



Sunday, May 10, 2026

10:00 a.m.



Pastor Erik Allen

“I Will Not Leave You Orphaned”



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

“Partita on Come Down, O Love Divine”

Max Sinzheimer

Announcements

GATHERING

Song

Great is The Lord

Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 66)*

P: Come, people of God, bless the Lord; let the sound of praise be heard among us as we gather.

C: We come to worship the God who gives us life and holds us fast.

P: Through every trial and testing, through fire and water, God has led us and brought us to this place.

C: We come trusting the God who refines, restores, and makes a way.

P: God has heard our prayers and has not turned away in our need.

C: We come to praise the One whose steadfast love endures forever.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you!

(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)

Song

How Great is Our God

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God, who chose us in Christ. Let us come to the fountain of mercy.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Almighty God,

C: In raising Jesus from the tomb, you destroyed the power of sin and death. Hear us as we confess our failure to live the good news of the resurrection. Grant us the radiant power of your grace. Forgive us, heal us, and renew us, so that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

P: In great mercy God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In obedience to our Lord's command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray: 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.

C: **Amen**

please be seated

WORD

Lesson Acts 17:22-31

Gospel John 14:15-21

Gospel Response

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message Pastor Erik

Sermon "I Will Not Leave You Orphaned" Pastor Erik

Hymn Come Down, O Love Divine ELW 804

First Communion Recognition

Delaney Frothingham, Connor Lichtenberger, Charlotte Nix, Josephine Nix

The Apostles' Creed

C: **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.**

please be seated

The Offering "Praise God Praise Him" Tandanei, arr K. McChesney
King of Glory Handbells

If you would like, you may give online by scanning the QR code
or Offering Plates are located at the back of the Sanctuary.



Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of the Church (*the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.*)

Members: Amy, Sylvia, Marion, Kelly, Marj, Vickie

Family & Friends: Richard, Kathy, Jessie, Adelyn, Kipp, Dale, Melanie,
Charles, Chuck, Mary, Carol, Bob

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!**

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

please be seated.

Distribution

Please allow our 1st Communion children and their families to receive the elements first.

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome. Those who do not wish to receive may come forward for a blessing. Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

SENDING

Benediction

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Song

Heaven is in My Heart

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

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

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune”

Francesco Manfredini

Announcements

First Communion

What a celebration as we get to watch 4 young disciples experience their 1st Communion today. Congratulations to Delaney Frothingham, Connor Lichtenberger, and Charlotte and Josephine Nix!!

Confirmation

We have seven amazing young disciples who will be Confirmed on Sunday, May 17. Please plan to join us to celebrate their journey. There will be a reception in Fellowship Hall following worship where they will have displays and be happy to share their experiences that led them to this special day. We are looking for younger Confirmation or Youth Group kids to help with the reception on Sunday. Help with final setup will begin at 9:30 before worship and then help with serving and cleanup following worship. Interested in helping, please see Marian Larson or email Leslie in the office.

Sharing Place - Peanut Butter Needed

Our immediate goal is to collect 30 jars of Peanut Butter for the Sharing Place. If you shop at Kroger, Jiff is \$1.99 when you buy 5 items that qualify (you could just buy 5 jars of Jiff). Please bring your items and place them in the wagon across from the Nursery. Thank you!

Please Join the Youth Group Mission Trip Envelope Fundraiser!

It's easy. Simply stop by the bulletin board near the entrance and take an envelope with a number on it. The number matches the monetary donation you will give, example...envelope 7 is a \$7 donation. You are welcome to give more than the total on the envelope!

The money is used to support the youth mission trip costs, including supplementing the registration cost, vans, gas, construction supplies, food, and the community gift to the people of Mt Gilead, OH. Please return all donations by June 1st. If giving online (<https://kogcarmel.org/give>), please note "Youth Envelope Fundraiser and include your envelope number". We ask that you use the numbered envelope or ensure the number is indicated so we can account for all envelopes. Thank you for your support of our youth mission trip!

Fellowship Hall Serving Cabinet

We are missing one of the keys that unlock the amazing serving cabinet. If you have used it recently, can you check to make sure you don't have the blue key bracelet? Contact Cheryl Hazelrigg or Leslie in the office if you discover you have it. Thanks!

Weekly Activities

- SUNDAY, May 10

9:00 am Christian Ed
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Guitar Class
1:00 pm Chinese Dance
4:00 pm Girl Scouts
5:00 pm Bells

- MONDAY, May 11

10:00 am Craft Group
6:00 pm Elders
7:00 pm Council

- TUESDAY, May 12

10:00 am Craft Group (all welcome)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts

- WEDNESDAY, May 13

8:30 am Men's Bible Study
3:00 pm Women's Prayer Group
6:00 pm Friendship Bible Study
7:00 pm Choir Practice

- THURSDAY, MAY 14

6:15 pm Girl Scouts
7:30 pm Chinese Dance

- FRIDAY, MAY 15

3:00 pm Synod Meeting

- SATURDAY, MAY 16

8:00 am Synod Meeting
4:30 pm Confirmation Setup

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Theme of the Week: The Risen Christ Hears the Prayers of God's People

This week we are reminded of the tremendous gift we have in Christ Jesus: the freedom to pray to our gracious Heavenly Father. As beloved children of God through Christ Jesus, we have direct access to God and can “with all boldness and confidence ask as dear children ask their dear parent” (Luther, Small Catechism, III, 1). Not only does the Lord give us confidence to pray through the victory of the cross and resurrection, but God has also given us the Holy Spirit to help, guide, and sustain us in prayer. Finally, our Lord promises that when we pray in Jesus’ name, the Father hears us (Jn. 16:23) and attends to the voice of our prayers (Ps. 66:19).

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: John 16:23-30 “In Jesus’ Name”

There will be a day when we no longer ask for anything. Until that day, we bring everything before God in prayer. Jesus promises that the Father listens. The Father loves us because we have loved and trusted in Christ, the Son who came into this world and returned to the Father through His death and resurrection for the life of the world. Through Jesus, then, we pray with confidence to the Father. The name of Jesus is the name of salvation and life. It is the name of mercy, hope, and peace, for through this name we are saved. *Father, hear me for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son and my Savior. Amen.*

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 84 “Blessed Are Those Who Dwell in the Lord’s House”

Jealousy is often a destructive force in our lives. Here, however, the psalmist envies the birds who make their nests near the courts of the Lord. Blessed birds indeed! The longing to be in the Lord’s house is ultimately a longing for God—to dwell where God gathers people in mercy and gives the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through Word and Sacrament. The psalmist knows that as God’s people journey through the “Valley of Baca,” the valley of weeping, their refuge and strength remain in the Lord of hosts (v. 6). As they draw near to God’s dwelling place, they are renewed and strengthened in faith, going “from strength to strength” (v. 7). *O Lord, blessed are those who dwell in Your house and place their trust in You. Amen.*

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: James 1:22-27 “Be Doers?”

For generations, Christians have wrestled with this passage, wondering whether faith alone is truly enough or if salvation somehow depends upon our works. Yet, Scripture consistently proclaims that we are justified by grace through faith for the sake of Christ alone. James is speaking here not about earning salvation, but about the life of faith that naturally bears fruit in love and service. Faith is never lifeless; it moves us toward our neighbor in compassion and mercy. Christians are called to be doers of the Word, living out the freedom we have received in Christ through acts of justice, kindness, and care for those in need. The commandments are not burdens placed upon us to earn God’s favor, but gifts that guide us in loving God and our neighbor. Therefore, we can be confident in the promise of salvation through Christ, and be bold in serving the afflicted and caring for the vulnerable. *Have mercy on us, O Lord, and lead us in lives of faithful love. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 29:11-14 “The LORD’s Plans for You in Christ”

Without the Lord there is no lasting hope, future, or life. Yet, with the Lord and God’s steadfast love, there is always hope and always a future. This is the promise spoken to God’s people living in exile and uncertainty. God would use even the hardship of exile to draw the people back through repentance and renewed trust. Then the Lord would gather and restore them once more. This promise finds its fulfillment in Christ Jesus, who gathers scattered and broken people into God’s redeeming love. In the waters of Holy Baptism, God has called us by name and claimed us as beloved. We belong to Christ, and the Lord continues to seek, forgive, restore, and gather us through Word and Sacrament. *Lord Jesus, You alone are my hope, my present, and my future. Amen.*

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: Mark 16:14-20 “The Ascension of Our Lord”

Today we remember the ascension of our Lord. Mark reminds us that as the apostles preached, it was the Lord—not merely the disciples—who worked through them and confirmed the message they proclaimed. The Ascension is not the celebration of Christ’s absence, but of His reign and exaltation at the right hand of God. The risen Christ continues to reign in power and mercy for the sake of the world and the church. Because Christ is ascended, He is not limited to one place or time, but is present wherever the good news is proclaimed and the Sacraments are shared. His presence may no longer be seen as it was in Galilee, but it is heard in Scripture, tasted in Holy Communion, and known in the gathered community of faith. *Ascended Lord, continue to guide and sustain Your Church in every place. Amen.*

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: Romans 8:24-28 “The Good Kind of Groaning”

So often we do not know what or how to pray. Life can overwhelm us, and words can fail. What a comfort, then, that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words and prays according to God’s loving will. This gives us courage to bring even our weakest prayers before God. It allows us to say “Amen” with confidence, trusting that the Spirit is already praying within and beyond us. God’s will is not hidden in fear or punishment, but revealed in Christ crucified and risen for the life of the world. Even when we cannot fully understand our circumstances, we trust that God continues to work for healing, redemption, and good. *Lord, hear my prayers through the power of Your Spirit and hold me in Your mercy. Amen.*

SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 124 “Our Help Is in the Name of the Lord”

Many of us have heard the final line of this psalm or live it as we gather in worship: “Our help is in the name of the Lord.” Like David, we trust that our help comes from the Lord, Creator of heaven and earth and Redeemer of God’s people. Without the Lord by our side, we would be lost in fear, sin, and despair. Yet God, in immeasurable love, has reconciled the world through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Because of Christ, we no longer live in fear of condemnation but in the promise of grace and reconciliation. Therefore we may join Paul in proclaiming, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Rom. 8:31). Or with the psalmist we say, “The Lord is on my side; I will not fear” (Ps. 118:6). *O Lord, teach us to place our hope, help, and salvation in You alone. Amen.*