



May 2, 2021
5th Sunday of Easter



Worship Participants

Preaching Today: Pastor Meredith McGrath
Assisting Minister: Pastor Lamont Koerner
Organist/Pianist: Brian Voss
Hymn Leader: Tim Newcomb
Reader: Lynne Moratzka

While in the middle of the sanctuary on a day of worship, Jesus spots a person with a disability, a withered hand, sitting on the edge of the gathering. Jesus says to him, "Come here." That is, don't stay on the edge. Come into the middle of this fellowship. He asks the person to take a step of faith, to stretch out his hand, to enter the middle of the circle. The person's faith is stretched. The hearts of the believers in that worshiping community are stretched. All are healed! May our hands and hearts be stretched in love and service today!

Prelude

Welcome

Ringing of the Bells

Hymn: *ELW 449 - We Know that Christ is Raised, verses 1 & 4*

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

O God, you see our every blemish, our brokenness, our vulnerability. With love you reach out to us. You call us beloved. You set us in the midst of your house and feed us at your table. We are made whole through the resurrection life you have won for each of us. Strengthen our hearts in thanksgiving to you and our hands in service to all around us. In the power of the Holy Spirit, through the name of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

Reading: Acts 4:5-12

Gospel: Mark 3:1-6

Sermon

Hymn: *ELW 389 - Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing, verses 1 & 5*

Prayers of the People

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Communion - Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Table Blessing/Prayer

Blessing and Sending

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,
Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Congregational Survey

This is a pivotal moment in Elim's history. We are at the confluence of change in leadership and the emergence from a time of pandemic into a markedly changed world. Decisions need to be made that will shape our future for years to come. As we prepare for the search for a new lead pastor, we very much want to know what you think about Elim and what gifts you believe we should be looking for in our new pastor. Don't miss the opportunity to have your voice heard. You matter. We want to hear from you.

You will have the opportunity to complete the survey during worship or scan the QR code with your cell phone to complete the survey electronically.



For readings, refer to your Bible or use an online Bible source, such as [Bible Gateway](#). [NOTE: The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) is used.]