

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2020



AN INSPIRING VIEW

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AS WE GATHER

During these great fifty days of Easter, we gather again to hear the risen Lord Jesus as He appears and speaks to us in no less a real way than when He appeared and spoke to the first disciples before His ascension into heaven. As Scripture says, “The Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him” (Habakkuk 2:20). So we gather in reverent, holy anticipation as we hear the words of Jesus in John’s inspired account, recalling His promise given on Holy Thursday, His word concerning the promise that He would send “another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth” (John 14:16–17). The Holy Spirit is wherever He creates and sustains faith through God’s Word. However, our Easter celebration will break forth before the world on the Day of Pentecost.

Jesus says the world cannot receive, see, or know the Spirit. Paul found this to be true in Athens as he noticed an altar dedicated “To the unknown god.” Though many in our day certainly have heard about Jesus, they do not know Him apart from faith in His word. But you know Him! Baptized into Christ, His resurrection life has given us new life, which for now is but the beginning to be stretched out into life eternal.

PRESERVICE MUSIC "How Beautiful" & "Lord of the Dance" (arr. Raney)
Flute – Becky Shifra Piano – Marlene Rieck

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. *Galatians 5:22-23*

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P The three sad days have quickly sped,
He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia! (*LSB 464:3*)
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Even as we glory in the gift of eternal life, in that hope we spend our days in joyful repentance and faith. Let us confess our sin, the sin that still so easily besets us, and receive the full forgiveness our Lord daily provides for us.

C **Lord God, though the strife is over, the battle done, and now is the victor’s triumph won, sin still hangs on. We are Your baptized people. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us into our Easter joy.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And 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.

C Amen.

605 FATHER WELCOMES

Refrain Father welcomes all His children
To His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation,
Life forever has been won.

- 1 Little children, come to Me,
For My kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give,
Mercy for your sin. **Refrain**
- 2 In the water, in the Word,
In His promise, be assured:
Those who are baptized and believe
Shall be born again. **Refrain**
- 3 Let us daily die to sin;
Let us daily rise with Him,
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,
Live in the peace of God. **Refrain**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 17:16–31

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually 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 are indeed his offspring.’ ²⁹Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 3:13–22

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard

Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, 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 having been subjected to him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "You Are Mine" (David Haas, arr. Hayes) Choir Ensemble, Flute – Becky Shifra

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:15–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

616 BAPTISMAL WATERS COVER ME

- 1 Baptismal waters cover me
As I approach on bended knee;
My Father's mercy here I plead,
For grievous sins of thought and deed.
- 2 I look to Christ upon the tree,
His body broken there for me;
I lay before Him all my sin,
My darkest secrets from within.
- 3 Lord, may Your wounded hand impart
Your healing to my broken heart;
Your love alone can form in me
A heart that serves You joyfully.
- 4 From Your own mouth comes forth a word;
Your shepherd speaks, but You are heard;
Through him Your hand now stretches out,
Forgiving sin, destroying doubt.

5 Baptismal waters cover me;
Christ's wounded hand has set me free.
 Held in my Father's strong embrace,
 With joy I praise Him for His grace.

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SERMON "Appealed to God" 1 Peter 3:13-22

APOSTLES' CREED

G I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Let us pray to the Lord,

G Lord, have mercy.

At the end of the prayer:

G Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

G Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P 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.

G Amen.

Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introit (found on front page)

Catechism Review (found on front page)

Meditation: Portals of Prayer, www.lhm.org/dailydevotions, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

- Sunday: Numbers 3:1-16, 39-48; Luke 14:25-15:10
- Monday: Numbers 8:5-26; Luke 15:11-32
- Tuesday: Numbers 9:1-23; Luke 16:1-18
- Wednesday: Numbers 10:11-36; Luke 16:19-31
- Thursday: Numbers 11:1-23, 31-35; Luke 17:1-19
- Friday: Numbers 11:24-29;12:1-16; Luke 17:20-37
- Saturday: Numbers 13:1-3, 17-33; Luke 18:1-17

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Doug, health issues	Al, health issues
Barb	Terri, Cancer
Larry, heart issues	Marilyn, recovering
Glenn, recovery	Jean, health issues
Camilla, 6-year-old with brain cancer	Chris, sick
Jack, ongoing health issues	Denise, addictions
Judy, cancer	Tim, recovering
Eunice, Health Issues	Terry
Kathy’s mother	Jim, Alzheimer’s
John, recovering	Vonna’s mother
Jerry	Peter
Tony	Jeanette
Sidney, granddaughter of Steinkes with medical issues	
For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand.	

Our Savior Families: Austin, Susan, Michael & Vicki, Paul, Amanda, Beverly, Dawn, Nikki

Hymn of the Week “Baptismal Waters Cover Me” LSB 616

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles’ Creed, Lord’s Prayer, Benediction