



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

23 S. Prospect St. † Verona, NJ 07044 † Phone (973) 239-0577

Rev. Anthony Giordano, Pastor www.veronalutheran.com

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

10:30 am

If you are visiting Calvary, we hope you feel welcome. Please read our Holy Communion statement on page 9 of this bulletin. And please take a moment to fill out one of our Visitor Cards located in the slot of the pew in front of you. We will keep you updated on all the fun activities we have planned! After the service, be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Anthony.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Please rise

OPENING HYMN:

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

821

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

R: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING:

Acts 17:22-31

R: ²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. ²⁴ "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' ²⁹ "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the

divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:

1 Peter 3:13-22

R: ¹³Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” ¹⁵But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits—²⁰to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise

GOSPEL READING:

John 14:15-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

C: 🎵 *Glory be to Thee, O Lord.*

P: ¹⁵“If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: 🎵 *Praise be to Thee, O Christ.*

Please be seated

SONG: *May the Words of My Mouth*

Words & Music: Fernando Ortega | John Andrew Schreiner © 2006 Cerdo Verde Music

SERMON

Please rise

APOSTLES' CREED

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**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERTORY:

Create in Me

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

P: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

(A brief silence)

P: God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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P: The Lord be with you

C: ♪ And with thy spirit

P: Lift up your hearts

C: ♪ We lift them up unto the Lord

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God

C: ♪ It is meet and right so to do

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body †, which is given for you. This do, in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C:  Amen.

AGNUS DEI

**C: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

PRAYER

P: For anyone here who has doubt and is uncertain, for any of us unsure of what we believe about God: we welcome your doubts and uncertainties and we acknowledge our own. For anyone here who feels lost, or in between two places, we acknowledge how lonely that can feel.

For anyone here who is experiencing any pain, anxiety, sorrow, grief, or depression: we are not here to chase it away; we are not here to promise that our spiritual practices will make it go away. We are here to accompany you in the challenges and mysteries you face.

May you feel that you belong, may you feel the freedom to be just where you are, may you know that we believe and hope for you (especially when you cannot), and may you be refreshed at this table.

The gifts of God are for the people of God.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

SONG:

Breathe

Words & Music: Marie Barnett © 1995 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing

PRAYER

C: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

THANK THE LORD 🎵

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**C: Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
tell everyone what He has done.**

**Let everyone who seeks the Lord
rejoice and proudly bear His name.**

He recalls His promises

and leads His people forth in joy

with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

BLESSING:

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, + bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG: *You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)*

Words & Music: Marc Imboden & Tammi Rhoton © 1994 Imboden Music, Martha Jo Publishing

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Altar flowers have been given today by Edna Giordano and Cindy Eucker in celebration of Mother's Day.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

HOLY COMMUNION

We believe that the true body and blood of Jesus Christ are present in the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper. Holy Communion is offered at all of our services and is for all baptized Christians who share our belief that Christ, himself, is truly present. The individual cups are filled with wine (red) or grape juice (amber color). If you do not want to receive Communion, you may remain in your seat or come up to the altar and cross your arms on your chest. Pastor will give you a blessing.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

John 14:15 – “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” Jesus is clear: our obedience to His Word comes from our love for Him. But where does that love come from? Jesus tells us that as well: “Her sins, which are many, are forgiven — for she loved much” (Luke 7:47). Christ shows us His love and gives us the forgiveness of our sins, which causes love to well up in us and thereby keep the commandments of Jesus. For after all, the summary of the Law is “love.”

DON'T FORGET TO BUY SCRIP/RAISE RIGHT GIFT CARDS

See Joanne Arroyo.

Our resident missionary, Benga Adesokan, is requesting donations of new or gently used Christian resources for his He Liveth Communications Ministry. Bibles, devotionals, commentaries, bible study materials, Christian books, prayer books, hymnals, sheet music, DVDs, CD's, and movies (DVD) will all be gratefully accepted and much appreciated. This is a great time to look through your library and be a blessing to a brother or sister in Christ. There is a donation bin located in the narthex.

The Flower Calendar is posted on the bulletin board!

Altar flower dedications offer a meaningful way to honor loved ones, celebrate special occasions, or give thanks. Sign up on the chart on the bulletin board by the stairs.

Flowers are \$60.00 for 2 arrangements (\$30.00 each, if shared with someone)

BIBLE STUDY ON GENESIS: May 13, 20, 27, at 7pm. All are welcome.

CALENDAR:

Wednesday: 7:00 pm Bible Study
Thursday: 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice
Sunday: 8:45 am Sunday School
10:10 am Prayer Meeting in Kavasch Hall
10:30 am Communion Service

THOSE WHO SERVE US:

Altar Guild: Anne Daly
Communion Assistant: John Ricca
Contemporary Music Director/Organist: Ruth Bolger
Live Stream/Projectionist: Chris Bolger
Reader: Bob Eucker
The Praise Team

BIRTHDAYS:

May 11th Shanna Cook
May 15th Christopher Bolger
May 15th Araba Sapara-Grant

May 10, 2026



PRAY FOR:

Ellen Ciompi

Doris Beall

Anita Minnix

John Wickham

Karl and Luise Wetter

Lucille Wernes

Dessirree Filaci

Gilbert Kriebel

Mary Benirschke

Caroline

Lorna

Colette

Lou Ann

Lois Tiedemann

Gerry Shimonaski

Gordon Wickham

Fred Lausten

Al Arroyo

Nathan Kuder

Pastor Anthony Iovine

Jean Giovinco

Michael Conte

Maydine

Mission Workers

Kenneth Meyer Jr. and his mission work in Vienna.

Benga Adesokan and his mission work with Nigeria.

CALVARY'S MISSION

As God's Children, our mission is to
Know His Word, Share His Word and Live His Word

Visit our website at www.veronalutheran.com for updates and online giving.
Click on the **donate** tab to set up online giving, it's easy and convenient.

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