

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Confirmation Weekend

May 5 & 6, 2018

5:00 pm & 8:15 am



AS WE GATHER

The Father has loved the Son, and the Son has loved all people, making a home for us with Him in the Father's love. Dwelling in the Father's love by faith in Jesus, we keep His commandments. As we come to realize that we are loved by God, we discover that keeping His commandments is not burdensome, but a joy. Jesus' word of promise fills us with joy. He has chosen us to be His fruit-bearing friends who love people the way He does. Alleluia!

PRELUDE

Organ

RINGING OF THE BELLS - *We Prepare our hearts and minds for worship*



WELCOME

OPENING HYMN "Christ the Eternal Lord"

LSB 829

**Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.**

**Christ the unchanging Word To ev'ry passing age,
Whose timeless teachings still are heard Set forth on Scripture's page;
Transform our thoughts and mind, Enlighten all who read,
Within Your Word by faith to find The bread of life indeed.**

**Christ the redeeming Son, Who shares our human birth,
And by His death salvation won For ev'ry child of earth;
Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad,
That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.**

**Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief journey ends.**

**Christ the ascended King Exalted high above,
Whose praise unending ages sing, Whom yet unseen we love;
When mortal life is past Your voice from heaven's throne
Shall call Your children home at last To know as we are known.**

(Please Stand)

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor: Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Christ is risen!
Men: ***He is risen indeed! Alleluia!***

Pastor: Christ is risen!
Women: ***He is risen indeed! Alleluia!***

Pastor: Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(If you would like private confession and absolution, please call the office at (314) 832-5600 to make an appointment with Pastor Clark)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen. Matthew 28:19b**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

People: **Amen.**

[OR]

Seminary Student: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*

People: **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE “This Is The Feast”

LSB 155

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, Whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, And honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God, And join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, the giver of all that is good,

People: **by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)



FIRST READING *Acts 10:34–48* (Peter preaches the Gospel of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is poured out on Gentile hearers.)

⁴ So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸ how 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. ³⁹ And 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, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹ not 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. ⁴² And 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. ⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” ⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And 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. ⁴⁶ For 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?” ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



EPISTLE 1 John 5:1–8 (We are born of God and overcome the world through faith in Jesus.)

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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL VERSE “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

LSB 477, v. 1

**Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim For the world’s salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.**



HOLY GOSPEL John 15:9–17 (Loving one another, we abide in God’s love and experience the fullness of joy.)

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁹As 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 lay 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



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.

(Please Be Seated)



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" LSB 740, v.1

**I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me, Knows my need, and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.**

HYMN OF THE DAY "Water, Blood and Spirit Crying" LBS 597
(Please Note: 5:00 pm Ascension Choir sings v.1)

*Water, blood, and Spirit crying, By their witness testifying
To the One whose death defying Life has come, with life for all.*

**In a wat'ry grave are buried All our sins that Jesus carried;
Christ, the Ark of Life, has ferried Us across death's raging flood.**

**Dark the way, yet Christ precedes us, Past the scowl of death He leads us;
Spreads a table where He feeds us With His body and His blood.**

**Though around us death is seething, God, His two-edged sword unsheathing,
By His spirit life is breathing Through the living, active Word.**

**Spirit, water, blood entreating, Working faith and its completing
In the One whose death defeating Life has come, with life for all.**



SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray together in Christ Jesus for all people according to their needs. Alpha and Omega, we acknowledge that You hold us and all things in Your good hands. When we become overwhelmed, help us to trust that You are always good and You are at work to accomplish Your purposes in our lives.

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Loving Lord, visit the sick, [*especially . . .*], and all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, with Your love and tender mercies. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Beginning and the End, You hold the past, the present, and the future. We give You thanks for our loved ones and for all the saints who have fallen asleep in Jesus. Grant us faith to follow Jesus during our days of pilgrimage, and bring us at last to Your kingdom, where You dwell with the saints in unapproachable light. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” *Ascension Choir*

(Please Stand)



✠SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT✠

We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christian to eat and to drink.

If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord’s Supper.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, our duty, and our delight to give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty God, but chiefly do we praise You for the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, whose death has paid the price of our sins and whose life bestows upon us everlasting life. With angels, archangels, with Peter and Paul, and with all the saints in light, we join in praising Your name and singing their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9* *LSB 161*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 162

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

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

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. *Matthew 6:9-13*

PAX DOMINI *The Peace of the Lord John 20:19*

LSB 163

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God John 1:29*

LSB 163

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

(Please Be Seated)

(Please Note: Communion will be distributed in a continuous line during our 8:15 am worship while broadcasting on KFUE radio)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "My Song is Love Unknown"

LSB 430

**My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?**

**He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none The longed for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend!**

**Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.
Then Crucify!" Is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.**

**Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise.**

**They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a way;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He To suff'ring goes That He His foes From thence might free.**

**In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was His home But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.**

**Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!**

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

LSB 686

**Come Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise,
While the hope of endless glory Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.**

**Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood washed linen, How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry Me to realms of endless day.**

“Lord, Keep Us Ever Steadfast in Your Word”

LSB 655

**Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.**

(Please Stand)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB 164

**Thank the Lord and sing His Praise, tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek 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!**



BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

LSB 166

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

LSB 660

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross.
Lift high His royal banner; It must not suffer loss.
From vict’ry unto vict’ry His army He shall lead
Till ev’ry foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord indeed.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The trumpet call obey;
Stand forth in mighty conflict In this His glorious day.
Let all His faithful serve Him Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger And strength to strength oppose.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus; Stand in His strength alone.
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the Gospel armor; Each piece put on with prayer.
Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle, The next the victor’s song.
The soldiers, overcoming, Their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Organ

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