

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## Chosen for Joy

May 12 & 13, 2012

**AS WE GATHER** In today's Gospel Jesus proclaims, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you." And His purpose in telling us this is "that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." The joyful life of the forgiven sinner, now declared a saint by the mercy of God, is recounted in Martin Luther's hymn, "Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice." Its many verses provide continuity for our liturgy this day. It's important to understand that the words Jesus' spoke in this text were spoken

### WELCOME

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

+ PREPARATION +

**OPENING HYMN #556 "Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice"**  
Stanzas 1-4

(Rise)

### INVOCATION and VERSES

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

**People: Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

**Pastor:** Our help is in the name of the LORD.

**People: Who made heaven and earth.** *Psalms 124:8*

**Pastor:** If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**People: But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.** *Psalms 130:3-4*

**Pastor:** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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. *LSB p.203*

### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.** *LSB p. 254*

**Pastor:** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" *LSB 487*

Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought His, Israel Into joy from sadness,  
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,  
Led them with un-moistened foot Through the Red Sea waters.

Alleluia! Now we cry To our King immortal,  
Who, triumphant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark portal.  
Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought His Israel Into joy from sadness!

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. O God, the giver of all that is good, by your holy inspiration grant that we may think those

things that are right

**People: 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.**

(Be seated)

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**FIRST READING** Acts 10:34-48 (*Gentiles are baptized.*)

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen— by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

**SONG** "Shout to the Lord" *W & R #94*

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.  
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.

*Continued*

My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength.  
Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.

**Refrain** Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing;  
power and majesty, praise to the King.

**Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
at the sound of your name.**

**I sing for joy at the work of your hands;**

**Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.**

**Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.**

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**EPISTLE 1** John 5:1-8 (*We show God's love as we keep His commandments.*)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. This is the one who came by water and blood —Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 15:9-17 (*Jesus' words are to fill us with joy.*)

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit —fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other.

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON HYMN #477 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

*(Rise for last stanza)*

### SERMON "The Great Commandment" John 15:9-17

(Rise)

### NICENE CREED *(inside back cover of hymnal)*

(Be seated)

**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)

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray, heavenly Father, for those who do not know the joy of sins forgiven.

**People: By your Holy Spirit, open their hearts and minds to believe the precious Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and join His Church through Holy Baptism.**

Pastor: We pray, Lord Jesus, for ourselves and the Church around the world.

**People: Thanks be to you, gracious Lord, for you have given us great joy in knowing you as our Savior. Strengthen us so that we may conform our lives to your commands, serving you in daily rejoicing.**

Pastor: We pray, almighty God, for the nations of the world.

**People: Protect with your mighty hand our armed forces deployed, those who provide security in our towns and cities, all who serve in police, fire, and medical services. Grant that they use the talents and courage you have given them for the common good.**

Pastor: We pray, loving Lord, for those near and dear to us who call out to you in distress and those who mourn

and remember loved ones. If it is your will, grant them healing and peace of mind. We pray for Dennis, Ruth, Donald, Warren, Ray, Jerry, Joe, Kim, Samuel, and Anna.

**People: As fits your gracious plans for them, restore them to health, surround them with consoling friends, and open doors of opportunity for employment and all they need to support themselves and their families, that they may join us in rejoicing for your mercy and grace.**

Pastor: Today we thank you for all Christian mothers who unselfishly share your love with their children. With Dorothy, Berta, Bill, John, Gretchen, Keith, Bev and Emily we celebrate your abundant blessings. Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### THE PEACE

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

**People: Amen.**

### AGNUS DEI HYMN (Tune #803: HYMN TO JOY)

Thou art giving and forgiving, Lamb of God for sinners slain.  
All the world's sin Thou hast taken and in heaven is Thy reign.  
Mercy show us, mercy give us; hear us from Thy throne above.  
Grant Thy peace unto us sinners,  
peace for this world in Thy love.

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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 #636 "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"** Stanza 1-5

**HYMN #725 "Children of the Heavenly Father"**

**HYMN "Borning Cry" W & R #680**

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on.  
You were raised to praise the living Lord to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time,  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.  
I was there to her your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

**People: for His steadfast love endures forever.** *Psalm 118:1*

Pastor: We give thanks, heavenly Father, that you have strengthened our faith in this Sacrament. And we ask you to accompany us through this day so that we may joyfully serve you and love those whom you send to us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN #770 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Harold Bender, Jr.
<b>Liturgist</b>	Pastor Gregg Stanton
<b>Lectors</b>	Grant Gundersen, Bob Woller, Joe Orth
<b>Acolytes</b>	Rachel Peschong, David Ullerich, Nicholas Alioto
<b>Organist</b>	Roger Gottschalk
<b>Music Coordinator</b>	Kim Woller

Happy Mother's Day

