

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

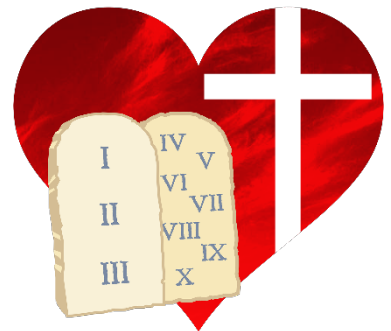
May 5, 2024 8:30 AM

FOR THOSE DESIRING HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor. For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.)

THINK ABOUT THIS

A treasured children's song, "I Love to Tell the Story," has a refrain that follows each of the stanzas penned by poet Arabella Katherine Hankey, repeating the simple words: "I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory, To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love." The original Greek language in which John wrote his Gospel uses the word "love" either as a noun or a verb some nine times in the section of Jesus' words heard in the Gospel for today. Jesus wants His disciples and us to know the abiding power of His love. It is that love that compels us to love one another—and the "others" beyond our circles of family, friends, and other close relationships. We are blessed in hearing the "old, old story of Jesus and His love" anew today. May we be blessed in telling it out in love as well!



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC “Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

(Chorus, Verse, Chorus...)

Chorus:

**Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
He is the king of creation. Chorus**

**Spread the good news o’er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen. Chorus**

**We have been crucified with Christ;
Now we shall live forever. Chorus**

**God has proclaimed the just reward:
Life for all people, alleluia. Chorus**

**Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior. Chorus**

WELCOME

INVOCATION *(Please stand, spoken responses)*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 146:1–2, 5, 10*

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD his God.

The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Praise the LORD!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

Gracious God, in heartfelt repentance we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are sin-stained people by nature. Each day we have sinned and done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as Your servants. We have not seen people in the loving way that You see them. We have not always been ready to care and quick to help. We do indeed deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Abide with us and grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By the power of the Holy Spirit at work within our hearts and lives, lead us into ways that reflect Your goodness and love.

God is loving and merciful. He sees us with loving eyes and graciously hears our supplications. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE “All the Earth will Sing Your Praises” *(Please be seated)*

(Chorus, Verse, Chorus)

Chorus:

**You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise
You did, You're alive
You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again
I know You will, and all the earth will sing Your praises
All the earth will sing Your praises.**

**You took, You take our sins away, O God
You give, You gave Your life away for us
You came down, You saved us through the cross**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, while we were still in our sins You chose us, laid down Your life for us, and called us friends. By Your great love for us, inspire us to love one another that we may abide in Your grace and may bear fruit according to Your promise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 10:34–48

³⁴Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

⁴⁴While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold

water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 John 5:1–8

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

John 15:9–17 *(Please stand)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

CHILDREN'S SONG "Come, Let us Worship" *(Please be seated)*

**Come, let us worship the Lord together,
Let us sing His praise forevermore.
When the family of God comes together,
We love to sing His praise forevermore.**

**Alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, hosanna to the King!
Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia, hosanna to the King!**

OBJECT LESSON

SONG "Here I Am, Lord"

(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus)

**I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?**

Chorus:

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

**I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? Chorus:**

**I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Chorus:**

MESSAGE “Born of God” (1 John 5:1-8)

OFFERING

(Please fill out the fellowship pad beside you in the pew)

PRAYERS *(Please stand)*

LORD’S PRAYER

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

HOLY COMMUNION

(Visitors, please read the statement at the beginning of this service folder)

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Alleluia, alleluia, for the Lord, God almighty reigns.

Alleluia, alleluia, for the Lord, God almighty reigns.

Alleluia. Holy, holy are You Lord, God almighty.

Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb.

For You are holy, holy are You Lord, God almighty.

Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb. Amen.

RECEIVING THE LORD’S SUPPER *(Please be seated)*

SONG **“Follow You”** (based on Luke 18:22 & I Corinthians 15:58)

(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Bridge, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus)

**You live among the least of these
The weary and the weak
And it would be a tragedy
For me to turn away
All my needs You have supplied
When I was dead You gave me life
So how could I not give it away so freely?**

Chorus:

**And I'll...Follow You into the homes of the broken
Follow You into the world
Meet the needs for the poor and the needy, God
Follow You into the world**

**Use my hands use my feet
To make Your kingdom come
To the corners of the earth
Until Your work is done
Faith without works is dead
On the cross Your blood was shed
So how could we not give it away so freely?**

Bridge:

**And I give all myself
I give all myself
I give all myself to You** (repeat Bridge then Chorus)

SONG "Give Us Faith"

(Repeat once)

**Lord God you have called us as your servants
To ventures where we cannot see the ending
By paths untrodden, through perils unknown
Give us faith to go out with good courage
Not knowing how or where we will go
Only that your leading, your love supporting
Through Jesus Christ our Lord
Through Jesus Christ our Lord (Repeat)**

PRAYER OF THANKS *(Please stand)*

Lord Jesus Christ, once again You have welcomed us at Your Table of grace. Grant that this Sacrament that we have now received may strengthen us so that we may abide in loving service day by day. As we have shared in the blessings of Your Table, grant that we live each day as Your people who see people around us as You see them and love them as You love them. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen

BLESSING

SONG "Benediction"

(3 Verses)

**Now to Him who is able to keep you;
Who is able to keep you from stumbling;
And to make you stand in His presence
In His glory blameless with great joy.**

**To the only God, our Savior;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord;
Be all glory, majesty and power.
Before all time and now and forever.**

Amen, amen...

LEAVING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.

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for
everyone
born
of
God
overcomes
the
World



1 John 5:4

K&Z