

# Faith Lutheran Church Andover, MA

*May each person feel **invited** to this community,  
**equipped** to use their gifts to the Glory of God,  
and **sent** to serve.*

## Fifth Sunday of Easter Worship with Holy Communion Sunday, April 28, 9:15 AM

1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 1

DISAGREE?  
FIND THE COMMON  
GROUND



Please know that we record or live-stream worship services from our church in order to reach out to those who are unable to attend in person, or who wish to participate in our services remotely. We share the recorded or live-streamed services with the general public on YouTube and other internet sites. We also periodically take photographs of people throughout the building to use on our website. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the back two rows and ask an usher for the pastor to distribute communion to you from your seat.

**To all who join us in worship online or in person,  
you are welcome here!**

**We invite you to share the sacrament of holy communion with us.** If you are worshipping online, please prepare by having a piece of bread or cracker and a cup of wine, grape juice or water at your side. If you are worshipping in person, you will be invited to come forward around the communion table to receive the sacrament.

**Hymns** may be found in the red hymnal (called the “ELW”) in front of each pew. If you are worshipping online, they are found in the back of this worship bulletin.

Please share your **prayer requests** either by writing them on the paper on the podium at the entrance to the worship space or by emailing them to [prayers@faith-andover.org](mailto:prayers@faith-andover.org)

If you would like to be added to our **weekly email list** which shares upcoming events and activities, sign up on our website: [www.faith-andover.org](http://www.faith-andover.org)

For **pastoral care needs or to chat**, contact Pastor Jen at 978-806-8255 or email [jen@faith-andover.org](mailto:jen@faith-andover.org) or drop in at Caffé Nero in Andover on Wednesdays between 10:00AM and Noon.

We use **Facebook** and **Instagram**. Find us @Faith.Andover and @faithandover

**Welcome!**

*We pray this time enriches your spiritual life.*



All

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and

strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Holy Lord, within your church, your followers have often allowed their disagreements to get in the way of being faithful to your word. Remove any barriers our communities face that prevent us from sharing your word and building up your church.

**ALL: Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **READING: Acts 18:1-4**

A reading from Acts.

<sup>1</sup>After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. <sup>2</sup>There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus. He had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul visited with them. <sup>3</sup>Because they practiced the same trade, he stayed and worked with them. They all worked with leather. <sup>4</sup>Every Sabbath he interacted with people in the synagogue, trying to convince both Jews and Greeks.

Word of God, word of life.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians.

<sup>10</sup>Now I encourage you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Agree with each other and don't be divided into rival groups. Instead, be restored with the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>My brothers and sisters, Chloe's people gave me some information about you, that you're fighting with each other. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is this: that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," "I belong to Apollos," "I belong to Cephas," "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you, or were you baptized in Paul's name? <sup>14</sup>Thank God that I didn't baptize any of you, except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that nobody can say that you were baptized in my name! <sup>16</sup>Oh, I baptized the house of Stephanas too. Otherwise, I don't know if I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup>Christ didn't send me to baptize but to preach the good news. And Christ didn't send me to preach the good news with clever words so that Christ's cross won't be emptied of its meaning.

<sup>18</sup>The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are being destroyed. But it is the power of God for those of us who are being saved.

Word of God, word of life.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** ..... Setting 4

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL READING**..... Mark 9:34-35

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>34</sup>They didn't respond, since on the way they had been debating with each other about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be least of all and the servant of all."

The gospel of the Lord

**ALL: Praise to you O Christ.**

**SERMON**..... Rev. Jeanette D. Leisk

**HYMN OF THE DAY**..... Goodness is Stronger than Evil, ELW 721

1<sup>st</sup> time: Choir only

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> time: All

**NICENE CREED**

*The Nicene Creed originated from a gathering of bishops in the city of Nicea in the 4<sup>th</sup> century as a summation of Christian beliefs at the time.*

Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**ALL: We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As we pray for a world divided may our prayers rise up to you O God.

*Sung prayer response (sung at the beginning of our prayers and at the end of each petition)*



Good -ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;



light is stron - ger than dark - ness; life is stron - ger than death; vic - t'ry is

For the nations who speak too much about differences  
and too little about our rich diversity we pray. *Sung prayer response*

For the people who live in prejudice and seek an exclusive God  
we pray. *Sung prayer response*

For the churches broken by schism and the creeds that divide us

we pray. *Sung prayer response*

For the people ignored in our communities and churches through gender, age, sexuality, culture, or creed we pray. *Sung prayer response*

For our neighborhoods, and divided communities who have forgotten their common life we pray. *Sung prayer response*

For the concerns and celebrations named by this community today and for Marianne, Rita, Phil, Renita, and Ken.

Hear us. Hold us. Renew us. Again. *Sung prayer response*

So be it.

**ALL: Amen.**

**PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always.

**ALL: And also with you.**

*Please greet those around you in whatever manner you are comfortable.*

*The assembly is seated.*

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Gifts may be made with cash, check, or online <https://tinyurl.com/fnem2ht6>*



**OFFERTORY** ..... Evening Prayer - Traditional Irish tune  
arr. Erin MacGorman  
[Children's Chimes]

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Risen One,  
you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

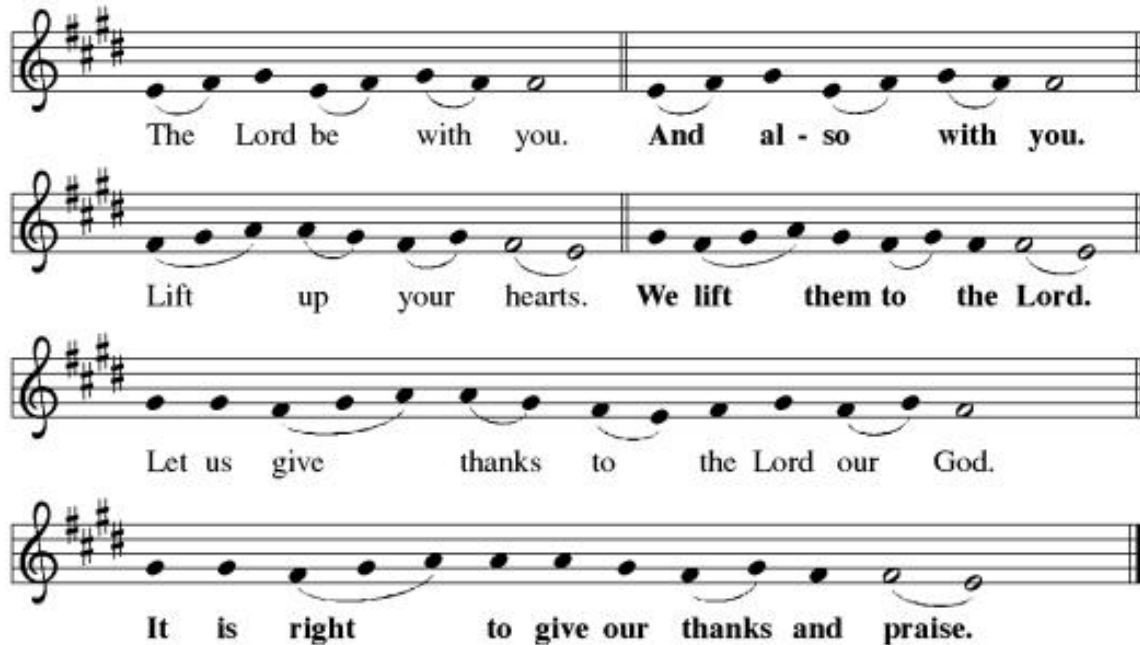
**ALL: Amen.**



## GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

### DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

God, you are before all things;  
You are beyond all things;  
And in the midst of all things and all peoples  
you have made yourself known.

In Jesus of Nazareth,  
in compassion for the outcast,  
forgiveness for the fallen,  
hope for the poor and hungry;  
in his life poured out for others  
and broken in rejection and disdain  
you have made yourself known.

On his last night with them, Jesus gathered with his friends around the dinner table in beloved community. He took bread, blessed it, and broke it, and he gave it to each one of them, saying

“Take and eat. This is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

Again after supper, he took the cup of wine and said,

“This cup is the new promise in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

Come to us, Spirit of our Lord of love,  
and let the bread and wine before us

bear your life to our life,  
nourish us with his vision of hope,  
and unite us in one body of peace.

**ALL: You are our life;  
You are our hope;  
You are our peace.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The table is set and all is ready. All who approach with open hands and open hearts are welcome to receive the grace and forgiveness of Christ present in this bread and wine.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

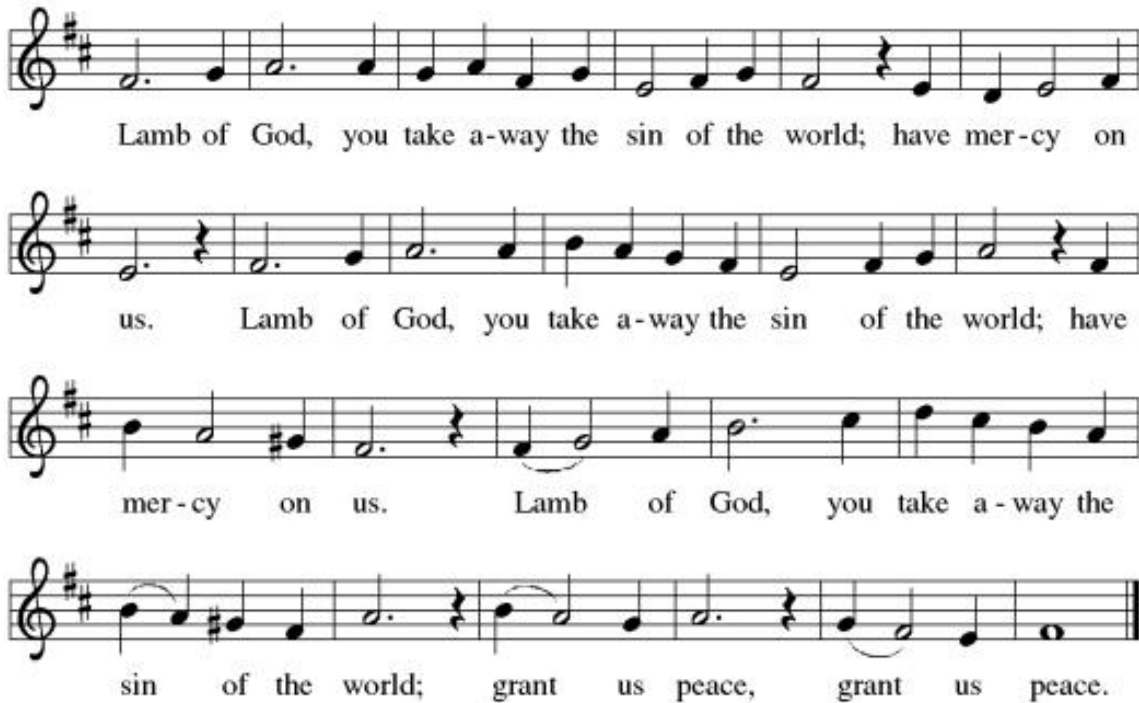
The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*At this time those gathered at home may share the elements of bread and wine that you have at your home communion table.*

*Those gathered in person will be invited to come forward to kneel or stand around the communion table at the direction of an usher. You will be given a wafer (let her know if you prefer gluten-free) by the pastor which you may then consume. A communion assistant will invite you to take a pre-filled cup of white wine or red grape juice which you may then consume before returning to your seat.*

*If you prefer to stay at your seat and the pastor bring you communion, please let an usher know.*

**LAMB OF GOD**.....(Setting 4)



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

**CHOIR ANTHEM** .....Rock by Rock, Stone by Stone – Michael Hassell  
[Choir]

*The assembly is invited to stand.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.

**ALL: Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**MISSION MOMENT “RAISE THE ROOF” IN ZIMBABWE**..... Tanya Hayward

**BLESSING**

The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

**ALL: Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**..... We Know that Christ is Raised, ELW 449

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad!

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**..... In Christ There is No East or West - Dale Wood  
[David Jesse Cleavinger, organ]



**Acknowledgements**

Portions of the liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com .  
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**PRAYER LIST**

for Marianne Karp and family upon the death of her husband Ed,  
for Rita Columbo, Phil Liaboe, Renita Stellmon, Ken Rohr

We are a praying congregation. In order to keep our prayer list current,  
please let us know of any additions or changes by email to [prayers@faith-andover.org](mailto:prayers@faith-andover.org).  
We will pray in worship for 3 weeks, unless you tell us otherwise.

**Worship Leaders**

Presider and Preacher: Rev. Jeanette D. Leisk  
Director of Traditional Music: David Jesse Cleavinger  
Assisting Minister: Tanya Hayward  
Reader: Suzanne Neuman  
Acolyte: Aurora Baluch

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