

ST. JOHN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

9:15 AM

MAY 9,
2021



Making
the Love
of
Christ
Known

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Dancing Together

As Easter people, we are called to dance our dances of freedom for all the world to see—even and perhaps especially in times of great difficulty. Dances of hope. Dances of justice. Dances of love. During this season, post-resurrection stories point to the joy of living in the beloved community and extending that fellowship through our witness as we dare to dance again!

Dancing requires that we pay attention to our dance partners. It requires finding a rhythm together. The Sunday after Easter brings the story of Jesus appearing to the disciples and breathing the Holy Spirit on them. Other scriptures this week point to the power of being together, of finding fellowship in the presence of Jesus and the presence of the community. What does it take to dance together?



Gathering Song

Here I Am To Worship

Welcome/Announcements

Threshold

Praise Songs

Raise A Hallelujah

What A Beautiful Name

Prayer of the Day

Children's Sermon

Kids Praise



1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

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

⁶This 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.

The reading is concluded:
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel: John 15:9-17

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

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

The gospel is concluded:
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Gathering Prayers

Preacher asks these questions. Congregation has the opportunity to pray silently, light candles, etc. Band gathers on stage.

Where is rain still falling?

Where does grief linger?

Where are you still yearning for resurrection?

What's holding you back from dancing?

Prayer Song: *Teach Me to Dance*

Prayers of the People

Offering Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Blessing of Mothers

Gracious God, in love you have given us the gift of mothers.

Grant to each of them your power and grace.

Strengthen them in their mothering with tenderness and understanding, with compassion and joy.

Endow them with wisdom and knowledge so that they might teach their children how to live and how to love; how to seek and pursue that which is right and true; how to turn away from all that is hurtful and wrong.

Deepen their own faith so that they might instill in their children a love for you that will sustain and keep them their whole life long. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**



Benediction

Sending Song

Power In The Blood



Dare to Dance Again

Dances of hope.
Dances of justice.
Dances of love.

