

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus' Prayer

May 31 & June 1, 2014

AS WE GATHER

Most celebrations in our world last a few hours—or in the case of some great professional sports win, maybe a week. Here in church we have celebrated Easter for seven Sundays—a week of weeks! The Easter season concludes today with powerful words from Jesus. He is praying for His people in the world—for us! His prayer for us is at the same time comforting and challenging: “Holy Father, keep them in Your name, which You have given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one” (John 17:11). How comforting it is to know that Jesus’ prayer is for the Father to hold on to us no matter what. How challenging it is—in light of the ways that we divide and scatter—that Jesus wants His followers to be one. Today, in Holy Communion, we catch a glimpse of both. The Lord holds on to us by drawing us together to receive Christ’s body and blood; at the same time, we who gather to receive are in that moment one, a foretaste of the feast to come. The Lord is risen! What a celebration!

WELCOME

*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through
the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” 1 Peter 1:3*

MINISTRY MOMENT

LifeWalk 2014

Amy Baxter

FELLOWSHIP GREETING

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #906 "O Day of Rest and Gladness" (Rise for last stanza)

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness, Most beautiful, most bright;
This day the high and lowly, Through ages joined to bless,
Sing, "Holy, holy, holy," The triune God confess.

This day at earth's creation The light first had its birth;
This day for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth;
This day our Lord victorious The Spirit sent from heav'n,
And thus this day most glorious A three-fold light was giv'n.

This day, God's people meeting, His Holy Scripture hear;
His living presence greeting, Through bread and wine made near.
We journey on, believing, Renewed with heav'n-ly might,
From grace more grace receiving, On this blest day of light.

That light our hope sustaining, We walk the pilgrim way,
At length our rest attaining, Our endless Sabbath day.
We sing to Thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son;
The Church her voice up-raises To Thee, blest Three in One.

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: I will sing of steadfast love and justice;

People: to you, O LORD, I will make music.

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

People: Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!

Pastor: Know that the LORD, He is God!

People: It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people.

Pastor: The LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever.

People: His faithfulness endures to all generations.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord, you teach us to be sober-minded, to be watchful, and to resist the devil firm in faith. You give us the gift of listening to our cries as we confess our sins, and you promise abundant forgiveness. So we come to you today in repentance and sorrow for our sins. We confess to you,

People: our wavering trust in your promises, especially in times of difficulty and suffering.

Pastor: We confess to you,

People: all of the ways in which we have participated in evil—in thought, word, and deed.

Pastor: We confess to you,

People: the many ways in which we have acted divisively in our families and in our church.

Pastor: Jesus is glorified when a sinner repents and when a lost sheep is found. Jesus gave His life on the cross and was raised from death, so that sinners such as you and I may be forgiven, restored, and set on a new path of righteousness. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ 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

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Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

People: (sung)

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and blessing and glory are His.

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

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

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

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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.**

(Be seated)

+ WORD +

FIRST READING *Acts 1:12–26*

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 – he was one of our number and shared in this ministry." (With the reward he got for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) "For," said Peter, "it is written in the book of Psalms. "'May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it.' And, "'May another take his place of leadership.' Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection." So they proposed two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. Then

they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs." Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

EPISTLE *1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11*

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" So, then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

8:00 ANTHEM

"Praise To The Lord The Almighty" Kevin McChesney

Choir

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 17:1–11*

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come, Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life; that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They know with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you, Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name – the name you gave me – so that they may be one as we are one.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #578 "Thy Strong Word" (Rise for last stanza)

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives, our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

SERMON "A Gift of Words" *John 17*

(Rise)

NICENE CREED (*found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)

(Be seated)

OFFERINGS 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 for the names of those to greet after the service.

(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.

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: . . . for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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

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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, grant us peace.

(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 #728 "How Firm a Foundation"

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,

Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!

What more can He say than to you He has said

Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,

For I am your God and will still give you aid;

I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,

Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never, forsake!

When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.

HYMN #466 "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia"

Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise Him, alleluia.
For our Redeemer burst from the tomb, Even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;
Death's fearful sting He has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!

For three long days the grave did its worst Until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death under go; And in its conquest His might did show.

Refrain

The angel said to them, "Do not fear! You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare; Only the grave cloths are lying there."

Refrain

"Go spread the news: He's not in the grave; He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done; Even the battle with sin is won." **Refrain**

Christ has arisen; He sets us free; Alleluia, to Him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing; He reigns triumphant, heavenly King. **Refrain**

HYMN #680 "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise"

Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be
Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth on bended knee
Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be
Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light
Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally
Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Be sober-minded; be watchful. Resist the devil, firm in faith. Take heart! The God of all grace who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you! 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 #577 "Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast"

Almighty God, your Word is cast Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend And righteous fruits abound.

Let not the sly satanic foe This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold The fruits of peace and joy.

So when the precious seed is sown, Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive Its saving pow'r may know.

Preacher	Pastor Harold Bender
Liturgist	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Lectors	Jim Adams, Carri Wolcyk, John Ficken
Acolytes	Josh Klement, Nik Mueller, Ryan Murray
Choir Director	Nancy Hoelke
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller