

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021 11:00 AM

REV. MATTHEW CLARK
Pastor

REV. MATTHEW KOBS
Assistant Pastor

GABE MAICHEL
Director of Music

MARIE MUHLKE
Administrative Assistant

PAMELA FOX
Office Manager

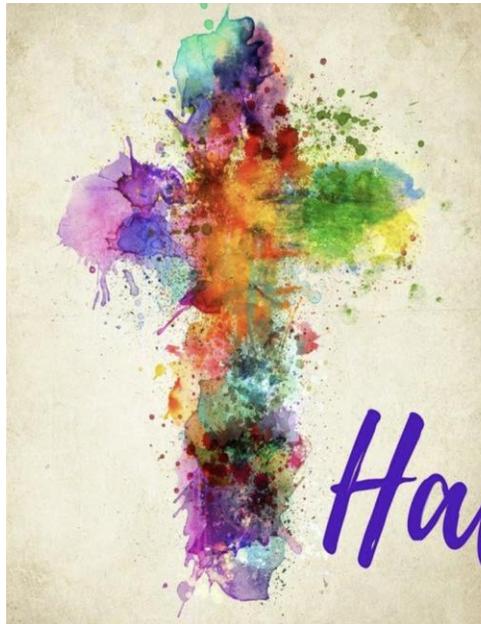
GAGAN GURUNG
Nepali Evangelist

KATHY THIES
Housekeeper

GEORGE LLUKA
Maintenance Technician

BARBARA HARTUNG
Parish Nurse

CLAUDIA SEIFERT
Parish Librarian



Celebrate
50 Days
of Easter

Hallelujah!

LOVED BY CHRIST
SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Word of Life Lutheran School

ASCENSION LOCATION

5:00 pm Saturdays & 8:15 am Sundays (Traditional Music)
11:00 am Sundays (Contemporary Music)
9:45 am Sundays (Sunday School and Bible Class)

CFNA PEACE CENTER LOCATION

10:00 am 2nd through 5th Sundays (Nepali Fellowship)

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 16, 2021 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

Some of the most memorable portraits of Jesus shared with us by the Gospel writers depict times when He prayed. We remember Him teaching the disciples to pray when He was on the mountain, sharing the heart of His teaching. We have the powerful portrait of Him praying in the Garden of Gethsemane the night He was betrayed. And in John's Gospel is recorded what is known as the High Priestly Prayer of our Lord. Jesus prayed for His people during His earthly ministry; He continues that praying for us. In his first epistle, John writes that "we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). There is holy conversation in heaven just as sure as there is holy conversation on earth when we pray!

PRELUDE

Organ

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING SONG: 10,000 REASONS

Redman

CHORUS: Bless the Lord O my soul. O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before. O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes CHORUS

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find CHORUS

Interlude

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore CHORUS X2

Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name
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(Please Stand)

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13

- P** Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
C For his steadfast love endures forever.

- P** Give thanks to the God of gods,
C For his steadfast love endures forever.

- P** To him who alone does great wonders,
C For his steadfast love endures forever.

- P** Give thanks to the God of heaven,
C For his steadfast love endures forever. Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.
Amen.

[John 20:19–23]

- P** 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.
C Amen.

(or)

- A** 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.
C Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

- P** Let us pray.
O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

(Please Be Seated)

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING

Acts 1:12–26

¹²Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ¹⁶“Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰“For it is written in the Book of Psalms,

“May his camp become desolate,
and let there be no one to dwell in it’;

and

“Let another take his office.’

²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 5:9–15

⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

HOLY GOSPEL

John 17:11b-19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

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.**

(Please Be Seated)

SONG OF THE DAY: IN CHRIST ALONE

Getty/Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all— Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on the cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid— Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine— Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death— this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home— Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Here in the pow'r of Christ we'll stand.

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SERMON

(Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord,

C **Through Jesus, our risen Savior.**

P For the Church in her works of mercy, that she would be united in the common life and love of our Savior and so share that life and love with those in need, through Jesus,

C **Our risen Savior.**

P For Christian families, that the peace of the risen Christ and the forgiveness of sins would be freely shared in the home and so bind families together in love, through Jesus,

C **Our risen Savior.**

P For the authorities God has placed over us in federal, state and local governments, that He would give them the desire to serve with integrity and honor and to work for the benefit of all, through Jesus,

C **Our risen Savior.**

P For the sick and sorrowful, for those who mourn, and for all who stand in need of our prayers, [*especially* _____,] through Jesus,

C **Our risen Savior.**

P For Ascension's capital campaign, that the Lord would bless us with generous hearts so that improvements to our facilities might enable us to better share Christ's love today and tomorrow, through Jesus,

C **Our risen Savior.**

P For all who eat and drink the body and blood of Christ, the Word of life, that forgiven of their sins, they may also have fellowship with God and one another, through Jesus,

C **Our risen Savior.**

P Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily believe Your Word, until at last we obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)

OFFERTORY: THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

LSB 806

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, Give thanks to the
Ho-ly One, Give thanks _____ be-cause He's giv-en__ Je-sus
Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, Give
thanks to the Ho-ly One, Give thanks _____ be-cause He's giv-en__
Je-sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am
strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," _____ Be-cause of
what the Lord has done for us. And now let the
weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am
rich," _____ Be-cause of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, _____ give thanks. _____

OFFERING

Due to COVID-19 we will not be passing an offering plate. Please place gifts and offerings in the wooden box in the narthex. You can also give online as a one-time gift or reoccurring donation. Simply click "Online Giving" at www.ascensionstl.com.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

✝ 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 Christians 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.

How should we each examine ourselves before coming to Holy Communion?

1. Be aware of our sins and be sorry for them
2. Believe in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and in His words in the Sacrament
3. Intend, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as God's forgiven people walking in newness of life

(Please Stand)

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.**

THE 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."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

(Please be Seated)

✝ DISTRIBUTION SONGS ✝

SONG: JUST AS I AM

Elliott/Moffitt/Smith/Cotrell/Batchelder-Bradbury

Just as I am without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee
O Lamb of God I come I come

Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot
O Lamb of God I come I come

CHORUS: I come broken to be mended
I come wounded to be healed
I come desperate to be rescued
I come empty to be filled
I come guilty to be pardoned
By the blood of Christ the Lamb
And I'm welcomed with open arms
Praise God just as I am

Just as I am I would be lost
But mercy and grace my freedom bought
And now to glory in Your cross
O Lamb of God I come I come CHORUS

Praise God just as I am, Just as I am

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SONG: THE TABLE

Tomlin/Cash/Jolley

I will feast at the table of the Lord
I will feast at the table of the Lord
I won't hunger anymore at His table REPEAT VERSE

CHORUS 1: Come all you weary come and find
His yoke is easy His burden light
He is able He will restore
At the table of the Lord

There is peace at the table of the Lord
There is peace at the table of the Lord
I won't worry anymore at His table

There is healing at the table of the Lord
There is healing at the table of the Lord
Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table CHORUS 1

I know He has a place for me
Oh what joy will fill my heart
With the saints around the mercy seat of God

CHORUS 1B: Come all you weary come and find
His yoke is easy His burden light
He is able He will restore
At the table of the Lord
At the table of the Lord

I'm invited to the table of the Lord
I'm invited to the table of the Lord
He says come just as you are to His table

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(Please Stand)

DISMISSAL

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.
- C** Amen.

HYMN VERSE: ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! HEARTS TO HEAVEN

LSB 477 st. 3

△ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

Text and tune: Public domain

BENEDICAMUS

- A** We are people loved by Christ;
C Sharing Christ's love.

- A** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

BENEDICTION

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING SONG: RISEN TODAY

Shust/Wesley

Christ the Lord is risen today! Hallelujah!
Sons of man and angels say Hallelujah!
Raise your joys and triumphs high! Hallelujah!
Sing ye heavens and earth reply.

Love's redeeming work is done, Hallelujah!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Hallelujah!
Death in vain forbid Him rise, Hallelujah!
Christ has opened paradise!

CHORUS: Hallelujah! He is risen!
Hallelujah! our sins have been forgiven.
Now, we have power over the grave.
Christ the Lord is risen today!

Lives again our glorious King, Hallelujah!
Where O death is now thy sting, Hallelujah!
Dying once our souls to save, Hallelujah!
Where thy victory O grave? CHORUS

All creation sings: Hallelujah,
The King is risen!
Glory to the name of our risen Lord!
Let all the earth proclaim: Hallelujah,
Our sin's forgiven!
Glory to Your name forevermore! CHORUS

We have power over the grave! Christ the Lord is risen today!
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