



May 17, 2026 – Livestream
Seventh Sunday of Eastertide

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRELUDE

Ave Maria

J.S. Bach/C. Gounod
Philip Palermo, violin

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the day of the Ascending Christ.

People: Alleluia!

Leader: Claim the victory of our Savior who conquered sin and death.

People: Alleluia!

Leader: Celebrate the eternal love of the King of glory.

People: Alleluia! Amen!

*OPENING HYMN #312

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

***Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia! To his throne above the skies, Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia! Reascends his native heaven, Alleluia!***

***There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia! Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia! Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!***

***See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia! Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia! Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!***

***See! he lifts his hands above, Alleluia! See! he shows the prints of love, Alleluia!
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia! Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!***

OPENING PRAYER

**O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ
suffered for us and ascended to your right hand.
Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy,
that the world may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

ANTHEM

Alleluia

E. Hagenberg

Leader: Let God arise up; let God's enemies be scattered;
let those who hate God flee!

**People: As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;
as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God!**

Leader: But let the righteous be joyful;
let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy!

**People: Sing to God, sing praises to God's name;
lift up a song to the One who rides upon the clouds;
exult before the One whose name is Lord!**

Leader: In the holy habitation, God is father of orphans
and protector of widows.

**People: God gives the desolate a home to dwell in,
and leads out the prisoners to prosperity;
but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.**

Leader: O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

**People: the earth quaked, the heavens poured down water
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

Leader: Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad;
you restored your heritage as it languished;

**People: your flock found a dwelling in it;
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.**

Leader: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

**People: O Rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
God's voice goes forth, a mighty voice.**

Leader: Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel
and whose power is in the skies.

**People: Wondrous is God in the sanctuary,
the God of Israel,
who gives power and strength to the people.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Alan Archibald

FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:6-14

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAYER #526

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

***What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.***

***Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.***

***Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.***

PRAYER FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

Ed Adams

Leader: This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we pray for the world:
Christ was raised and Christ is appearing.
Death has been swallowed up in victory.

**People: Thanks be to God who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.**

Leader: Therefore, let us pray for believers around the world who face persecution.

**People: Strong God of love,
grant protection and peace to your church
where its witness is met with hatred and violence.
Give us wisdom and passion to use our freedom
as a channel for their wellbeing
that the witness of our brothers and sisters in Christ
will form in us greater compassion for people of all faiths.
In the name of Jesus we offer this prayer. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Brandon Wallace

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

MUSICAL RESPONSE #2043

Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines

arr. J. Black

Philip Palermo, violin

O day of peace that dimly shines Through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
Guide us to justice, truth, and love, Delivered from our selfish schemes.

May swords of hate fall from our hands, Our hearts from envy find release,
Till by God's grace our warring world Shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, Nor shall the fierce devour the small;

As beasts and cattle calmly graze, A little child shall lead them all.

Then enemies shall learn to love, All creatures find their true accord;
The hope of peace shall be fulfilled, For all the earth shall know the Lord.

*DOXOLOGY #94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

^{4:12} Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that God may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, will restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To God be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Taming the Lions

Jill Moffett

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #2212

My Life Flows On

**My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**

**Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?**

**Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]**

**What though my joys and comforts die? I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. [Refrain]**

**The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]**

*THE BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

arr. S. Lole

Upcoming Events:

End of Year Picnic, Today, 12:30pm, Holliday Park

Plant Exchange, Today, 9:30am – 1:00pm

UWF Carwash Coupon Sale, now – May 31



Youth Kings Island Trip, June 2
Email bwallace@northchurchindy.com

Scan to sign up for our newsletter:



Today's worship leaders:
Jill Moffett
Pastor of Community Formation
Brandon Wallace
Minister of Christian Education
John Hague
James Horton
Allen McCormack
Audio Visual
Kathleen Hacker
Interim Director of Music
Heather Hinton
Organist

