



**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER, 24 MAY, 2020**

*Lector: Ava Cron*

*Liturgy and Sermon: Pr. Caron*

*Reflection: The Rev. Karen Sease, Asst. to the Bishop, SEPa Synod*

**GATHERING**

THE PRELUDE: time for prayer and preparation.

My brothers and sisters, join our voices with the church throughout the world, of every people and language, and proclaim the good news: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In the waters of holy baptism God liberates us from the power of sin and death, forever joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. God raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory so that we might have forgiveness of all our sins, and have faith and hope in Him. The ransom that was paid to free us from sin was not paid in silver or gold, but by the precious blood of Christ, the Lamb without spot or stain. Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory! **Blessed be God, forever! Amen!**

GREETING

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

*We sing or speak 'This is the Feast' as we are able.*

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

**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!**

Let us pray *Silence for reflection-* God of glory,  
your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**



The first reading is from Acts, the first chapter.

<sup>6</sup> The apostles gathered around Jesus and asked him a question. “Lord,” they said, “are you going to give the kingdom back to Israel now?”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, “You should not be concerned about times or dates. The Father has set them by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. Then you will tell people about me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria. And you will even tell other people about me from one end of the earth to the other.”

<sup>9</sup> After Jesus said this, he was taken up to heaven. They watched until a cloud hid him from their sight.

<sup>10</sup> While he was going up, they kept on looking at the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothing stood beside them. <sup>11</sup> “People of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking at the sky? Jesus has been taken away from you into heaven. But he will come back in the same way you saw him go.”

<sup>12</sup> The apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives. It is just over half a mile from the city. <sup>13</sup> When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. <sup>14</sup> They all came together regularly to pray. The women joined them too. So did Jesus’ mother Mary and his brothers.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Acts 1:6-14

The second reading is from Isaiah, the sixty-sixth chapter.

“Heaven is my throne, says the Lord God

And earth is the work of my hands.

So how could you ever build a house to contain me?

Where would my resting place be?

<sup>2</sup> Didn’t I make everything by my power?

That is how all things were created,” God proclaims.

“The people I value are not arrogant.

They are the ones sorry for the wrong things they have done.

They have open hearts ready to hear my words.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Isaiah 66:1-2

*The Gospel, from John 17, is offered*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! This is the day the Lord has made; Let us rejoice, and be glad in it.

**Alleluia! We will rejoice, and open our hearts to his saving Word.**

The Gospel according to John, the seventeenth chapter. **Glory to you O Lord!**

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words to his followers, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>10</sup>I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

The Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Reflection: The Rev. Karen Sease, Asst. to the Bishop, Southeastern PA Synod

*We say or sing the hymn 'Alleluia, Sing to Jesus' as we are able.*

1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
has redeemed us by his blood."

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us;  
faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received him  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise:  
"I am with you evermore"?

3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,  
here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! here the sinful  
flee to you from day to day.  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's redeemer, hear our plea  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,  
Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.  
As within the veil you entered,  
robed in flesh, our great high priest,  
here on earth both priest and victim  
in the eucharistic feast.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.

**CONFESSION OF FAITH & PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

When we were baptized into Christ, we were baptized into His death and resurrection, that we live and walk in new life. Before God, and one another, let us confess the faith of the Church, and the hope that is ours. Do you renounce the glamour of evil, and the ways that draw you from God?

**By the grace of God, I renounce them!**

Do you turn to Christ as your Lord and Savior? **In faith, I turn to Christ!**

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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**

Sustained 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.

*A brief silence.*

O God, call your people to be one, as you have called and empowered us to be. Unite your church in the truth of your gospel, the love of one another and our neighbor, and our call to proclaim your love to all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Ascended Christ, open our hearts breathe new life into us and your creation. Where we've stumbled and fallen short, especially under stress or fear, raise us up. Dissolve our pride-full resistance and give us patience with one another, love to forebear and to forgive. Strengthen us to turn to You, to one another and not on one another as we walk these challenging days. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here we may offer the needs of our hearts after each petition*

Father of all, healing God, come to the aid of the needs that weigh upon our hearts. We lift before you:

all who need medical treatment from any and every cause...

for those engulfed in mourning and grief...

those struggling and afraid for health in body, mind and finances....

Be our resting place for the many, many needs that surround us and are on our hearts:

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

Raise all your saints to eternal life, O God. We give you thanks for all those who have served our country in our nation's military forces. In this weekend, when we remember their sacrifice help us to honor them by serving the veterans still among us, and by serving our country and one another with selfless love.

Hear us, O Lord, as we pray that you would bring comfort and peace to those who mourn. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With alleluias in our hearts and on our lips we commend to your care all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen!**

*Pause to share Peace and offer thanks for God's gifts that sustain and bless us. If you wish, offer thanks out loud for blessings received, something or someone for whom you are grateful. Offerings can be made online at this time, or your offering envelope can be placed in a basket and mailed. Then continue:*



Praise and thanks to you, holy God,  
for by your Word you made all things:  
you spoke light into darkness,  
called forth beauty from chaos,  
and brought life into being.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**We give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel  
to tell of your wonderful gifts:  
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey,  
a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**We give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh,  
you speak to us and call us to witness:  
forgiveness through the cross,  
life to those entombed by death,  
the way of your self-giving love.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**We give you thanks and praise.**

Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory forever. **C Amen.**

Let us pray in the words Jesus taught us:

**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.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Dwell in peace, for Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*We sing or speak the hymn 'All Hail the Power' as we are able.*

1 All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem  
and crown him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
and crown him Lord of all.

3 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng

we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song  
and crown him Lord of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song  
and crown him Lord of all.

2 O seed of Israel's chosen race

ye ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace  
and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace  
and crown him Lord of all.

4 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe

on this terrestrial ball  
to him all majesty ascribe  
and crown him Lord of all.  
to him all majesty ascribe  
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726-1792, sts. 1-4; J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, sts. 5-6

### POSTLUDE



Hymn and Liturgical Texts not in the public domain used by permission

CCLI #1465937

OneLicense.net #A-711138

A-F #5429-L

Liturgical Texts from Evangelical Lutheran Worship:

Sundays & Seasons SB125957

Gospel reading: New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council  
of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

Used by permission. All rights reserved