

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026



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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: *“This Joyful Eastertide”* - Paul Bouman

Lois Theesfield, organ

Welcome

Gathering Song: *“We Know that Christ is Raised”* - ELW #449

Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

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

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

You guide us to springs of the water of life.
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. Amen.**

“Now the Feast” - Marty Haugen

Refrain
Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1
Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God. *to Refrain*

3

Verse 2
Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and
 might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
 for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3
Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
 make us peo - ple of God; to make
 all things new. *to Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

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. **Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to

suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

*Special Collection for Synod Assembly Offering:
Supporting the Tanzania Companion Synod Program (see page 16)*

Gospel Acclamation - from "Now the Feast and Celebration" - Marty Haugen

The image shows a musical score for a congregation. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The lyrics are: "Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia!"

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reading: John 15-21

The Gospel according to John
Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Loving Spirit” - ELW #397

Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Risen Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Music Voluntary: *“Children of the Heavenly Father”* - David Cherwien
Lois Theesfield, organ

Offering Prayer

Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

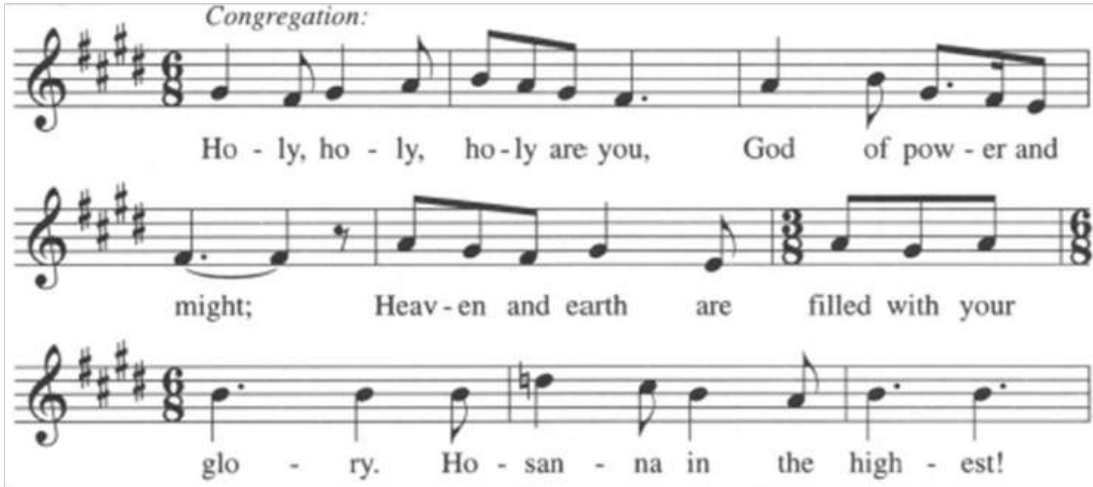
The Meal

This is Christ's table and Christ's meal. All are welcome here. Kids are welcome to commune at the discretion of their parents. If you are unable to come forward please let an usher or the pastor know so that we can bring you Communion at your seat.

Preface

It is our duty and delight ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!



Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

Hymns during Communion

"Lamb of God" - "Now the Feast" - Marty Haugen
"Children of the Heavenly Father" - ELW #781

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: *Congregation*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza

Congregation

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
Congregation:
 take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion

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.

Announcements

Blessing

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. **Amen.**

Sending Song: “O Sing to the Lord!” - ELW #822

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: “Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense” - Paul Manz
Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Please keep the family of +Johann Thiel in your prayers following his death

Please keep the family of +Norma Gandrup in your prayers following her death

Bounthieng Luck <i>friend of Jody & Joe Melcher</i>	<i>wife of Pastor Ronald Myers</i>	Crystal Vines
Mike Coverdale	Charlie Lloyd	Katie Bass <i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>
Dan Thompson <i>brother-in-law of Joyce Mack</i>	Bert Ann Ray	Wayne Johnson
Mel Craven	Wayne Kinyon	Troy Vincent
Beverly Johnson	Loren Bryant <i>brother of Arlys Neal</i>	Mike Neal
June Rush <i>sister of Joan Ridgway</i>	Jill Rhodes	Christina King
Nan Jungst	Connie Robinson <i>sister of Shirley Klonglan</i>	Sherry Kluever
Paul Johnson	Barb McDaniel	Kim Elliott
Mary Brinkman	Ken Huffaker <i>father of Kendra McCauley</i>	Pr. Marcia Kisner
Ashley and Ming Xu <i>friends of Aly Sassman</i>	Emma Nelson <i>granddaughter of Steve & Nan Jungst</i>	Marlene Waddell <i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>
Julia Zaffarano	Ardith Forsyth	Cassie Harrell
Kathy Lynn Johnson	Eileen Miller	Jean Smith
Teresa Krebs	Karen Anderson	Easton Farrington
Kari Toot	Caleb Roof	Janice Hartz
Tanya Sorem	Evelyn Onstot	Jackie Byers <i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Julie & Craig Sutherland	Katy Beno <i>sister of Sandy Christian</i>	Donna See
June Copenhaver <i>mother of Diane Martin</i>	Eric Forsyth	Norma Dannan <i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Pastor Andrea Myers		Fred Samuelson

Hospitalizations: *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

Save the Date

Executive Committee Meeting

When: Tuesday, May 12, 5:00 PM

Lutheran World Relief Work Day

When: Wednesday, May 13, 1:00 PM

Bible Study

When: Thursday, May 14, 8:30 AM

Where: Chapel

Finance Team Meeting

When: Thursday, May 14, 5:00 PM

Bible Study

When: Thursday, May 21, 8:30 AM

Where: Chapel

Council Meeting

When: Thursday, May 21, 8:30 AM

Where: Fellowship Hall

Bible Study

When: Thursday, May 28, 8:30 AM

Where: Chapel

4th of July Root Beer Floats

When: Saturday, July 4

Where: MLC courtyard

Christmas in July Open House

When: Sunday, July 26 following worship

Where: MLC courtyard

Announcements

Memorial Musicians Spring Concert "Gospel, Spirituals, Hymns, and more!" Now on YouTube

If you missed our musicians' concert on May 3 (or want to re-visit your favorite pieces!) the concert is now available on Memorial's YouTube channel.

Special Collection for Synod Assembly Offering: Supporting the Tanzania Companion Synod Program

The 2026 Synod Assembly for our Southeastern Iowa Synod will take place May 15-16 at First Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids. Mike & Arlys Neal, Hattie Rhodes, Emily Dalthorp, and Pastor Kathleen will attend as voting members, volunteers, and/or guests as they join Bishop Amy Current, synod staff, and leaders from across the synod for a meaningful two-day gathering of celebration, fellowship, and important synod business.

The Assembly theme, *Peace Be With You*, calls us to live into Christ's promise of peace through relationship, generosity, and shared mission. In that spirit, this year's Synod Assembly offering will support our Companion Synod Program in Tanzania and will be shared equally between the Pare Diocese and the Mwanga Diocese.

Our companion relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania is rooted in mutual accompaniment and trust. Gifts from this offering will support ministries identified by the Pare Diocese and the Mwanga Diocese, each with unique gifts and ministry contexts. Synod Assembly Offering gifts will support strengthening congregations, nurturing leaders, and sustaining the church's witness in their local communities.

We invite all to join in prayer for our companions in Tanzania and to give generously as a sign of Christ's peace with you, with them, and with the whole church.

Stay Connected with Memorial

Keep up-to-date with Memorial and community events, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and more; sign up to receive emails and/or periodic texts at bit.ly/memorialconnect or by using the QR code.



Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know? In Tithe.ly, you can set up one-time or recurring gifts to the General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Drive for the Drive Pavement Project, Sanctuary Screens Fund, Sanctuary Carpet Fund, and more!***



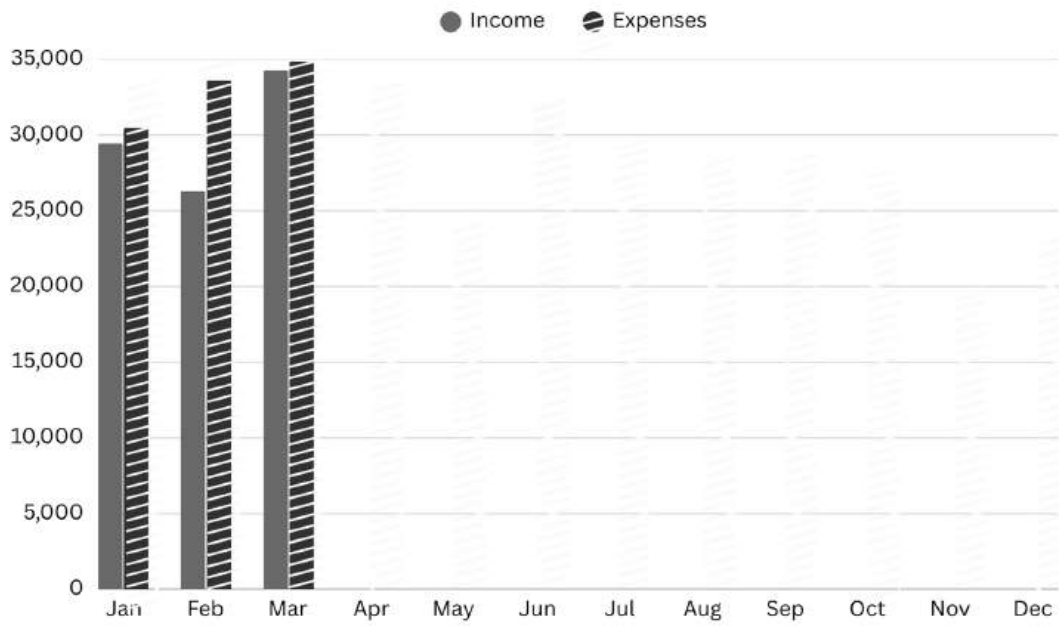
General Fund 2026

Cumulative Income vs Expenses as of March 31, 2026

Income: \$90,030

Expenses: (\$98,910)

Deficit: (\$8,880)





Memorial Lutheran Church
 701 11th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
 Phone 515-382-6509
pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org
emily@mlcnevada.org
www.mlcnevada.org

[@memluthnevada](https://www.instagram.com/memluthnevada)
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 Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
 Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
 Mike Coverdale, Custodian

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