

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter 2018 - Year B
Notes for Planners

Two lessons are heard each Sunday, highlighting the early Christians' journey and spread of the Gospel as told in Acts, and John's reminder of God's love which spurs us on to love others.

The Psalm verse (used as a refrain when the psalm is chanted) is a spoken response to hearing the story from Acts.

The texts of hymns create spoken dialogue at various points in the service. There is also ample opportunity to sing joyous praises to the risen Christ. You may choose to substitute hymns, or to omit hymns if that suits your community.

Dressing the worship space for Easter can inspire worshippers. Arrangements of green plants or white flowers could be placed in front of the altar or pulpit, or near the baptismal font. Lighting extra candles (tea lights or tapers), and placing them on various levels of stools and plant stands, reminds us that God is the light of the world and we are sent to be lights for others. Visual art could also be displayed in a more prominent place during Easter. You might consider providing white ribbons for the children to wave during hymn singing or as part of a procession.

For the Service of Holy Communion, Setting 6 is suggested, but another setting could be substituted. The Holy Communion liturgy is for use when an Ordained or Authorized Lay Minister is present to preside.

The *Blessing* for all the services is taken from *Hay and Stardust* by Ruth Burgess p. 75, Wild Goose Publications copyright 2005. For the Service of the Word, the *Thanksgiving* is written by Pat Bennett and is also from *Hay and Stardust*, p. 56. The *Dismissal* is from *Sundays and Seasons*. The *Opening Dialogue* for Resurrection of Our Lord was written by Lorraine Reinhardt, based on the Easter story in all of the gospels. All other material comes from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Table words can be found on p. 69 no. XI.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Day April 1, 2018
Service of Holy Communion

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia! ELW 369

Opening Dialogue

As the first day of the week was dawning,
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.
As the first day of the week was dawning,
The stone was rolled away.

At the dawn an angel greeted them,
"He is not here, for he has been raised."
At the dawn an angel greeted them,
"Come, see the place where he lay."

The angel's clothes were white as snow,
"Do not be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus."
The angel's clothes were white as snow,
"Jesus has been raised!"

Go quickly! Tell his disciples,
"Jesus has been raised from the dead!"
Go quickly! Tell his disciples,
"Jesus is going ahead of you!"

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 32)

WORD

First Reading Acts 10:34-43

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel Mark 16:1-8

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! ELW 385

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - *sing before and after the prayers*

Peace

MEAL

Offering and Prayer

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.

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 172

Sanctus ELW p. 173 "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

Table Words and Prayers

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify

you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Agnus Dei ELW p. 174 "Lamb of God"

Post-communion Prayer

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Hymn I Come With Joy ELW 482

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Day April 1, 2018
Service of the Word

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia! ELW 369

Opening Dialogue

As the first day of the week was dawning,
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.
As the first day of the week was dawning,
The stone was rolled away.

At the dawn an angel greeted them,
"He is not here, for he has been raised."
At the dawn an angel greeted them,
"Come, see the place where he lay."

The angel's clothes were white as snow,
"Do not be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus."
The angel's clothes were white as snow,
"Jesus has been raised!"

Go quickly! Tell his disciples,
"Jesus has been raised from the dead!"
Go quickly! Tell his disciples,
"Jesus is going ahead of you!"

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 32)

WORD

First Reading Acts 10:34-43

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel Mark 16:1-8

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! ELW 385

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

Offering and Prayer

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.

THANKSGIVING

Inspiring Word,
move over the chaos within me,
calling forth form and order,
that I may know you in my shaping
and, in the shaping,
surrender my life to yours.

Illuminating Word,
pierce the darkness within me,
calling forth insight and understanding,
that I may know you in my seeing
and, in seeing,
follow the way of your kingdom.

Incarnate Word,
indwell the life within me,
calling forth passion and purpose,
that I may know you in my living,
and, in living,
embody you for the world.

Lord's Prayer

Closing Dialogue

We are called
to act with justice.

We are called
to love tenderly.

We are called
to serve one another.

We are called
to walk humbly with God. (ELW 720)

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song I Come with Joy (vs 1, 4, 5) ELW 482

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Second Sunday of Easter April 8, 2018
Service of Holy Communion

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright ELW 384

Opening Dialogue

Now all the vault of heaven resounds
in praise of love that still abounds
Christ has triumphed!
He is living!

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here.
Christ has triumphed!
He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 367)

Hymn of the Day Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 32)

WORD

First Reading Acts 4: 32-35

How good and pleasant it is to live in unity. (Psalm 133:1)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 20: 19-31

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ELW 815

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

MEAL

Offering and Prayer

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.

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 172

Sanctus ELW p. 173 “Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Table Words and Prayers

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin’s womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

Communion

Agnus Dei ELW p. 174 “Lamb of God”

Post-Communion Prayer

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song This Little Light of Mine ELW 677

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Second Sunday of Easter April 8, 2018
Service of the Word

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright ELW 384

Opening Dialogue

Now all the vault of heaven resounds
in praise of love that still abounds
Christ has triumphed!
He is living!

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here.
Christ has triumphed!
He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 367)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 32)

WORD

First Reading Acts 4: 32-35

How good and pleasant it is to live in unity. (Psalm 133:1)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 20: 19-31

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ELW 815

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

Offering and Prayer

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.

THANKSGIVING

Inspiring Word,
move over the chaos within me,
calling forth form and order,
that I may know you in my shaping
and, in the shaping,
surrender my life to yours.

Illuminating Word,
pierce the darkness within me,
calling forth insight and understanding,
that I may know you in my seeing
and, in seeing,
follow the way of your kingdom.

Incarnate Word,
indwell the life within me,
calling forth passion and purpose,
that I may know you in my living,
and, in living,
embody you for the world.

Lord's Prayer

Closing Dialogue

We are called
to act with justice.

We are called
to love tenderly.

We are called
to serve one another.

We are called
to walk humbly with God. (ELW 720)

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song This Little Light of Mine ELW 677

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Third Sunday of Easter April 15, 2018
Service of Holy Communion

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Jesus We Are Gathered ELW 529

Opening Dialogue

Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
Christ has triumphed!
He is living!

Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed!
He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 367)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 33)

WORD

First Reading Acts 3: 12-19

The Lord does wonders for the faithful. (Psalm 4:3)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel Luke 24:36b-48

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day **ELW 363** Come You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

MEAL

Offering and Prayer

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.

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 172

Sanctus ELW p. 173 "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

Table Words and Prayers

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Agnus Dei ELW p. 174 "Lamb of God"

Prayer after communion

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song Jesus Loves Me! ELW 595

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Third Sunday of Easter April 15, 2018
Service of the Word

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Jesus We Are Gathered ELW 529

Opening Dialogue

Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
Christ has triumphed!
He is living!

Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed!
He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 367)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 33)

WORD

First Reading Acts 3: 12-19

The Lord does wonders for the faithful. (Psalm 4:3)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel Luke 24:36b-48

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Come You Faithful, Raise the Strain ELW 363

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

Offering and Prayer

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.

THANKSGIVING

Inspiring Word,
move over the chaos within me,
calling forth form and order,
that I may know you in my shaping
and, in the shaping,
surrender my life to yours.

Illuminating Word,
pierce the darkness within me,
calling forth insight and understanding,
that I may know you in my seeing
and, in seeing,
follow the way of your kingdom.

Incarnate Word,
indwell the life within me,
calling forth passion and purpose,
that I may know you in my living,
and, in living,
embody you for the world.

Closing Dialogue

We are called
to act with justice.

We are called
to love tenderly.

We are called
to serve one another.

We are called
to walk humbly with God. (ELW 720)

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God

Lead us

Power of God

Hold us

Joy of God

Heal us

Laughter of God

Bless us

Love of God

Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.

Amen

Sending Song Jesus Loves Me! ELW 595

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Fourth Sunday of Easter April 22, 2018
Service of Holy Communion

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us ELW 789

Opening Dialogue

Great God, your love has called us here,
as we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.

Great God, in Christ you call our name
and then receive us as your own,
not through some merit, right, or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
and find you kneeling at our feet.

Great God, in Christ you set us free
your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
to turn from guilt and dull despair,
and offer all that faith can do
while love is making all things new. (ELW 358)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**
(ELW p. 33)

WORD

First Reading Acts 4: 5-12

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. (Psalm 23:1)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 10: 11-18

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Have No Fear, Little Flock ELW 764

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

MEAL

Offering and Prayer

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.

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 172

Sanctus ELW p. 173 "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

Table Words and Prayers

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Agnus Dei ELW p. 174 "Lamb of God"

Post-Communion Prayer

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God

Lead us

Power of God

Hold us

Joy of God

Heal us

Laughter of God

Bless us

Love of God

Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.

Amen

Sending Song Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me ELW 767

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Fourth Sunday of Easter April 22, 2018
Service of the Word

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us ELW 789

Opening Dialogue

Great God, your love has called us here,
as we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.

Great God, in Christ you call our name
and then receive us as your own,
not through some merit, right, or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
and find you kneeling at our feet.

Great God, in Christ you set us free
your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
to turn from guilt and dull despair,
and offer all that faith can do
while love is making all things new. (ELW 358)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**
(ELW p. 33)

WORD

First Reading Acts 4: 5-12

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. (Psalm 23:1)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 10: 11-18

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Have No Fear, Little Flock ELW 764

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

Offering and Prayer

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.

THANKSGIVING

Inspiring Word,
move over the chaos within me,
calling forth form and order,
that I may know you in my shaping
and, in the shaping,
surrender my life to yours.

Illuminating Word,
pierce the darkness within me,
calling forth insight and understanding,
that I may know you in my seeing
and, in seeing,
follow the way of your kingdom.

Incarnate Word,
indwell the life within me,
calling forth passion and purpose,
that I may know you in my living,
and, in living,
embody you for the world.

Lord's Prayer

Closing Dialogue

We are called
to act with justice.

We are called
to love tenderly.

We are called
to serve one another.

We are called
to walk humbly with God. (ELW 720)

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me ELW 767

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Fifth Sunday of Easter April 29, 2018
Service of Holy Communion

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Now The Green Blade Rises ELW 379

Opening Dialogue

Almighty God, your word is cast like seed into the ground;
now let the dew of heaven descend and righteous fruits abound.

Let not the sly satanic foe this holy seed remove,
but give it root in every heart to bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy,
but let it yield a hundred fold the fruits of peace and joy.

So when the precious seed is sown, life-giving grace bestow,
that all whose souls the truth receive its saving power may know. (ELW 516)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 34)

WORD

First Reading Acts 8: 26-40

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. (Psalm 22:27)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 15: 1-8

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil ELW 512

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

MEAL

Offering and Prayer

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.

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 172

Sanctus ELW p. 173 "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

Table Words and Prayers

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Agnus Dei ELW p. 174 "Lamb of God"

Post-Communion Prayer

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song The Lord Now Sends Us Forth ELW 538

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Fifth Sunday of Easter April 29, 2018
Service of the Word

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Now The Green Blade Rises ELW 379

Opening Dialogue

Almighty God, your word is cast like seed into the ground;
now let the dew of heaven descend and righteous fruits abound.

Let not the sly satanic foe this holy seed remove,
but give it root in every heart to bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy,
but let it yield a hundred fold the fruits of peace and joy.

So when the precious seed is sown, life-giving grace bestow,
that all whose souls the truth receive its saving power may know. (ELW 516)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 34)

WORD

First Reading Acts 8: 26-40

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. (Psalm 22:27)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 15: 1-8

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil ELW 512

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

Offering and Prayer

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.

THANKSGIVING

Inspiring Word,
move over the chaos within me,
calling forth form and order,
that I may know you in my shaping
and, in the shaping,
surrender my life to yours.

Illuminating Word,
pierce the darkness within me,
calling forth insight and understanding,
that I may know you in my seeing
and, in seeing,
follow the way of your kingdom.

Incarnate Word,
indwell the life within me,
calling forth passion and purpose,
that I may know you in my living,
and, in living,
embody you for the world.

Lord's Prayer

Closing Dialogue

We are called
to act with justice.

We are called
to love tenderly.

We are called
to serve one another.

We are called
to walk humbly with God. (ELW 720)

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God

Lead us

Power of God

Hold us

Joy of God

Heal us

Laughter of God

Bless us

Love of God

Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.

Amen

Sending Song The Lord Now Sends Us Forth ELW 538

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Sixth Sunday of Easter May 6, 2018
Service of Holy Communion

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna! ELW 383 (or use the tune Hyfrydol ELW 392)

Opening Dialogue

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!

We are called to be hope for the hopeless so hatred and blindness will be no more.

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!

God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love. (ELW 720)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

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. (ELW p. 34)**

WORD

First Reading Acts 10: 44-48

Shout with joy to the Lord all you lands. (Psalm 98:4)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 15: 9-17

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Love Divine, All Loves Excelling ELW 631

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

MEAL

Offering and Prayer

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.

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 172

Sanctus ELW p. 173 "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

Table Words and Prayers

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Agnus Dei ELW p. 174 "Lamb of God"

Post-Communion Prayer

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises ELW 535

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Sixth Sunday of Easter May 6, 2018
Service of the Word

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna! ELW 383 (or use the tune Hyfrydol ELW 392)

Opening Dialogue

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless so hatred and blindness will be no more.

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love. (ELW 720)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

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. (ELW p. 34)**

WORD

First Reading Acts 10: 44-48

Shout with joy to the Lord all you lands. (Psalm 98:4)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 15: 9-17

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Love Divine, All Loves Excelling ELW 631

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

Offering and Prayer

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.

THANKSGIVING

Inspiring Word,
move over the chaos within me,
calling forth form and order,
that I may know you in my shaping
and, in the shaping,
surrender my life to yours.

Illuminating Word,
pierce the darkness within me,
calling forth insight and understanding,
that I may know you in my seeing
and, in seeing,
follow the way of your kingdom.

Incarnate Word,
indwell the life within me,
calling forth passion and purpose,
that I may know you in my living,
and, in living,
embody you for the world.

Lord's Prayer

Closing Dialogue

We are called
to act with justice.

We are called
to love tenderly.

We are called
to serve one another.

We are called
to walk humbly with God. (ELW 720)

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises ELW 535

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Seventh Sunday of Easter May 13, 2018
Service of Holy Communion

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Lord of All Hopefulness ELW 765

Opening Dialogue (Two leaders each read four lines of each verse)

Build us up, Lord, build us up;
set in us a strong foundation.
Lead us to do your holy will;
form and shape your new creation.

Build us up, Lord, build us up;
as we guide and teach each other,
help us to share your love with the world:
every sister, every brother.

**Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom;
we follow in faith what's begun!**
**Lord, set in our hearts the power of your word
to spread the news of your Son!**

Build us up, Lord, build us up;
let our lives reflect your glory.
Cast away all your doubts and fears;
help us tell the world your story.

Build us up, Lord, build us up;
help us bear good fruit for you,
Lord, give us vision and keep us sure.
Grant us faith that's steadfast and true.
**Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom;
we follow in faith what's begun!**
**Lord, set in our hearts the power of your word
to spread the news of your Son!** (ELW 670)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 35)

WORD

First Reading Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26

The Lord knows the way of the righteous. (Psalm 1:6)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 17: 6-19

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day We Sing to You, O God ELW 791

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

MEAL

Offering and Prayer

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.

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 172

Sanctus ELW p. 173 "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

Table Words and Prayers

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Agnus Dei ELW p. 174 "Lamb of God"

Prayer after communion

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God

Lead us

Power of God

Hold us

Joy of God

Heal us

Laughter of God

Bless us

Love of God

Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.

Amen

Sending Song Will You Let Me Be Your Servant ELW 659

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Seventh Sunday of Easter May 13, 2018
Service of the Word

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Lord of All Hopefulness ELW 765

Opening Dialogue (Two leaders each read four lines of each verse)

Build us up, Lord, build us up;
set in us a strong foundation.
Lead us to do your holy will;
form and shape your new creation.

Build us up, Lord, build us up;
as we guide and teach each other,
help us to share your love with the world:
every sister, every brother.

**Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom;
we follow in faith what's begun!**
**Lord, set in our hearts the power of your word
to spread the news of your Son!**

Build us up, Lord, build us up;
let our lives reflect your glory.
Cast away all your doubts and fears;
help us tell the world your story.

Build us up, Lord, build us up;
help us bear good fruit for you,
Lord, give us vision and keep us sure.
Grant us faith that's steadfast and true.
**Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom;
we follow in faith what's begun!**
**Lord, set in our hearts the power of your word
to spread the news of your Son!** (ELW 670)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in you Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 35)

WORD

First Reading Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26

The Lord knows the way of the righteous. (Psalm 1:6)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 17: 6-19

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day We Sing to You, O God ELW 791

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear Our Prayer ELW 178 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

Offering and Prayer

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.

THANKSGIVING

Inspiring Word,
move over the chaos within me,
calling forth form and order,
that I may know you in my shaping
and, in the shaping,
surrender my life to yours.

Illuminating Word,
pierce the darkness within me,
calling forth insight and understanding,
that I may know you in my seeing
and, in seeing,
follow the way of your kingdom.

Incarnate Word,
indwell the life within me,
calling forth passion and purpose,
that I may know you in my living,
and, in living,
embody you for the world.

Lord's Prayer

Closing Dialogue

We are called
to act with justice.

We are called
to love tenderly.

We are called
to serve one another.

We are called
to walk humbly with God. (ELW 720)

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song Will You Let Me Be Your Servant ELW 659

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Day of Pentecost May 20, 2018
Service of Holy Communion

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Spirit of Gentleness ELW 396

Opening Dialogue

O living breath of God, wind at the beginning upon the waters;
O living breath of God, bearing the creation to wondrous birth:
Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.
O living breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray.

O living breath of God, by whose power the Son came to birth among us;
O living breath of God, who to the creation gives life anew:
Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.
O living breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray.

O living breath of God, bearing us to life through baptismal waters;
O living breath of God, sighing with creation for freedom's birth:
Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.
O living breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray. (ELW 407)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 36)

WORD

First Reading Acts 2: 1-21

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Psalm 104:30)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 15: 26-27, 16:4b-15

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Holy Spirit, Truth Divine ELW 398

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession The Spirit Intercedes for Us ELW 180 - sing before and after prayers

Peace

MEAL

Offering and Prayer

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
as you were made known to the disciples.
Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives,
that we may be your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 172

Sanctus ELW p. 173 "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

Table Words and Prayers

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Agnus Dei ELW p. 174 "Lamb of God"

Prayer after communion

Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God
Lead us

Power of God
Hold us

Joy of God
Heal us

Laughter of God
Bless us

Love of God
Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.
Amen

Sending Song O Holy Spirit, Root of Life ELW 399

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered; Worship for Small Assemblies
Easter Year B
Day of Pentecost May 20, 2018
Service of the Word

GATHERING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song Spirit of Gentleness ELW 396

Opening Dialogue

O living breath of God, wind at the beginning upon the waters;
O living breath of God, bearing the creation to wondrous birth:
Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.
O living breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray.

O living breath of God, by whose power the Son came to birth among us;
O living breath of God, who to the creation gives life anew:
Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.
O living breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray.

O living breath of God, bearing us to life through baptismal waters;
O living breath of God, sighing with creation for freedom's birth:
Come now, and fill our spirits; pour out your gifts abundant.
O living breath of God, Holy Spirit, breathe in us as we pray. (ELW 407)

Hymn of Praise Heaven is Singing for Joy ELW 664

Prayer of the Day

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (ELW p. 36)

WORD

First Reading Acts 2: 1-21

The Lord knows the way of the righteous. (Psalm 1:6)

Gospel Acclamation Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW 172 OR

Spoken: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is risen and sends to all the earth's ends
good news to save every nation.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (ELW 368)

Gospel John 15: 26-27, 16:4b-15

Sermon/Meditation

Hymn of the Day Holy Spirit, Truth Divine ELW 398

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession The Spirit Intercedes for ELW 180 Us - sing before and after prayers

Peace

Offering and Prayer

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
as you were made known to the disciples.
Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives,
that we may be your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

Inspiring Word,
move over the chaos within me,
calling forth form and order,
that I may know you in my shaping
and, in the shaping,
surrender my life to yours.

Illuminating Word,
pierce the darkness within me,
calling forth insight and understanding,
that I may know you in my seeing
and, in seeing,
follow the way of your kingdom.

Incarnate Word,
indwell the life within me,
calling forth passion and purpose,
that I may know you in my living,
and, in living,
embody you for the world.

Lord's Prayer

Closing Dialogue

We are called
to act with justice.

We are called
to love tenderly.

We are called
to serve one another.

We are called
to walk humbly with God. (ELW 720)

SENDING

Blessing

Light of God

Lead us

Power of God

Hold us

Joy of God

Heal us

Laughter of God

Bless us

Love of God

Caress us

The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of Life be with us all.

Amen

Sending Song O Holy Spirit, Root of Life ELW 399

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God