



WELCOME FAMILIES!

We are glad that you are worshipping with your children and want you to feel welcome.

There is a **“Pray Ground”** for quiet play in the front right of the sanctuary. We ask that families stay with their little ones and try to keep noise to a minimum.

If you or your little one needs “a break” or “louder play”, there is an **“Active Worship”** room on the West side of the sanctuary. You can see and hear the service from this room.

GATHERING



The Holy Spirit gathers us together during this time of worship

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

6th Sunday in Easter

Inviting All to Live the Gospel through Faith, Love, and Compassion

Welcome to Family of Christ

You are welcome to participate in worship this morning
the way you feel comfortable.

All Are Welcome, No Exceptions!

Everybody Is Somebody Here

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Now, our mourning become dancing by God’s gracious love.

Our sobs become belly laughs, and new songs are written from our sighs.

The punchline sat in the grave’s shadows,

until God played the best joke ever on life.

So, break out loud guffaws, fill the room with giggles,

May our joy sound like April Fool’s noisemakers!

Come, stoic old folks and snickering kids, come, all you curmudgeons and worriers.

We join the God who laughs with us, Who raised Jesus with a wink and a grin,

Welcoming everyone to joy everlasting!

GATHERING HYMN

“Shine, Jesus Shine”

ELW #671

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us make our confession, Before God and One another

Gracious and giggling God, we confess that sometimes we take ourselves too seriously. We walk through life stiff with worry, grim with guilt, and frowning with fear. We forget that you created laughter, and that joy is a fruit of your Spirit.

Forgive us for putting a lid on your joy, for muting your music, and for walking around like the resurrection never happened. Remind us that Easter is the world’s biggest surprise party, and we’re all invited.

Tickle our hearts with your grace, nudge us with your mercy, and teach us to live with eyes wide open for holy hilarity. In the name of the Risen One who laughed in the face of death.

AMEN

SONG OF PRAISE

"This Little Light of Mine"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S TIME

All young and young at heart
are invited forward during the
Children's time.

FIRST READING:

Genesis 18:1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?" The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. He said, "Yes, you did laugh."

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 8:23-27

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. A windstorm suddenly arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves, but he was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a dead calm. They were amazed, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

L: The Gospel of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

THE WORD

God speaks to us through
scripture reading, preaching,
and song.



SERMON

Pastor Brent Erler

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus Lifted Me”

ELW #860

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a God who enjoys a good laugh,
who made platypuses and penguins just for the fun of it.
We believe in a Savior who knew how to surprise people—
with healing, with hope, with resurrection.
We believe in the Spirit,
who gives us the gift of holy giggles and grace.
We believe that joy is a form of resistance,
and laughter is a taste of the kingdom to come.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in Your Mercy

C: Hear our prayer

HOLY COMMUNION

THE 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;
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.

BLESSING

To support the ministry of
FOC please use the QR
Code below or donate to the
offering plate.



THE MEAL

God feeds us with the
forgiveness and presence of
Christ.

All are invited to receive
these gifts of God.

No Exceptions!

Children are welcome to
come forward and receive
communion or a blessing
and Goldfish Crackers



THE SENDING

We are blessed and sent out into the world to share God's Love with all people.



PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

Lord God, you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

“What a Fellowship”

ELW #774

SENDING

POSTLUDE

Serving Today

Pastor

Brent Erler

Musician

Ann Mikiska

Sound and Video

Gerry & Cheryl Wills

Acolyte

Betty Hellier

Communion Set-Up

Ryan Basballe

Communion Servers

Ryan Basballe

Haakon Hendrickson

Reader

Terran Hendrickson

Ushers

Donny Bergquist

Maddie Bergquist

Gwen Basballe

Fellowship Host

Brita Hanchek

Dana Sahlin

*Thanks to all those who helped make worship possible.

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FamilyofChrist

FAITH, LOVE, and COMPASSION

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Mission Partners with Usokami Parish, Iringa, Tanzania

Hearing Assistance devices are available at the soundboard
Radio frequency for hearing assistance on 72.9 MHz on the FM band