

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Easter People
April 30 & May 1, 2016

AS WE GATHER

The Sundays of Easter all reflect Easter Day itself in some way. Jesus reminds His disciples, including Philip and James the Less, that He is going back to the Father and that things will be changing here on earth. He has shared with them enough of His message and His presence that He can return to the Father in heaven, knowing that the fruits of His resurrection will continue after His departure as the promised Holy Spirit continues to work among the apostles and others. From those first days after the resurrection down to our own time, all Christians are assured and confident Easter people!

8:00 PRELUDE

"Festa" Arnold B. Sherman

Bell Choir

WELCOME

MINISTRY MOMENT Pastor Novelli Sr. –CPTLN

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,
set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.
Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. (Colossians 3:1-2)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #478 "The Day of Resurrection" *Rise for last stanza*

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, list'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 therein.
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!

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

People: The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Pastor: They feast on the abundance of your house,

People: and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

Pastor: For with you is the fountain of life;

People: in your light do we see light.

Pastor: Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you,

People: and your righteousness to the upright of heart!

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O God our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you in thought and in word and in deed.

People: Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have not always said "Thy will be done" in our hearts when we have been faced with decisions in our lives.

People: Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that your love has not reached others through us in every situation, admitting that indeed we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, grudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, and unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

People: Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have not always been defenders of the weak and helpless—advocates of those not yet born and those in the final stages of life.

People: Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have not used every opportunity given us to witness to the faith that is ours and have let the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh set the agenda for our lives and actions.

People: Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The God of peace sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, and He will do it.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

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To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav'nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER 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 and by your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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)

10:30 BAPTISM of Jameson Matthew Cruz

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Please refrain from taking photos during the worship service.

☩ WORD ☩

FIRST READING *Acts 16:9–15* (Paul travels to Macedonia on his missionary journey.)

During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him,

"Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day on to Neapolis. From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

SECOND READING *Revelation 21:9–14, 21–27* (The heavenly Jerusalem is a vision of glory.) One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of pure gold, like transparent glass. I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

8:00 BELL ANTHEM

"Nearer My God to Thee" arr. Robert Lamb

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 16:23–33* (Jesus speaks of leaving the world and returning to the Father.) In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. "Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father. In that day you will ask in my name. I

am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father." Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God." "You believe at last!" Jesus answered. "But a time is coming, and has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me. "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #849 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees' the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'rydread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

SERMON "Resurrection People Sharing the Good News" Acts 16:9-15

(Rise)

5:00 & 8:00 NICENE CREED *(found on the inside back cover of the 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. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray to the Father in the name of our blessed Lord, since He has promised that we will receive answers to our prayers.

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: . . . through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

5:00 & 8:00 THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God"

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(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 #620 "Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace. He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation: "Come and taste the blessed feast."

Christ Himself, the priest presiding, Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament, Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token Of His sacred covenant.

Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me, Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given, Hung upon the cursed tree.

God descends with heav'nly power, Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign. On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing That I taste His love divine.

Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.

Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry tremor,
Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

HYMN #526 "You Are the Way; through You Alone"

You are the way; through You alone Can we the Father find;
In You, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.

You are the truth; Your Word alone True wisdom can impart;
You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.

You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,
And those who put their trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.

You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.

HYMN #643 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.

The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.

His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God ever living,
The tasks of our ev'ry day life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for having fed us with the
body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Help us by your Holy Spirit
that we may continue in the fellowship of the Church and together with
all the saints do the good works that you desire us to do; through Jesus
Christ, your Son, our Lord, to whom with you and the same Spirit be all
honor and glory, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold to what is good;
return no person evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the
weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The almighty God, the Father,
the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #861 "Christ Be My Leader"

Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care, Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth, Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife; Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation; with Jesus I reign.

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Children's Message

Bell Choir Director

Organist

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Dan Vaclav, Jane Adams

James Niemer, Keenan Novak, Liz Percell

Bethany Dillon

Matthew Compton

Roger Gottschalk