

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PASTOR ED PEASE

MAY 10, 2026



Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

(*please stand as you are able)

(Congregation reads **bold** print)

Welcome & Announcements

***Blessing of Mothers**

God of all creation,
pour out your blessing on all mothers and those who provide motherly care. You have made them in your image and given them children to love and care for in your name. Bless them with a heart like your heart: loving and kind, comforting and strong, nurturing and grace-filled. As they participate in your ongoing creativity, give them discernment to help their children discover their unique gifts. As they teach their children, grant them wisdom to know what is truly valuable. As they strive to share your unconditional love, give them long-suffering patience and a lively sense of humor. As they model your mercy, help them extend the forgiveness they themselves freely receive from you. In all circumstances fortify their faith, that they may love you above all. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn** "Come Thou Almighty King" #408

Blessing of Graduates

Sophie Aman, Ava Brockhaus, Lakin Brosamle, Carson Coulter, Leah Cross, Dylan Malm, Brodie Nelson, Abigail Ruhler, and Natalie Stamm

***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.**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

Psalm: Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;**

I will give you oxen and goats.

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-20

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

***Gospel Acclamation -- p. 142**

*The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 14:15-21

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Message

Hymn "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" #807

***Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill (*especially we pray for Bonnie, Barb, Carla, Barb, Diane, Bill, Ed, Pat, Jeni, Kenny, and Jayme*). Merciful God,

God,

receive our prayer.

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

***Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offering

***Offering Prayer**

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 144

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer** p. 145

***Invitation to Communion**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Communion (continuous)

Come forward in the center aisle, distancing as desired. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Move to the right or left to receive the wine. Return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available in the container in front of the font.

Those who wish to be served at their seats may remain seated.

Distribution Hymns: [#485 – I Am The Bread of Life](#); [#781 – Children of the Heavenly Father](#)

***Prayer after Communion**

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

***Blessing & Sending of Natalie Stamm**

Steadfast God, you led your people through many lands and through many challenges, and everywhere you were with them to guard and guide them in your way. Accompany Natalie Stamm now as she prepares for Basic Training for the 185th Air National Guard at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio. Bless those *she* leaves behind and the new comrades ahead. Bless the work *she* has completed, all *she* must leave unfinished, and the tasks that are to come. Lift *her* up in your strength and your Spirit of hopefulness, that *she* may serve faithfully in every place and always walk with honor in your sight. Keep *her* safe from enemy and accident. Defend *her*, waking and sleeping. Bless *her* during travel, and let our love be an anchor and a joy for *her* through the time we are apart; and then, return *her* to us in safety. We ask this in your holy name.
Amen.

Blessing & Charge to Graduates

***Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** "We Know That Christ is Raised" #449

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Baptized believers sent into God's world to share God's love and grace.

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Welcome! May you be blessed as we worship together!

Pastor Ed Pease:

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Email – edward.pease@gmail.com

- A special welcome to any visitors! Please take the time this morning to fill out the visitor card located with the hymnals and either place it on the offering plate or give it to an usher.

- Vacation Bible School is looking for monetary donations to help fund this year's program. If you would like to give, you can write a check to the church and designate it for Vacation Bible School, or talk to Liz Wahlberg. Thank you!!

This Week's Events: May 10-17

Today 9:00am **6th Sunday of Easter**
 Tues. 7:00pm **AA Meeting** (Contact person is Larry S., 712-251-4207)
 Sun. 9:00am **7th Sunday of Easter**

Worship Assistants for May:

Organist: Ruth Chartier
 Scripture Reader: Rebecca Brockhaus
 Tech Assistant: Jill & Casey Stratton
 Greeters: Rebecca & Ava Brockhaus
Greeters Next Week: Roger & Susan Christiansen

Altar Guild: Dave & Patti Christiansen
 Offertory Accountants: Rebecca Brockhaus & Gloria Healy

Birthdays: 12 - Brody Thomas; 13 - Owen Wahlberg; 15 - Jacob Wohlert; **16 - Bob Jensen (90!!)**
 Raquel Meyer

Prayers

We pray for Kenny Stroman; Barb Kunkel; Carla Boggs; Barb Allner; Diane Riediger; Bill Nagel; Ed Kunkel; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.
 For those battling cancer: Jayme Webb –breast cancer.

God's Work. Our gifts. Thank you to all who support our ministry!

Our budget needs each week: \$3,175

Electronic Giving	\$ 840.00
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>\$ 1,490.00</u>
Total	\$ 2,330.00

