### ORDER FOR WORSHIP

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

### **GATHERING**

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

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to acknowledge this land on which St. Philip's Lutheran Church is located. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We are grateful to have the opportunity to meet, worship, and serve on this land.

WELCOME

**PRAYER** 

**PRELUDE** 

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

Anne Krentz, Organ

**BIBLE BUNCH** 

Jump for Joy!

### **WORD**

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

#### **GOSPEL**

John 15: 9 - 17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear

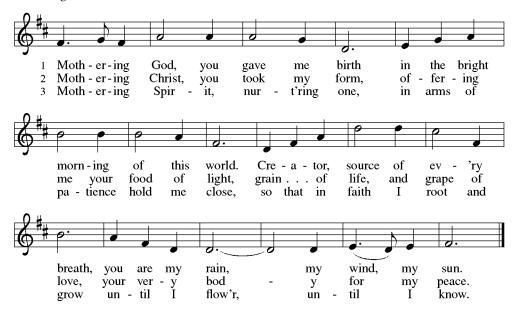


fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

#### **SERMON**

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 735

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"



Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342–c. 1413 Music: NORWICH, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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## **THANKSGIVING**

In everything
Give
Thanks.
1 Thessalonians
5:18

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

LIVING THE VISION

The Good Neighbour Campaign

**OFFERING** 

LORD'S PRAYER

Arranged by Mark Kieswetter

**MOTHER'S DAY MESSAGE** 

### **SENDING**

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

HYMN ELW 666

"What Wondrous Love Is This"



Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

#### **BLESSING**

#### **DISMISSAL**

### **PERMISSIONS**

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# St. Philip's Lutheran Church

### **SERVING TODAY**

Rev. Tuula Van Gaasbeek Minister

Chris Ritcey-Conrad Music Director

Dave Pascoe Videographer

Jeremy Walker and Toby Jacksteit Readers

Jim & Wilma Marie Bindernagel Prayers of the People

Lyndsey Clabby Mother's Day Message

Angelika Quinn Sending

#### IN OUR PRAYERS

Gus Berndt, Kevin Cartwright, Rodney Erlandson, Al Jacksteit, Mona Kibsey, Mark Kieswetter, Fran Moore, Marion Morningstar, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, Helen Scollnik, and Elga Smidt.

#### THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR CAMPAIGN

Your donation to The Good Neighbour Campaign will help us reach neighbours in Etobicoke with an 8-week summer Neighbourhood Table @ Home program for 50 families and 25 seniors. It will include a weekly fresh produce box, a grocery gift card, recipes, and information for healthy eating.

Make your tax-deductible donation now: <a href="https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-philips-evangelical-lutheran-church/campaign/the-good-neighbour/">https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-philips-evangelical-lutheran-church/campaign/the-good-neighbour/</a>

#### PASS THE OFFERING PLATE PLEASE

Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Even while our doors are closed, our hearts and hands are open and busy. Our ministries need your support. Details for how to give are on <a href="http://www.stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/">http://www.stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/</a>

#### WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

While we can't be in the building, there are still ways to stay involved and in community with others. Here are a few:

- Participate in the worship services: contact Pastor Tuula.
- Join in the Virtual Coffee Hour @ 11:00 am
- Tuesdays join in the Bible Study on Zoom
- 50+ connecting in new ways in 2021! Watch for the next event. Contact Doris Pascoe for details.