

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

In God's Place
May 11 & 12, 2013

AS WE GATHER This is a week of waiting in the life of the Church. The faithful of all ages, reflecting the anticipation of the disciples, are waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit promised by Jesus. Also, there is a waiting and longing in the Church for the final return of Christ and His coming in power and glory, when He will bring His people to the place He has prepared for them. Yet, while that waiting goes on, so also does the daily work of God's people through the Church. God's people are sure that, in Christ, God keeps all of His promises. They look forward, joyfully, to the completed unveiling of His good and gracious plan.

WELCOME

“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing,
but let us encourage one another-
and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:25

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #670 “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones”

(Rise for the last stanza)

Ye watchers and ye holy ones, Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
Raise the glad strain: “Alleluia!” Cry out, dominions, principedoms, pow’rs,
Virtures, archangels, angels’ choirs:
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

O higher than the cherubim, More glorious than the seraphim,
Lead their praises: “Alleluia! Thou bearer of the eternal Word,
Most gracious, magnify the Lord:
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

Respond, ye souls in endless rest, Ye patriarchs and prophets blest:
“Alleluia, alleluia!” Ye holy Twelve, ye martyrs strong,
All saints triumphant, raise the song:
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

O friends, in gladness let us sing, Supernal anthems echoing:
“Alleluia, alleluia!” To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One:
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty!

People: Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations!

Pastor: Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name?

People: For you alone are holy.

Pastor: All nations will come and worship you,

People: For your righteous acts have been revealed. *Rev. 15:3b-4*

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

All: Almighty God, we confess to you that we have sinned in many ways. Our thoughts are not always righteous and pure. Our words are not always kind or helpful. Our deeds are not always honorable and just. We have sinned against your Law and deserve your punishment. But we are sorry for our sins and sincerely repent of them. We beseech you that, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, you would grant us forgiveness of our sins in thought, word, and deed. By the power of the Holy Spirit, grant us new lives and set our minds and hearts at peace.

Pastor: Jesus came into the world and obeyed God's laws perfectly for us. He died on the cross to pay the price for the guilt of our sins, bringing to all of us total and lasting forgiveness. Therefore, in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ and as His called and ordained servant, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Live ever in the peace of the Lord!

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #811 "Oh, That I Had A Thousand Voices"

Oh, that I had a thousand voices To praise my God, with thousand tongues!
My heart which in the Lord rejoices, Would then proclaim in grateful songs
To all, wherever I might be, What great things God has done for me.

Creator, humbly I implore You To listen to my earthly song
Until that day when I adore You, Together with the angel throng
And learn with choirs of heav'n to sing Eternal anthems to my King.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

(2)

(Be seated)

+ WORD +

FIRST LESSON Acts 1:12-16 (*Matthias is chosen to fill the vacancy in the disciples of Jesus.*) Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) and said, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus—

EPISTLE Revelation 22:1-20 (*The vision of heaven and the promise of Jesus to come soon*) Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever. The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place." "Behold, I am coming soon! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book." I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. Worship God!" Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, because the time is near. Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy." "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star." The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let

him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life. I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

10:30 ANTHEM "O Bless the Lord, My Soul" *Children's Choir*
(*Congregation sings stanzas, 1, 2, 5 & 6; Choir sings Stanza 3 alone*)

All: O bless the Lord, my soul Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless His name whose favors are divine.

All: O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness and without praises die!

*Choir: 'Tis He forgives thy sins; 'Tis He relieves thy pain;
'Tis He that heals thy sicknesses
and makes thee young again.*

All: He fills the poor with good; He gives the sufferers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud
and justice for th' oppressed.

All: His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known.
But sent the world His truth and grace by His beloved Son.

(Rise)

GOSPEL John 17: 20-26 (*Jesus prays for His disciples.*) "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them." (Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #648 "Glorious Things of You Are Spoken"

Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken Formed you for His own abode.

On the Rock of Ages founded, What can shake your sure repose?
With salvation's walls, surrounded, You may smile at all your foes.

See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love,
Well supply your sons and daughters And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river Ever still their thirst assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov-'ring, See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a cov-'ring, Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them on their way.

Savior, since of Zion's city I through grace a member am,
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in Your name,
Fading are the world's vain pleasures, All their boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting reassures Non but Zion's children know.

SERMON "ONE" John 17:20-26

(Rise)

CREED *(The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed and its explanation from Luther's Small Catechism)*

People: 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.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

OFFERING As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

(Rise) **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: . . . one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI HYMN (Sung to Tune #702 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee")

O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away - Our faith increase.

Have mercy on us all, Strengthen us when we fall,

Answer our fervent call And grant us peace.

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(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN #637 "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you out-poured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'n-ly bread He makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.

O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

HYMN #617 "O Lord, We Praise Thee"

O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.

Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary, That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given, Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us! O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid; Peace with God once more is made:
O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor
That we follow Christ our Savior And live together here in love and union
Nor despise this blest Communion! O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us; Grant that heav'n-ly minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see Days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

HYMN #533 "Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure"

Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal, Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End;
God-head, humanity, union supernal, O great Redeemer, you come as our friend!
Heaven and earth, now proclaim this great wonder:
Jesus has come and brings pleasure eternal!

Jesus has come! Now see bonds rent asunder!
Fetters of death now dissolve, disappear.
See Him burst through with a voice as of thunder!
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
Lifts us from shame to the place of His honor.
Jesus has come! Hear the roll of God's thunder!

Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.
See now the threatening strong one disarmed!
Jesus breaks down all the walls of death's fortress,
Brings forth the pris'ners triumphant, unharmed.
Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!
Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!

Jesus has come as the King of all glory!
Heaven and earth, O declare His great pow'r,
Capturing hearts with the heavenly story;
Welcome Him now in this fast-fleeting hour!
Ponder His love! Take the crown He has for you!
Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!

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COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Lord of life and Giver of all good gifts, we thank you for your
abiding presence among us. As you have blessed us with your body
and blood for the forgiveness of sins in this life, so bless us with the
water of life in abundance in the world to come. This we ask for
your love's sake.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy
Spirit, Be among you and remain with you always.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #478 "The Day of Resurrection"

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light
And, lis-t'ning to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful, Let earth its song begin,
Let all the world keep triumph And all that is there-in.
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord has risen, Our joy that has no end!

All praise to God the Father, All praise to God the Son,
All praise to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne
And honor, pow'r, and glory Ascribe to God alone!

Preacher

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Liturgist

Pastor Harold Bender

Lectors

Jim Adams, Laurel Privatt, John Ficken

Acolytes

Christian Kirchner, Jackson Mueller, Andrew Niemer

Children's Choir Director & Organist Sunday

Roger Gottschalk

Music Coordinator & Organist Saturday

Kim Woller

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