



7th Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2021

Christ Revealed - The Journey Continues

One in Christ

God's salvation was unconditional.

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

"Simple Gifts"

- arr. Martin

Announcements

Call to Worship

Holy Risen One,
we gather this day and we come as we are:
fragile yet faithful,
broken yet devoted.
Accept all we bring forward to you today.
Accept our worship, we pray.

Opening Song

How Great is Our God/How Great Thou Art

**The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice**

Chorus

**How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God**

*Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great thou art, how great thou art
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great thou art, how great thou art*

**And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end
The Godhead three in one, Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb**

Chorus

Confession and Forgiveness

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

Risen Lord,

We admit that we are slow to believe, and even slower to follow where you lead us. We doubt your promise, divide your people, and fail to proclaim the power of your resurrection. We choose to live small lives when you have given us the biggest gift of all: your eternal life. Forgive us. Raise us up to a place where we can serve you faithfully.

Christ is arisen, bringing gifts of life, mercy and pardon for sin! Believe that you are forgiven, and go out and live in the joy of your Lord's resurrection in the power of God's Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of Day

Loving God, the only law you demand is the law of love. By your grace, show us the path we are to follow, to spread your message of mercy and live lives of discipleship, after your son Jesus. **Amen.**

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song

Paul taught that God's salvation was not dependent on people's ability or willingness to follow Jewish laws. No, God's salvation was a gift for all—no strings attached.

Invitation to the Word

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.

Scripture Reading

Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! ²The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? ³Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? ⁴Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing. ⁵Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

⁶Just as Abraham “believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” ⁷so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. ⁸And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you.” ⁹For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed. ²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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

Message

Special Music

“Good Christian Friend, Rejoice!”

- arr. Leavitt

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 of the People

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.

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

By grace alone have you delivered us, so let our proclamation be one of freedom and not of restriction. May the witness of our lives show forth your love and not our own preoccupation with unimportant matters.

Prayer petitions response

Faithful God, **hear our prayer.**

Other petitions offered.

Incline your ear to our prayers and fill us with power to begin living out our faith, by the power of your Son our savior, Jesus Christ. **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.**

Sharing God's Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

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

Blessing

May the message of the women who found the tomb empty, bless you with the death transforming love of our living Savior, Jesus Christ. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Song

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

Red ELW 389 vv.1,4,5

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

Sending

Be amazed! The tomb is empty! Christ is risen!

Go and share this good news.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Postlude

"All Through the Night"

- arr. Sorenson



Participants

- Pastors: Courtney Steitz, Michael TeKrony
- Prelude/Postlude: Jordan Ortman
- Assisting Minister: Paul Thomas
- Liturgy leaders: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues, Becca Mohrbacher,
Darlene Mader, Bonnie Yockstick, Dave Irwin
- Opening Song: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Special Music: Jordan Ortman
- Closing Song: Chancel Choir – Directed by Dave Gleason
Susie DiPaolo, Barb Hessel, Brenda Gleason, Denise Ikenberry,
Linda TeKrony, Amy Evancheck, Mike Madsen, Ron Skabo,
Larry Bradsby, Scott Ikenberry, Dave Gleason, John Reed
Accompanist: Jordan Ortman
- Photographs: Ray Johnson, Michael TeKrony, Amy Evancheck,
Winston Herbert