



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

Promised Resurrection Here & Now

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

*You are invited to light a candle
as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*



Gathering Music

Across the Lands

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him into resurrection life, here and now.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the wilderness you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way through the wilderness, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life, resurrection life, here and now.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for Baptismal water, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the resurrection life only you can give, here and now. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Sharing God's Peace

The Peace of the risen Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

Red ELW 857

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song

Special Music

Jesus Loves Me

Scripture Reading

Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we



go? You have the words of e - ter - nal



life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you. O Christ.**

Message

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

Red ELW 178

Sung before all prayers

**Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord make us whole:
peace to all people, hope for each soul.
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Graduate Recognition & Godspeed

Sydney Lagerberg, Anna & Katie Sullivan, Kale Mason, Cody Werth, Nathan Campbell

Through Baptism, you were received into the family of God's people, the Church. In Baptism, God has washed, anointed and signed you with the cross forever. Through Baptism you received the Holy Spirit, sometimes referred to as the Holy Comforter. The Holy Comforter binds us to Jesus and empowers us to live as his Body in the world.

As a part of this community of faith, Holy Shepherd has striven to surround, comfort, teach and wrap you in support as you have grown. Now that you are graduating from High School, as a symbol of our support, love and ongoing prayers, we present you with a prayer shawl.

This gift is a symbol. A symbol that wherever you go, you are still a part of this community of faith, which has both nurtured you and been blessed by your ministry among us.

A symbol that the same Spirit that came to you at your Baptism is still with you to comfort you and to *intercede for you with sighs that are too deep for words.* (Romans 8:27)

A symbol that Jesus Christ, whom you have confessed here in this place to be your Lord, will continue to wrap you in his ever loving arms, refusing to let go of you.

Paul writes in Philippians 1:3-6, "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion."

When you wrap yourself in this shawl, bless yourself in the name of the Father who loves you, the Son who is your brother and friend, and the Holy Spirit who guides your steps. As you wear it, believe with all your heart that God is with you every minute of every hour of every day. Jesus loves you no matter what, and the Holy Spirit rests on your shoulder. You *are* wrapped in God's awesome, unconditional love!

Let us pray: Gracious God, there are those who remember holding these men and women in their arms as newborn babies...hearing their first cries...relishing a first word or an initial step...who recall quivering lips as little ones went off to school... who marveled at what they were able to learn...so fast...who took them to dance recitals, piano lessons, soccer games, baseball games, swimming lessons ... and who could hardly believe how soon the kids become the ones driving the cars...

Lord, we give you thanks for who they already are and for all the ways you are at work in their lives to help them become and remain people of faith. Now we pray, for whom they will yet become, asking that you will continue to walk before them as a leader, to walk behind them, to guide them should they stray, and especially, kind Jesus, walk always... always... beside them as a friend. Remind them *always* who they are and whose they are.

We pray all of these things in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Lord: **Amen**

Blessing

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

May God look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, +Son and Holy Spirit.

And all God's children said, **Amen.**

Sending Song

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Red ELW 631 vs. 1,2

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Sending

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news of the promised resurrection –
here and now. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Let All Things Now Living



Participants

- Pastors: Courtney Steitz, Michael TeKrony
- Reader: Lisa Grimm
- Special Music: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Musicians: Mike Madsen, Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues