

**May 12, 2019**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**8:30 am**



 **First Lutheran Church**  
**BOTHELL**

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## *STATEMENT OF WELCOME*

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. **We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life.** We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

### **Pastor**

Rev. Tor Kristian Berg  
tberg@flcbothell.org

### **Director of Music/Organist**

Lucy Kay Osborne  
lkosborne@flcbothell.org

### **Director of REACH Ministries**

Roger Steinke  
rsteinke@flcbothell.org

### **Office Manager**

Kristin Smith  
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# May 12, 2019

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

### 8:30

#### WORSHIP NOTES

- + Please sign the white card in the pew rack and hand it to an usher on your way forward for Holy Communion.
- + The service is printed in this bulletin. Some hymns are located in the red hymn book.
- + Hearing enhancement receivers, large print bulletins are available. Feel free to ask an usher for assistance.
- + Our expectation is that children will be in worship. We understand, though, that there are times when your wiggly ones need a distraction. There is a “Pray Space” under the stairs in the inner narthex with soft toys and books. If you desire the nursery ask an usher for directions.
- + Public Wi-Fi password: MartyLuther.
- + If you would like to have a digital copy of the bulletin, go to our website and download the PDF. [www.flcbothell.org](http://www.flcbothell.org)

#### Assisting With Today's Service:

Presiding Minister: Rev. Tor K. Berg

<b>Music Director</b>	Lucy Kay Osborne	<b>Ushers</b>	Dan Bormann & Mark Neitzel
<b>Lector</b>	Jean Peterson	<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Donna Hillard, Ruth Neitzel & Jacky Schnarre
<b>Acolytes</b>	Levi Schnarre & Addie Thomas	<b>Sound Tech</b>	Ann Bormann
		<b>Greeter</b>	Jerry Bannister

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PRELUDE: *Children of the Heavenly Father (R. Hobby)***

**WELCOME**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

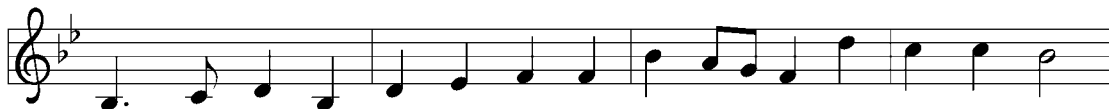
**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, O Living One, for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly. Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you. All life is sustained by you, our Source. We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life. Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God. Here, death is washed away forever. Here, we are grafted into the tree of life, with leaves for the healing of the world. Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly, into this community, and throughout all creation. Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions. Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG: *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* (ELW 533)



- 1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
- 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
- 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
- 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
as my guid-ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.  
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

## GREETING

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

# KYRIE

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord.

For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *Now the Feast and Celebration***

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

*Refrain*

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

God of all, you opened your gates wide to receive all your children into the heavenly kingdom. Help us to be vehicles of promise and proclamation for all who will listen, so that every soul might live in your grace. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**ANTHEM: Children of the Heavenly Father (C. Courtney)**

**WORD**

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

**WELCOMING THE WORD:**

*Congregation:*

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





**THE WORD: Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18**

<sup>1</sup>Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler, and Saul. <sup>2</sup>While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup>Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

<sup>8</sup>In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. <sup>9</sup>He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, <sup>10</sup>said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And the man sprang up and began to walk. <sup>11</sup>When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" <sup>12</sup>Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. <sup>13</sup>The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. <sup>14</sup>When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, <sup>15</sup>Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. <sup>16</sup>In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; <sup>17</sup>yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good – giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy." <sup>18</sup>Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

Word of God,  
word of life.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON: Roger Steinke, Director of REACH Ministries**

**SERMON**

## HYMN OF THE DAY: *Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak* (ELW 676)



1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in  
2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the  
3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the  
4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -



liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so  
wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that  
pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that  
til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and



let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.  
we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.  
they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.  
glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS: *Hortense (Ho) Brown*

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Hortense, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of her baptism.

I present Ho, who desires to make public affirmation of her baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called her to yourself, enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished her in the community of faith. Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith, along with this community, in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?  
**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

#### **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

People of God, do you promise to support this sister and pray for her in her life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

God in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Ho the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith, guide her life, empower her in her serving, give her patience in suffering, and bring her to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

Let us rejoice with Ho, our sister in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world. Welcome to First Lutheran Church!**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

Shine your light through this and every congregation. Reveal to us the light of your salvation in places of hopelessness and decay. Anoint us and make us overflow with goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for gentle rains that nourish green pastures and rejuvenate rivers and streams. Provide clean water for thirsty people, animals, and crops. Heal places suffering destruction caused by floods, typhoons, storms, and mudslides. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Empower authorities to be faithful shepherds who lead nations in pathways of righteousness and peace (*especially*). Disrupt and deter the work of terrorists, religious and political extremists, and all who would choose the way of violence over the way of mercy. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Give strength and perseverance to those facing struggles of hunger or thirst, unemployment or homelessness, chronic illness or anxiety (*especially*). Be our never-failing voice of comfort through all the trials of this life.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Raise up faithful women as witnesses to your strength and compassion. Bless mothers and all who offer mothering care. Protect victims of sexism, abuse, and gender-based violence. Restore dignity to those marginalized because of their gender identity or sexual orientation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

For whom do the people pray?

Salvation belongs to you, O God. You promise to wipe away every tear. Give us the assurance that all who live and die in you, especially Joel's friend Brandon, will rest forever beside the river of life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.  
Amen.

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
And also with you.

### MEAL

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

### OFFERTORY: *Children of the Heavenly Father (W. Held)*

### PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS: *As the Grains of Wheat*

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Risen One, as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, meet us now in this meal. Nourish us to follow you, using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary, and all for your love's sake. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be 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.

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through Christ all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

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

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome table. Alleluia! Come to the feast.

**COMMUNION:** *We will receive the body of Christ as gluten-free bread with these or similar words: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ will be received as either red wine or white grape juice with these or similar words: The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

**WHO MAY COMMUNE?** *All are welcome at the Lord's Table. It is a free gift given to all for the forgiveness of sins. The words "for you" really mean FOR YOU! Children may commune at the discretion of their parents. If you wish to receive a blessing: cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the communion assistants.*

**DIRECTIONS FOR COMMUNION:** *Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of the ushers to receive the sacrament and return to your seat down the side aisle. Please register each person taking communion on a pew card.*

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
you break the chains of ha - tred and  
you are the way of jus - tice and  
you are the way of mer - cy and



*Congregation:*  
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

### Final Stanza

*Congregation or Assistant:*



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you



*Congregation:*

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMNS:**

*Be Thou My Vision* (ELW 793)

*I Come with Joy* (ELW 482)

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

**Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION SONG: *Praise to You, O God of Mercy* (ELW 208)**

1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -  
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -  
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -

ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:  
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:  
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:

*3rd time to Coda* 1 2

thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
 thanks be to you for -

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -

mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us. *to stanza 3*

*Coda*

ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

## SENDING

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

The blessing of the living God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG: *Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing* (ELW 545)

- 1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
- 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
- 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess - ing, tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace.  
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
 Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

## DISMISSAL

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

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: *Voluntary in D (J. Alcock)*

May 19, 2019 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Romans 1:1-17

Gospel as Salvation

Weekly Financial Report

April 28 Attendance: na

General Offerings: na Mortgage Fund: na

Amount needed per Sunday:

General Offerings: \$9,907

Mortgage Fund: \$1,098

## IN OUR PRAYERS

### Our Ministry Partners:

Living Truth Chinese Lutheran Church, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services, Lutheran Counseling Network, Lutheran World Relief

Those who have died: Brandon (Friend of Joel Thomas)

### Those living with cancer:

Juanita (Bonnie & Bob Ahlstedt's sister-in-law), Barbara (Clint Bastin's mother), Barb (Stacy Souriall's friend), Joyce (David Osborne's aunt), Howard (Carl & Joan Christian's son), Cynthia (Ginny & Jim Conricode's sister-in-law), Patricia (Stephanie Almeida's aunt), Linda (Paul Ehe's mother), Edith Holbrook (member), Susan (Cathy Tanner's friend), Richard (Ruth Neitzel's brother), Aly (David Osborne's niece), Pam (Marlis Pehling's niece), Don (Doug Peterson's brother), Mary Beth (Cathy Tanner's friend), Rita (Ruth Neitzel's sister), Teresa (Michelle Tuck's friend), Roger (Michelle Tuck's brother-in-law), Tim (Neil McGee's friend), Ted (Sue Toyoda's friend), Kip (Paul Desilet's uncle) & Joanne (Carolyn Becker's sister-in-law).

### Those who are ill, have an injury or who are recovering from surgery:

Jeff Almeida (Stephanie Almeida's husband), Cameron Anderson (former member), Marilyn Anderson (member), Paul Anderson (member), Ashley (Chris Martin & Tom Agnew's friend), Janice (frequent visitor), Lou (Cathy Edwards' friend), Katie (Darlene Robare's granddaughter), Nancy Davis (member), Judy (Judy Richards' friend), Annie McCracken (member), Marcie (Dan Hendricks' friend), Karen (Darlene Robare's daughter), Sherri Gordon (member), Jackie (Stacy & Mike Souriall's friend), Bonnie (Kris Linderoth's cousin), Roberto (Beth Phelps' brother-in-law), Stephanie (Carlene & Sherm Russell's daughter), Ryan (Cathy Edwards' grandson), Dorothy (Johannes Skjonsby's mother), Terry Straka (member), Lola (Bob Berg's aunt), Sadako (Sue Toyoda's mother-in-law), Darlene (Andrea Faubion's mother), Zoe (Ian Anderson's sister), & Harriet (Eleanor Walters' mother)

### Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Margie Bannister (member), Phyllis Enger (member), Lillian & Lawrence (Leon Romaniuk's parents), Fran Tazuma (member), Sigrid (Carsten Thode's mother) & Phyllis Watters (member).

### Please remember to pray for peace in these war torn areas:

Israel/Palestine, Syria, Afghanistan, North Korea, Somalia and Iraq.

### Those Serving Our Country:

**AIR FORCE:** Tyler Ripley (Jeanne Koruga's nephew) and Erin Siebert (Linda & Joe Siebert's daughter)

**ARMY:** Shaun Cunningham (Cris Sherman's son-in-law), Lucas Peters (Jim & Vernita Steege's grandson), Asis Montalvo (Adjorlolo family friend), Ben Souriall (Stacy & Mike Souriall's son)

**MARINES:** James Bacon (Jeanne Koruga's friend) and Olav Wampler (Elizabeth & Randall Wampler's son)

**NAVY:** Karl Krueger (Karin Ulvin's husband), Kelsey Schunk (Jack Schunk's granddaughter), Kyle Warner (Karen and Paul Gabrielsen's grandson) & Christopher Whipple (Carolyn & Richard Whipple's son)

***We are honored to be able to pray for your family members and close friends in need. Our policy is to publish immediate concerns for 2 weeks, unless we hear from you that an illness or situation is ongoing.***

## INFORMATION For the Week!

### Sunday, May 12 Fourth Sunday of Easter

#### Happy Mother's Day

8:30 am	Worship
9:45 am	Education Hour
10:00 am	Ensemble Rehearsal
11:00 am	Worship

### Monday, May 13

#### Tuesday, May 14

9:15 am	Preschool Chapel
9:30 am	Lectionary
11:00 am	Staff Meeting
4:15 pm	Library Committee
5:30 pm	Christian Education Committee
6:30 pm	Youth Committee
7:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal

### Wednesday, May 15

10:00 am	Rebecca Circle
11:00 am	Worship Team Meeting
12:30 pm	Preschool Chapel

### Thursday, May 16

9:00 am	Quilters
9:15 am	Preschool Chapel

### Friday, May 17

Church Office Closed  
NWWA Synod Assembly  
7:00 pm Joe & Linda Siebert's Costa Rica Travelogue

### Saturday, May 18

NWWA Synod Assembly  
8:00 am Team World Vision Training  
9:00 am Men's Breakfast

### Sunday, May 19 Fifth Sunday of Easter

NWWA Synod Assembly  
8:30 am Worship w/ Lyric Arts Ensemble  
9:45 am Education Hour (No Adult Ed)  
10:00 am Ensemble Rehearsal  
11:00 am Worship w/ Lyric Arts Ensemble

## **NEXT SUNDAY: May 19**

**Guest Musicians: Lyric Arts Ensemble**

**Guest Preacher: Roger Steinke**

**Guest Presider: Richard Edmonds**



While pastor is away we get to play! While Pastor Berg is attending the Northwest Washington Synod Assembly with 5 of our members, we will have a special worship service. Twenty members of the Lyric Arts Ensemble will lead us in worship and provide special music for the day at both services. Not only will we hear wonderful music, but we look forward to having our own Roger Steinke, Director of REACH Ministries, bring us the Word of God. Invite a friend to this special day!

## Letter to Members of Congress on Aide to Palestinian Civilians

Dear Members of Congress:

As leaders of organizations deeply involved in programs and advocacy surrounding international humanitarian response, we write to you to share our concerns regarding the dire consequences of the decision by the Trump administration to end all U.S. humanitarian assistance to people in need in the West Bank and Gaza. This funding includes support for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and programs implemented by organizations through the Economic Support Fund (ESF) to meet the basic needs of the civilian population. We urge that such U.S. financial support for these critical programs be protected in the 2020 appropriation enacted by the U.S. Congress. T

he withholding of financial contributions to UNRWA has already had a significant impact on the lives of Palestinians. While stop-gap funding from other donors has allowed UNRWA to continue providing critical humanitarian assistance in the short-term, predictable support for such critical activities is essential. Moreover, even with stop-gap funding, the agency has been forced to cut back on basic services for children, women, and men in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and the West Bank and Gaza.

For example, UNRWA has had to reduce programs that provide mobile health and mental health services, as well as job-creation programs. The latter is particularly alarming in places like the Gaza Strip where over fifty percent of the labor force is unemployed. Furthermore, UNRWA reports that cuts to cash-for-work programs made 90,000 refugees highly vulnerable to poverty and food insecurity.

We are also deeply concerned that the elimination of ESF has impacted programs that address food, water, and medical needs in the region. For example, in December 2018, the Congressional Research Service reported that cuts to ESF will directly prevent emergency food aid to nearly 140,000 individuals, access to clean water for as many as 71,000 individuals, and clinical breast cancer treatment for 16,000 women. It has also led to a reduction in the number of people receiving food assistance, and has prevented the launch of programs that would have provided services to 50,000 youth.

We remain particularly alarmed that this decision impacting humanitarian aid to civilians was not based on any assessment of need, but rather designed to punish Palestinian political leaders, as reflected in statements by the President and his administration. This is simply unacceptable as a rationale for denying civilians humanitarian assistance, and a dangerous departure from U.S. policy on international humanitarian assistance.

In 1984, in justifying its decision to provide humanitarian aid to famine-affected Ethiopia, the Reagan administration declared that “a hungry child knows no politics,” and indeed, this sentiment has guided U.S. policy makers for decades. This sentiment was reflected in the international Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative that the United States helped establish during the administration of George W. Bush. That Initiative set out best practices, including the proposition that humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations should be “solely on the basis of need, without discrimination between or within affected populations.”

To be sure, the application of these principles by U.S. administrations has been imperfect, but all U.S. administrations have aspired to them, and the United States should continue to do so. Therefore, we would deeply appreciate your efforts to ensure that Congress, through the appropriations process, protects humanitarian funding to meet the needs of the most vulnerable Palestinians, commensurate with prior years.

Sincerely,

Joyce Ajlouny, American Friends Service Committee  
Sean Carroll, American Near East Refugee Aid  
J. Ron Bayler, Mennonite Central Committee  
Joel Charney, Norwegian Refugee Council USA  
Mohamed Idris, American Relief Agency for the Horn of Africa  
David Miliband, International Rescue Committee  
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop ELCA, Vice-President, LWF  
Eskinder Negash, US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

Sarah Costa, Women’s Refugee Commission  
Michelle Nunn, CARE USA  
Abby Maxman, Oxfam America  
David Weiss, Global Communities  
Eric Schwartz, Refugees International  
Samuel Worthington, InterAction  
Mark Hetfield, HIAS

## Sermon Notes

What one word stuck out for me?

What phrase or sentence was especially memorable?

What did I hear that I am eager to share with another person?

I think the title of the sermon is:

