

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

a community of the cross called to confess hope in action

worshiping · serving · inviting · connecting · giving · growing

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2021

Nokomis Heights is a Reconciling In Christ (RIC) Congregation. We believe the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally, without regard to cultural or ethnic background; race; sexual orientation; gender identity; physical or mental abilities; socio-economic, marital, or family status; gender; or age. We welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, their partners and their families into full participation in the life and ministry of this congregation.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors Kristen Capel, Steven Delzer

Organist Julie Urban

Singers Kim Bretheim, Sue Danielson Bretheim, Carolyn Deters,

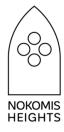
Tim Wicker

Lector Ruth Murphy
Children's Message Pastor Kris Capel
Camera/Recording Dana Lonn

In our prayers this week: Casey Austad, Linda Austad, Jerry Casterton, Rich Gronner, Jennifer Harris, the Harincar family on the death of Catherine Harincar, Mary Hurney, Dee Levine, and Erin & Evelyn Sachsenmaier; Mission Partners: Trinity and St. Peder's Lutheran churches, Community Emergency Service (CES), and Wapo Bible Camp

Join us each Sunday at 10 a.m. for worship Find us online on Facebook and YouTube

www.nokomisheights.org



Place of Worship. Space for Questions.

NOKOMIS HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 25, 2021 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Light Dawns on a Weary World" Miller

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- L: We confess our sins before God and one another. *Pause for silence and reflection.*
- L: Risen Lord,
- C: We admit that we are slow to believe, and even slower to follow where you lead us. We doubt your promise, divide your people, and fail to proclaim the power of your resurrection.

 We choose to live small lives when you have given us the biggest gift of all: your eternal life.

 Forgive us.

 Raise us up to a place where we can serve you faithfully.

 Amen
- L: Christ is arisen,
 bringing gifts of life, mercy, and pardon for sin!
 Believe that you are forgiven,
 and go out and live in the joy of your Lord's resurrection
 in the power of God's Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen



GREETING

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L: Almighty God,
- C: Your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us.

 Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 172

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"



WORD

THE READING Acts 1:1-26

L: In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But 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." When he had said this, as they were watching, he

was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They 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." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested lesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) "For it is written in the book of Psalms, 'Let his homestead become desolate, and let there be no one to live in it': and 'Let another take his position of overseer.' So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord lesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles. The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

c. Thams be to dou

VIDEO REFLECTION

"Rise"

The Work of the People

THE GOSPEL Luke 24:50-53

L: Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON





peo-ple a - rise.

With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Introduction

L: Alive in the risen Christ by power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.



- L: You call the whole church on earth to worship and bless you. Empower your church to bear joyful witness to your love made known in Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God,
- C: Your mercy is great.

L: You have fashioned a habitat for all your creatures and you fill the earth with your glory. Give rain where it is needed and rescue those inundated by floods. Mend what we have torn in the fabric of creation and replenish and nourish your world.

Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

L: In the majesty of your love, you rule the world with justice and mercy. Give those in authority the spirit of your love, so that all who are hungry and poor receive food and resources, and all people flourish and live in peace. Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You heal those who are sick and bind up the brokenhearted. Attend to the cares and needs of the hurting and hopeless in our congregation, community, workplaces, schools, and families. We also pray for these members and friends of Nokomis Heights for healing and peace (here we pray for members and friends in need of prayer).

Hear us. O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: You have shown us, O God, what is good. To do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you. We thank you for the justice that was done this week in our city, and we pray that you would move our community to continue to be people of mercy, justice, love and humility. Lead the way, O God, we are ready to follow.

Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

Conclusion

L: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

HYMN 721

"Goodness Is Stronger than Evil"

See music on previous page.

SHARING THE PEACE

- L: The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

"Goodness Is Stronger than Evil"

arr. Albrecht

OFFERING PRAYER

- L: God of abundance,
- C: bless these gifts to your benefit, and may all the earth know of your goodness and grace, offered through the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

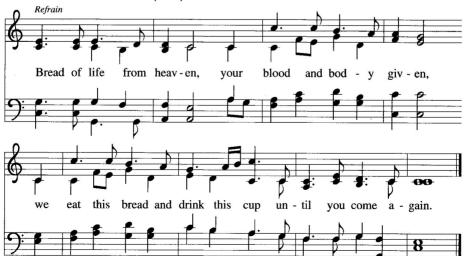
Save us from the time of trial,

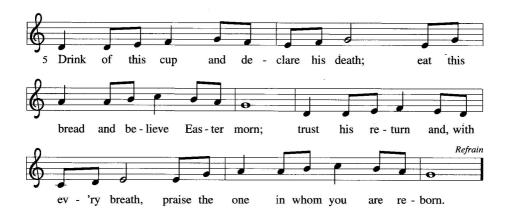
and deliver us from evil.

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

COMMUNION THANKSGIVING 474 (st. 5)

"Bread of Life from Heaven"





INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: By your grace draw your children to your table. By your mercy feed us on your love. By your power send us out to be your servants.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

"Here Is Bread"

Maynard

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Wellspring of joy,
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

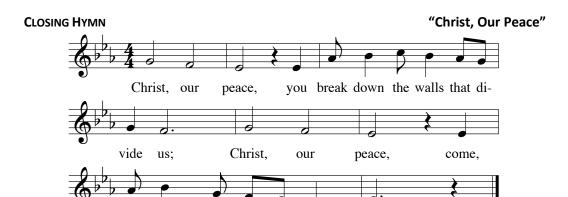
C: Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

L: The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you;
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen



in

you.

one bod - y

SENDING

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

make us

L: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God!

Moment of silence

POSTLUDE "Spirit of Gentleness" Carter

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