susan Rodkin ..... Sender  
Barb Villa ..... Bulletin and Copyrights  
Erin Hetrick-Hohenner ..... Communications

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