

May 25, 2025
The Sixth Sunday of Easter



May God continue to
bless us; let all the
ends of the earth
revere him.

Psalm 67:7, NRSV

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
A community called to Worship, Learn, Love and Serve.
2000 West Sixth Street Racine, Wisconsin

Thanks to greeter Sally Neitzel, assisting minister Gregory Berg, lector Lynn Sinclair, communion assistant Thomas Mentch Jr., AV technician Kathy Berg, ushers Jim Buhler, Todd Jansen, Tim Krikau, and Gary Wee, altar guild Sandy Ivanoski, Kay Krause, Lori Neu, Lyndsey Newton, and Joni Reske, coffee fellowship Rose Adamski, councilperson in charge Rose Adamski, the Senior Choir, the Bell Choir, and organist Randy Fischer for sharing their time and talent with us today.

*Please stand, if you are able, where there is an asterisk * printed in the bulletin.*

PRELUDE *(A quiet time of reflection, to prepare for worship.)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *"If You Love Me"* (Thomas Tallis) Senior Choir

***THANKSGIVING FOQR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✝ the One

who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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***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.

***KYRIE**

Refrain S 184

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

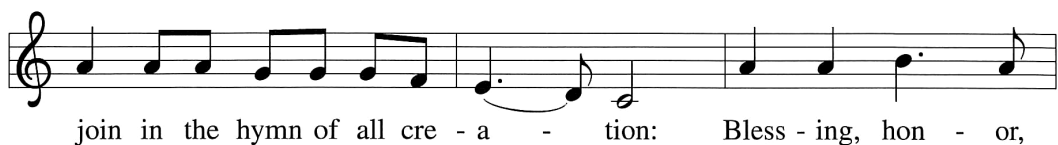
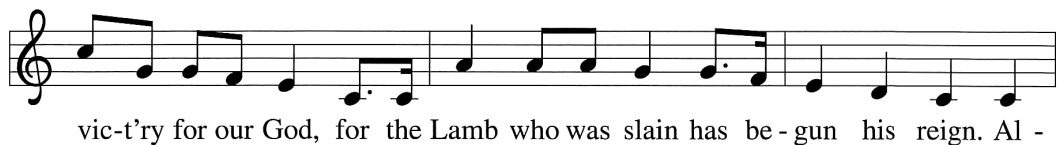
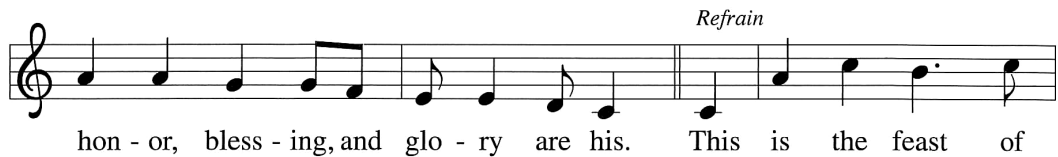
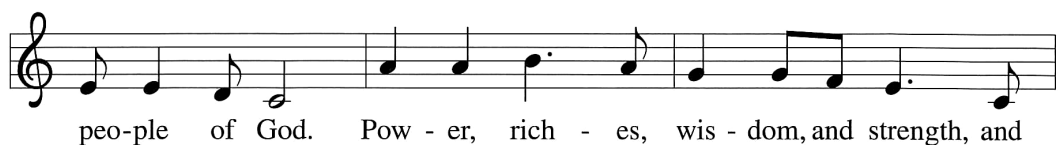
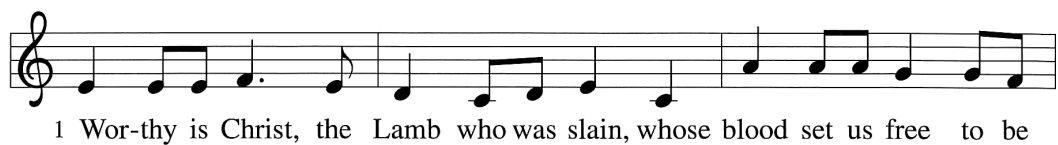
For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

*HYMN OF PRAISE



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC “All Creature of Our God and King” Bell Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WORD

FIRST READING: : Acts 16:9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 67

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God’s face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S 188



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical score is written on four staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, using eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

*GOSPEL: John 5:1-9

The holy gospel according to John, the fifth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes.

³ In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” ⁷ The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.” ⁸ Jesus said to him, “Stand up, take your mat and walk.” ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Laura Fladten

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Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,

his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the

vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful

Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.
 Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

HYFRYDOL
 8787D

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***APOSTLE'S 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**

MEAL

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it in heaven.
 Give us this day is 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**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

S 191



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

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Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are aligned with the notes on each staff.

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

God of Life, we are surrounded by countless signs of springtime resurrection. Open our eyes and hearts to truly see and fully appreciate the fragile beauty of this good earth, and the importance of living wisely and sensitively, so that those who come after us will be able to live in a beautiful and healthy world. Lord in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of Wisdom, You have created us with the capacity to grow and learn - to have our understanding of ourselves, each other and the world deepened and broadened. Save us from the foolish arrogance of believing that we have nothing left to learn. Remind us of the beauty of sincere humility, from which true wisdom is borne. Lord in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of Peace, You long for Your children to rise above our suspicions and fear, our greed and self-centeredness, our bigotry and short-sightedness. Galvanize the efforts of all who are working for greater understanding and friendship between nations, so that we may rise above the foolish horrors of war. This Memorial Day, we gratefully acknowledge the devotion of those who have served in our military and especially those who have given their lives for the cause of freedom and justice. Bless our remembrance of them as we work together to build a more peaceful world. Lord in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of Hope, we find ourselves overwhelmed by the challenges confronting us on every side the degradation of our planet, the plight of the poor, the scourge of racism, sexism, and homophobia, the rise of isolation and alienation, and our propensity for angry judgment of others. In the face of our discouragement, restore in us a hope that is anchored in your unfailing faithfulness. Lord in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of Healing, You are with us through the joys as well as the sorrows of life. Extend Your tender mercies to all bearing difficult burdens of loneliness, weariness, addiction, illness, or injury. Today we name.... Extend your blessing and help to them and to those who care for them. Lord in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of love, You intend for us to seek meaning and abundance not in the accumulation of things but rather in deepening connection with each other. Strengthen the love we experience within our families, with our friends and neighbors, with our coworkers and colleagues, and within this circle of Christian fellowship. And help us both to notice and to reach out to those in our midst who might be lonely and in need of a friend, that we might experience the profound joy that comes from living a more loving life. Lord in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Hear our prayers both spoken and unspoken, and share with us the grace that brings blessing beyond our deserving, through Christ our Risen Lord and Savior.

Amen.

BLESSING

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

Amen.

***SENDING SONG**

I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911
Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

***DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



Announcements

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar this morning are in honor and memory of Andrew Carlson and Allen Carlson, given with love by Eunice Carlson.

Welcome Visitors!

A special welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please fill out one of the yellow cards in the pew rack in front of you so we can acknowledge your visit with us. You can put your completed card into the offering plate or give it to an usher or a pastor before you leave. Please join us in the lounge for coffee and fellowship after worship.

Communion By Intinction

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping of the wafer into the chalice of wine). There are also gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the Individual wafer/juice cups are available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary for those who prefer to commune in their pew.

Food Pantry

The number of clients has been increasing while the food we receive from Racine County Food Bank and the government has been decreasing which means the pantry has had to purchase more items. For a family of four, the items the pantry purchases totals \$33.31! We also collect pens and pencils, cookbooks, and greeting cards to share with our clients. We can use lightly used plastic shopping bags and brown paper bags which we use to pack groceries. Thanks to everyone who contributes to the pantry and to our wonderful , dedicated volunteers. We could not do this without you!

Diaper Ministry

Thank you to Val Conner for sponsoring May's Diaper Depot delivery in memory of Daniel. The Diaper Depot is a non-profit in Kenosha that collects diaper donations and shares them with area diaper ministries for \$30/month. Thank you all for your ongoing support!

Our next distribution dates are June 11 th from 11AM to 1PM and June 25th from 4PM to 6PM. Please tell others about our ministry. Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with any questions or if you would like to volunteer.

Relay For Life Luminaria Bags

The Annual Relay for Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society will be held Friday, June 13th at Campus Park, 8500 Campus Drive, in Mt. Pleasant. The event begins at 6PM. You are invited to stop in and walk to get your extra steps in for the day. There is food and raffles to raise additional money. The Luminarias will be lit about 9:00 p.m. Relay participants share an emotional moment when each is lit in remembrance of a life touched by cancer.

Susan Anderson will once again have luminaria bags for you to purchase and decorate in the conference room on Sunday, June 8th. The minimum donation for each white luminaria bag is \$10.00. You can stay to decorate yours here or take it to work on at home. Bags must be returned to Susan or the church office before noon on June 11th. Please contact Susan with any questions, susanderson06@att.net or 262- 902-5334.

Honoring Our Graduates on Sunday, June 1st

We will be honoring our HCLC graduates next Sunday. If you or someone in your family is graduating from high school, technical school, college, etc. and you wish to have them listed in the bulletin, please send their name, school, the degree received, and if possible a picture to office.hclc@gmail.com. All names must be in the office no later than 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 27th!

Ketchup Club Moving to the First Tuesday in June!

In June the Ketchup Club will be moving to the first Tuesday of the month, which we hope will make it possible for more people to attend. We will meet at Martha's Pancake House, 2913 Taylor Avenue, at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 3rd. These casual gatherings are a chance to reconnect or "catch-up" with old friends or to make some new ones! All are welcome to join us! Please let Pastor Laura or the office know if you plan to be there so we can reserve a table. If you unexpectedly find yourself free, please come and join us and we will happily make room at the table!

Men's Group

The Men's Group meets at 9:00 a.m. on the second Friday of the Month. All men are encouraged to join Pastor Mark in the lounge for a discussion!

Quilting Group

The HCLC quilters meet at 1:00 on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. You do not have to have prior quilting experience to be able to help.. LWR sends the quilts all over the world to provide warmth and comfort to those who have been displaced from their homes or affected by war or natural disasters. If you have full, queen or king size flat sheets you don't need, the quilters can use them for backings.

Giving With Tithely

Many of our members have decided giving through tithely.ly is a simple way to stay up to date with their pledges or to make special offerings. This QR code will take you to the Tithely web page where you can make a donation to HCLC with your credit card or bank account. You can choose a one-time donation or recurring donations, whether you pay by credit card or from your checking or savings account, and if your donation should go to the general fund, the food pantry, or another fund. If you need help, you can contact Keri in the office, keri.hclc@gmail.com.



Upcoming Worship, Education , Fellowship, and Service Opportunities

Sunday, May 25 - 9:30 Worship
Monday, May 26 - Memorial Day - Office and Food Pantry Closed
Tuesday, May 27 - 1:00 Quilting Group
Wednesday, May 28 - 4:00-6:00 Diaper Ministry
Friday, May 30 - 12:30 Food Pantry
Sunday, June 1 - 9:30 Worship - Honoring Our Graduates
 10:30 Confirmation rehearsal
 10:30 Stained Glass Window Presentation
Monday, June 2 - 12:30 Food Pantry
Tuesday, June 3 - 9:30 Ketchup Club
Friday, June 6 - 12:30 Food Pantry
Sunday, June 8 - 9:30 Worship - Confirmation
Monday, June 9 - 12:30 Food Pantry

Finance Update

April 2025 Finance Numbers
Revenue: \$75,648.45
Expense: \$46,792.74
Net Income: \$28,855.71

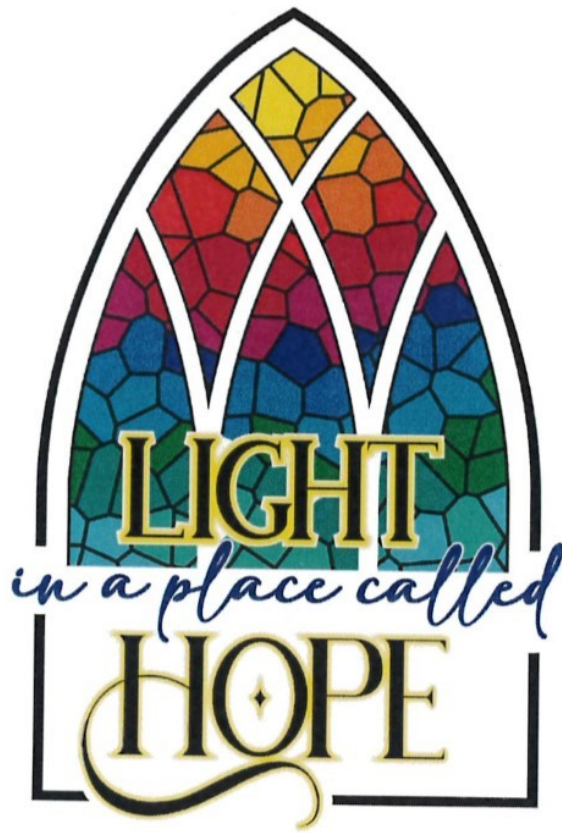
Year to Date Finance Numbers
Revenue: \$231,183.6
Expense: \$199,752.40
Net Income: \$31,431.21

Holy Communion Church Council

Joleen Carlson, president, Gary Wood, vice president, Laurie Knudson, secretary, Kylee Albright, treasurer, Rose Adamski, Bob Larsen, David Knudson, Rebecca Mason, and Polly Timmerman.

In person attendance on Sunday, May 18, 2025 - 125 Online family units - 18

*You're Invited,
Please Join Us!*



When & Where

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025 @ 11:00 am
(shortly after worship)

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
2000 West 6th Street, Racine, WI 53405

In the beautiful sanctuary

RSVP by May 25, 2025 with name and #
attending to 262-632-8802 (church office)

What

- A FREE Stained Glass Window Presentation by Willet Studios, from Winona, MN
- Information about stained glass windows and the Holy Communion Lutheran Church window restoration project
- Light refreshments
- Music provided by Caritas, featuring Greg and Kathy Berg and Kate Potter-Barrow
- Free will offering gratefully accepted to help support the extensive window project

Why

- Our 43 beautiful stained glass windows are in need of some love.
- Some minor and major repairs are in the works!
- New clear window coverings will replace the old clouded protective panes and allow these beautiful historic pieces to be seen throughout the neighborhood!
- We are known as the "Hope on a Hill" church at the top of the 6th Street hill. We strive to be a light in our neighborhood and community.

All are Welcome!

If you would like to join us for worship that morning, the service begins at 9:30 am.

Please come celebrate with us!

<https://hopeonahill.org>