

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

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

THE BLESSING SONG

**The LORD bless you and keep you,
Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace.
Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.**

P: Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



**Please join us for our Gather Together
Fellowship with treats, beverages and
friendly conversation.**

Sunday April 28, 2024

United Lutheran Church, Elbow Lake, MN
Celebration and Convocation of Synod Authorized Ministry



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit Calls us together as the People of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/GREETING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

**We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.**

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

C: We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

HYMN OF PRAISE: *You Are Holy* #525

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

C: And also with you.

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 Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

WORD

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

SPARK STORY BIBLE: *Philip and the Ethiopian* pages 510-513

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION "*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*" #172

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8 Reader: Bishop Bill Tesch

L:The Holy Gospel according to John in the 15th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O LORD!

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

L: This is the gospel of our LORD.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

MESSAGE: Bishop Bill Tesch

HYMN: *Gather Us In* #532

Convocation of Synod Authorized Minister, Natalie Hanson
(*While the Commissioning of Synod Authorized Ministers will be a part of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly each summer, this order of service is used in congregations to mark and bless the beginning of Synod Authorized Ministry.*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

petition response to "Lord, in your mercy," "**hear our prayer.**"

MEAL

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

LAMB OF GOD (See screen for music and words.)

VIDEO: *You Are the Vine*

COMMUNION, PRAYERS AND OFFERING

Please take an empty cup when you come forward for communion. We have gluten free wafers—let your server know of this need. There is both wine and grape juice. You may lift up your prayers after communion by lighting a candle. Offerings can be placed in the plates throughout the sanctuary. Make your own way back to your seat.