



Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service ***May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.***

We express our appreciation for being able to meet on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. May we always look for ways to confront past injustices and support Snuneymuxw governance and jurisdiction.

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship¹

We meet as a family in the presence of our heavenly Father, who calls us to abide in His love.

We meet as brothers and sisters in Christ, accepting the responsibility this places upon us to love one another as you have loved us. Help us learn to embrace the other — those who are marginalized, those ignored, or feared.

We meet as Your lights in this dark world and pray that through our words and our lives others might be drawn to You.

Let us worship together in love.

Gathering Hymn: #389 Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

The cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring.

Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

**2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.**

**3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

¹ Ashley Johnson, *Easter Liturgical Resources from Africana Writers*, edited by Safiya Fosu, 2020.

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service

May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

**5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

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The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all. **And also with you.**

Glory to God (*Hymnal, Setting 6, pages 167-68*)

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Refrain**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. Refrain**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.**

Glory to God in the highest, Amen, amen.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Children's Corner

First Reading – Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service

May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – 1 John 5:1-6

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

This 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (*Hymnal Setting Six, page 171*)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia

Gospel – John 15:9-17

The Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service
May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: #631 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**

- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

- 4 Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Prayers of Intercession

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

(A brief silence)

Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and inter-religious partners. We pray for our **Bishop Kathy Martin**; for *Lutheran Church of the Cross* in Victoria and **Pastor Lyle McKenzie** and **Pastor Lyndon Sayers**; and for *prison chaplains and their ministries*. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. **God of grace, hear our prayer**.

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service

May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. We pray especially for *Carolyn B; Bill & Donna B; Mike B; Bonnie C; Bill L; Kaela D; Ken D; Gary G; Helena G; Ahmad H; Alyx M; Charlotte M; Marjorie M; Hans N; Janet O; Paula & Ana O; Irene P; James S; Birgit S; Evan S; Jack W; Zach & his children; Alana; Audrey; Bernie & Erna; Chittri; Colleen; Ezra; Graham; Helena; Julie's family; Kristi; Leah & the Nicholsons; Louise; Makai; Margaret; Pentti; Quinn; Tanu; Zack...* God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries and committees of this congregation, that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace [*unmute*]

The peace of Christ is with you always!

And also with you!

*(We greet each other gently with a wave, a smile,
or some other gesture of peace)*

The Offering & Prayer

Offertory:

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.**

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service
May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is 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. (*Pastor continues...*)

Holy, holy, holy (*Hymnal, Setting 6, page 173*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath. We praise you, O God. Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. We bless you, O God. We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: ***Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.***

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: ***This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.***

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering, within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service

May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Lord's Prayer Song (*inside back cover of hymnal*)

[Mixcord](#)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Hallowed be your name, Hallelujah.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth
as in heaven, Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**Give us today our daily bread, give us today our bread,
Give us our bread today, Hallelujah.
Forgive our sins as we forgive
Forgive our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us, Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**Save us from the time of trial, save us from the trial.
Deliver us from evil, Hallelujah.
For the kingdom and the power are yours,
The kingdom and the power are yours,
the glory now and ever, Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah. Amen.**

Communion (*those on Zoom will be communed first, and then those in the sanctuary*)

**Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Happy are those who trust in the Lord.**

Bread: "Take and eat, this is the body of Christ, given for you."

Cup: "Take and drink, this is the blood of Christ, shed for you."

Lamb of God (*Hymnal, Setting 6, page 174*)

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.***

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service
May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Communion Hymns:

Hymn #622 Neither Death nor Life

Refrain

*Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor trials in the present, nor any trial to come,
neither height, nor depth, nor all of creation
can ever separate us from the love of God
poured out in Christ Jesus, our Lord.*

- 1 Dwell in the one who raised Christ from the dead;
though your body shall die, in Christ you shall rise
through the Spirit who brings you to life. *Refrain***

- 2 All who are led by the Spirit shall live
as children of God, and heirs with Christ Jesus,
God's adopted and chosen and loved. *Refrain***

- 3 All of the suff'ring we now must endure
is nothing to the glory so soon to be revealed
when creation itself is set free. *Refrain***

- 4 All of creation awaits the new birth,
the fullness of redemption, through labor pains of love,
and so we wait in patience and hope. *Refrain***

- 5 Who can separate us from the love of Christ?
Will hardship or distress, persecution or famine,
or nakedness or peril or sword? *Refrain***

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Romans 8

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Hymn #838 Beautiful Saviour

- 1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**

- 2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service
May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

**3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.**

**4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!**

Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

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 #880 O God Beyond All Praising

**1 O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.**

**2 The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,
its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown—
though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:
for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,
and we through him are given the final victory.**

**3 Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.**

Text: Michael Perry, 1942-1996

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***Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service
May 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.***

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God!

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Worship Assistants Today

Hymnologist: *Cheryl Satre* (musician selecting hymns):

Reader: *Audrey Strauss*

Prayers: *Dorothy Pagan*

Communion Assistants: *Flo Bender, Marilyn Gross, Carolyn Iles*

Zoom Hosts: (C1/PTZ); (C2).

Zoom Greeters: *Dorothy Pagan, Linda Harvey*

Usher: *Peter Clark*

Musician: *Cheryl Satre*

Presiding: *Rev. Bill Fehr*

Readings for Sunday, May 12 — 7 Easter
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

Announcements: