

**Sunday, May 17, 2026  
Seventh Sunday of Easter**



**Now they know that  
everything you have  
given me is from you;  
for the words that  
you gave to me  
I have given to them.**

**John 17:7, NRSV**

**Sharing the Light!**

**Holy Communion Lutheran Church  
2000 West Sixth Street Racine, Wisconsin 53405  
A community called to Worship, Learn, Love, and Serve**

**We Are Called**  
**A Contemporary Worship Service**

*Special thanks to assisting minister Paige Kupper, lector and communion assistant Linda Goodson, audio-visual technician Kylee Albright, ushers Jim Buhler, Dave Barlament, Todd Jansen, Tim Krikau, and Gary Wee, altar guild Sandy Ivanoski, Kay Krause, Lindsay Newton, Lori Neu, and Joni Reske, councilperson in charge Rebecca Mason, and musicians Kate Potter Barrow, Gregg Albright and Gregory Berg for sharing their time and talent with us today.*

**PRELUDE** *(a quiet time to reflect and prepare for worship)*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**ALL: To do justice**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**All: To love kindness**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

**All: To walk humbly with our God**

A.M.: We come to learn, to praise, to pray;

**All: We come to worship our God.**

\*OPENING HYMN

# All Are Welcome

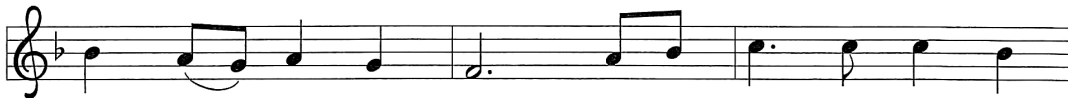
641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
claim the faith of Je - sus:  
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
end to fear and dan - ger:  
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: Marty Haugen  
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TWO OAKS  
96 86 87 10 and refrain

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**\*CONFESSION OF SINS:**

P. In the presence of God, who knows our hearts and minds, let us confess our sin:

O Holy and loving God,

**We acknowledge to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we're not what you have called us to be. We have not always stood by our faith, shared our hope, or reached out with love. We have done unkind and shameful deeds, and we have left undone, deeds which could have made a difference in the lives of those around us. Too often, we have failed to speak and act for peace, justice, and kindness in our world.**

**Have mercy upon our repentance, forgive our sin, and change our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and loved by God. Go into the world with changed hearts and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ! **Amen.**

**\*GREETING:**


P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

**\*\*SONG: Won't You Stand Up**


Solo: All the lonely people crying, it could change if we just get started.  
Lift the darkness, light a fire for the silent and the brokenhearted.

**Refrain:**



Won't you stand up, stand up, stand up. Won't you stand up and make a choice.

5



Won't you stand up, stand up, stand up. Won't you stand up and use your voice.

Solo: With the comfort, there's a healing, high above the pain and sorrow.  
Change is coming, can you feel it? Calling us into a new tomorrow! **Refrain:**

Solo: When the walls fall all around you, when your hope has turned to dust.  
Let the sound of love surround you, beat like God's heart in each of us! **Refrain:**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A.M.: Oh God who breaks barriers down and welcomes all:

**All: You invite us to walk humbly by your side.**

**You call us to act with justice.**

**By your works, you inspire us to serve one another.**

**We pray that you will give us the courage to make a difference in this world  
by treating people with respect and dignity,  
bringing healing to the broken,  
and living in your light  
so that those whose spirits are darkened by hopelessness and despair  
feel your shining presence and tender love.**

A.M. And all God's children say:

**All: Help us to walk humbly with you, O God! Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC "Peace I Leave With You" ( Carey Landry - add'l. lyrics GB) Senior Choir**

*Refrain: Peace I leave with you, my friend. Shalom, my peace, in all you do.  
Peace I leave with you, my friend. I give to you so you can give to others, too.*

*To share God's love is why I came - to show God's kindness to the world.  
Go now, my friends, and do the same - until I come again.*

*There will be mountains you think you cannot climb -  
looming walls of darkness we have seen through all of time.  
Yet only a spark can shatter the darkness and illuminate the news.  
You cannot conceive, yet trust and believe what God can do for you. REF.*

*Don't be discouraged. Do not give into fear,  
even when your pathway is anything but clear.  
But in the unknown, you are never alone. There simply is no place  
where you can escape the loving embrace of God's amazing grace.*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Lisa Lequia**

**NOISY OFFERING**

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAY GO TO CHOIR**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-8**

<sup>6</sup> When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 68: 1-10, 32-35**

<sup>1</sup> Let God arise, and let God’s enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup> **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;  
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

<sup>3</sup> But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup> **Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;  
I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

<sup>5</sup> In your holy habitation, O God,  
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

<sup>6</sup> **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;  
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

<sup>7</sup> O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup> **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup> You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

<sup>10</sup> **Your people found their home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

<sup>32</sup> Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
sing praises to the Lord.

<sup>33</sup> **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup> Ascribe power to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

<sup>35</sup> **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Cantor: We hear the ancient words of God, whose son once on this earth did trod. So we today could sing out, Hallelujah. With open mind and joyful heart, we listen, then we'll do our part—to help our broken world shout Hallelujah.

**REFRAIN:**

**All:**

Ha - le - lu - jah - Ha - le - lu - jah - Ha - le - lu - jah -

7  
Ha - le - lu - jah.

**\*GOSPEL: John 17: 1-11**

The holy gospel according to John, the seventeenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup> “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**REFRAIN**

**SERMON Pastor Laura Fladten**

**CHILDREN RETURN TO WORSHIP**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

# We Are Called

720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the  
2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  
3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to  
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so  
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.  
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957  
Music: David Haas  
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WE ARE CALLED  
Irregular

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## MEAL

### \*INVITATION SONG: Make A Difference - Rachel Kurtz

Pastor: You gave your life to make a difference. You gave your life to make a change.  
You welcomed all to your table. You're calling us to do the same.

#### Refrain:

The musical notation for the Refrain is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is as follows:  
Staff 1: I want my life to make a diff - 'rence; — I want my  
Staff 2: life to make a change. — I want my life to do some  
Staff 3: good here; — I want my life to make a change.  
Chord markings: A (above staff 2), E (above staff 2), F# (above staff 3), A (above staff 3), E (above staff 3).

Solo: Working side by side, no out or inside,  
Together we can make that change.  
With a few or many, with a lot or not any,  
Together we can make that change! **Refrain:**

Solo: Crossing the great divide, Joy and peace will abide,  
Together we can make that change.  
Jesus is our peace, all fighting will cease  
Together we can make that change! **Refrain:**

#### Words of Institution:

Solo: We're the citizens with the saints, We're the sunshine with the rain.  
We're the joy with the pain. We're the change!  
You healed the sick and fed the poor. You loved the prophet and ended war.  
Through us you will do more, You're the change! **Refrain:**

Pastor: You gave your life to make a difference.  
You gave your life to make a change.  
You welcomed all to your table.  
You're calling us to do the same.

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**\*LORD'S PRAYER:**

**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.**

**DISTRI BUTION OF COMMUNION**

**LAMB OF GOD:** *This song begins with a solo. Please watch the song leader who will invite you to sing when all instruments join after the interlude.*

D A . bm A G

Lamb of God you take a-way the sin of the world - have mer-cy

A D D A bm

6 on - us. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world

A G A D

12 have mer - cy on us.

D A bm G

Take a-way the ha-tred. Take a-way the chains - Take a way the

A G Asus D

6 hung - er take a-way - the pain Grant us peace.

**\*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.**

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAY GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERTORY “Christ Be Our Light”**

em                      bm                      em                      em                      C




1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for truth, -  
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the hearts that

7                      D                      em                      am                      D                      em                      C                      A



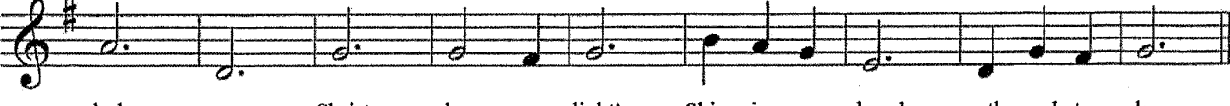
we turn to you. Make us your own, — your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to  
yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er, signs of your kind - dom

15                      Dsus4                      D                      G                      C                      G                      em                      G                      C                      D



see. ———— Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
come.

23                      Dsus4                      D                      G                      C                      G                      em                      am                      D                      C C G



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

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## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

United in the Hope and Joy of the Resurrection let us pray. (silence)

Creating God, we thank you for the wondrous world which You have made- and which You have entrusted to us. Help us to widen our gaze beyond our own interests, so that we would care for the earth and all of its creatures. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Inspiring God, it is with You that we find purpose, fulfillment and meaning in our lives. Bless us in every endeavor - especially as we seek to live out our faith. Bless your church and all who comprise it, that we would be bold in our witness and compassionate in our outreach. Guide this congregation, church council, our pastors, and all of us as we seek to do Your will and make a difference in our community. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Healing God, there is no hurt, no need, no fear beyond the reach of Your grace. Embrace all who are struggling with illness, injury, weakness, weariness, depression or discouragement. Today we especially remember ... <names>. Embrace them and help them to know that they are not alone. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Welcoming God, You want us to see each other through compassionate and understanding eyes, and You call us to love all people, including those we see as strangers or even enemies. Help us to be more selfless and fearless in our love, and remind us not to let anyone be left out or left behind. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Teaching God, You open our eyes to a true understanding of the world and our place in it. Give us a passion for learning and growing, whatever our age may be - and help us to always nurture the precious gifts of imagination and creativity with which you have blessed us. Guide students, teachers and administrators as they approach the end of the school year, that amid all of their frustrations, they may cling to the joy of learning. Lord in your mercy,

**HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Hear these spoken prayers as well as the unspoken prayers of our hearts, with the love and grace and mercy made perfect in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**AMEN.**

## **BLESSING**

*Congregation, please join in singing the choruses of Amens.*

## **DISMISSAL**

A.M.: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

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

## **POSTLUDE**

*Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the lounge.*



## Announcements

### Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar this morning are in loving memory of Pastor Walter Hermanns given by his family and in loving memory of Patricia Lynne Barlament given by her husband Dave.

### 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 after worship for a treat and a time of fellowship.

### Communion By Intinction

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping the wafer into the chalice of wine). There are gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the center. If you feel more comfortable communing in your pew, there are individual cups available on the tables in the back of the sanctuary.

### Graduate Recognition

We will honor our graduates during the worship service on Sunday, May 31. If you or someone in your family is graduating from high school, college, or a technical program, please send us their picture, what school they are graduating from, the degree earned, their plan for the future, and let us know if they will be able to attend the service. The graduate information will be printed in the bulletin and the June newsletter. Please get it to the office (office.hclc@gmail.com) by Monday, May 25th.

### Thank You For Your Help!

The worship committee would like to thank the following folks who lent a special hand in bringing the Light in a Place Called Hope service to life on May 10th. Your helping hands were deeply appreciated!

Gregg Albright	Kylee Albright	Patrick BeBow	Greg Berg
Joleen Carlson	Val Conner	Pastor Laura Fladten	Dave Knudsonn
Heidi Komistra	Laura Kozenski	Lisa Lequia	Elaine Lewis
Betty Petersen	Kate Potter Barrow	Polly Timmerman	

### Diaper Ministry

Sincere thanks to Linda Godson for sponsoring the May Diaper Depot delivery! Your support of the diaper ministry allows us to help an average of 52 clients and to distribute over 1,100 diapers each time we are open! Our next distribution dates are May 27th from 4 – 6 PM and June 10th from 11AM - 1 PM.. Contact Kylee Albright, kygregg@mac.com, or Amy Larsen, amylarsen2406@att.net, with questions or to volunteer.

### Food Pantry

For May the pantry is asking for donations of pancake mix, syrup, jelly, pork & beans, and saltines. We also need clean, lightly used, plastic and large, brown paper shopping bags. If you have cookbooks, children's Bible storybooks, greeting cards, pens, or pencils that you won't use, the pantry clients are happy to receive them. Thank you all for your generosity and love for your neighbors!

### Finance Update

**April Finance Numbers**  
**Revenue: \$57,789.99**  
**Expense: \$48,756.82**  
**Net Income: \$9,033.17**

**Year to Date Finance Numbers**  
**Revenue: \$221,694.76**  
**Expense: \$217,697.62**  
**Net Income: \$3,997.14**

**In-person attendance on Sunday, May 10, 2026 - 152    Households watching online - 26**

### **HCLC Scholarship**

We are pleased to offer a scholarship for Holy Communion students moving on to higher education after high school! To qualify, you must be a Holy Communion member, accepted and attending an undergraduate university, college, or technical school for the 2026 - 2027 school year. This is a one-time scholarship (\$500) for youth who have been active in the life of faith (Sunday School, Confirmation, volunteering) at Holy Communion. There is a short application requirement. Applications should be returned to the church office at [office.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:office.hclc@gmail.com) by July 1. Applications will be reviewed, and we will require a class schedule to be submitted before funds will be released. Any questions? Please contact Lynn Helmke at [lynnhelmke226@gmail.com](mailto:lynnhelmke226@gmail.com).

### **Relay For Life Luminarias**

Susan Anderson will have luminaria bags for sale on Sunday May 24, and May 31. Each bag is \$10. You can decorate your bag/s here or take them home and bring it back by Wednesday, June 3rd. The Relay for Life is on June 5th at Campus Park in Mt. Pleasant, beginning at 5:00 p.m. You can decorate your bag any way you'd like, with photographs, drawings, or names of those who have been lost, the journey of those who survived and those whose lives were affected by cancer. Questions? Please contact [susananderson@shorewest.com](mailto:susananderson@shorewest.com).

### **Third Tuesday Bible Study**

May 19th the study of the book of Acts will meet at the home of Julie Burton (136 Steeplechase Drive). The discussion will focus on Acts 13:4 to Acts 14:19-20 on pages 115 to 128 in William Barclay. This is an exciting awareness of the spread of the Christian faith from Cyprus north of Jerusalem to Antioch and even farther north. But there were Jews so determined to stop them, they came and stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city. The courage of Paul and Barnabas is amazing as they travel from city to city describing Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophets. Bring a Bible to enrich our discussion.

### **Lounge Member Tree Mural**

Several years ago a large "Tree of Members" was painted on the wall across from the lounge. We would like to fill the tree with leaves and have them blowing down the wall towards the sanctuary, filled with the names of our Holy Communion family, both current and past members. You can purchase a leaf for \$10. There are forms on the table in the back of the sanctuary, the welcome center, and the office. Return your completed forms with your payment to the office or place it in the offering plate.

### **Ketchup Club Tuesday, June 2**

The next Ketchup Club lunch is Tuesday, June 2nd. All are welcome to join us for lunch at 11:30 a.m. at The Chartroom, 209 Dodge St. These lunches are a fun way to "catch up" with old friends and possibly make some new connections. Please let Pastor Laura, [pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com), or the office, [office.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:office.hclc@gmail.com), know if you plan to be there so we can reserve a table. If you unexpectedly find yourself free, please come join us and we'll gladly make room at the table for you.

### **Upcoming Worship, Education, Fellowship, and Service Opportunities**

Sunday, May 17 - 9:30 Worship/Last Day of Sunday School  
10:30 Confirmation Class  
Monday, May 18 - 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study  
12:30 Food Pantry  
Tuesday, May 19 - 10:00 Third Tuesday Bible Study  
Friday, May 22 - 12:30 Food Pantry  
Sunday, May 24 - 9:30 Worship/Confirmation Service  
Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day - Office and Food Pantry Closed  
Tuesday, May 26 - 1:00 Quilting Group  
Wednesday, May 27 - 4:00-6:00 Diaper Ministry  
Friday, May 29 - 12:30 Food Pantry  
Sunday, May 31 - 9:30 Worship/Confirmation

### **Holy Communion Church Council**

President Joleen Carlson president, Vice President Gary Wood, Secretary Laurie Knudson, Treasurer Kylee Albright, Members at large Rose Adamski, Steve Barootian, David Knudson, Rebecca Mason, and Polly Timmerman

Office hours Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.