

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 17, 2020

Service of the Word

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania**

MISSION STATEMENT

Continually refreshed by the fountain of God's love in Christ Jesus, we of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church are sent by the Holy Spirit to direct that flow into the lives of our neighbors, so that they, too, might be refreshed and renewed.

GATHERING

WELCOME

Elizabeth Peter, M.Div.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

P Christ is Risen. C **He is risen indeed!**

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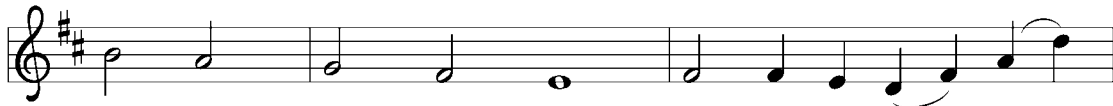
P Christ is Risen. C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN 619 (v. 1-4, 8)

“I Know My Redeemer Lives”



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
What joy this blest assurance gives;
I know that my Redeemer lives!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GREETING

P The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray... 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.**

WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Throughout Easter the second reading is from 1 Peter, a sermon given to the newly baptized. Throughout the book the author warns his listeners that baptism is not an end to suffering or opposition, but the beginning of a life of witness in word and deed, which will not always be appreciated. Today's reading includes reference to the ideas that the creeds summarize as "descended to the dead" and "seated at the right hand of the Father."

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.

L The Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

Bless our God, you peoples;

let the sound of praise be heard.

Our God has kept us among the living

has not allowed our feet to slip.

For you, O God, have tested us;

you have tried us just as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net;

you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,

but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

I will enter your house with burnt offerings

and will pay you my vows—

those that I promised with my lips

and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;

I will give you oxen and goats.

Come and listen, all you who believe,

and I will tell you what God has done for me.

I called out to God with my mouth,

and praised the Lord with my tongue.

If I had cherished evil in my heart,

the Lord would not have heard me;

but in truth God has heard me

and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

Blest be God, who has not rejected my prayer,

nor withheld unfailing love from me.

L The Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

This Sunday's Gospel immediately follows last Sunday's; the scene is still Jesus' final chance to teach and console his disciples before he is handed over to be crucified. In the preceding verses, Jesus has told them about how closely related, indeed interconnected he and the Father are. Now he carries that affirmation even further.

L The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: 15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.

17 This 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. 19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 They 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."

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SERMON

Pastor Jay Eckman

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love Divine All Loves Excelling”



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly
human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

Offertory Message

Offering Anthem "Because He Lives" Joey Slavin

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray.... Merciful God, **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition of the prayers: P Lord, in your mercy, C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

LORDS PRAYER

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

SENDING

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Go and tell the news that Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Courante

George Frideric Handel

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About today's hymns:

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" is perhaps Charles Wesley's most popular hymn. Wesley, esteemed with his brother John as the founders of Methodism, wrote more than 9,000 hymns and poems, and was the father and grandfather of acclaimed composers. All of Wesley's texts are rich in Scriptural allusions, and this hymn includes obvious reference to John 3:16, John 15:9, Revelation 21:3, Malachi 3:1, 2 Corinthians 3:18 and 5:17 and 2 Peter 3:14.

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives" also takes its first line directly from Scripture (Job 19:25), and then piles rhyme upon ecstatic rhyme spinning out the meaning of that phrase. It was written by Samuel Medley, a contemporary of the Wesley's and first published by the Wesleys' great collaborator, the evangelist George Whitefield.

About today's hymns and scripture reading introductions are written by the Reverend Dr. Mark Oldenburg.

PRAYER LIST

The following persons have an immediate need for prayers for healing: **David Clark, Orville Nyblade, Joyce Naugle, Marty Henderson, Easter Dorsey, Dave Lopes, Irene Linzmayer** (cousin of Marie Chantelau), **Jake Parsons** (cousin of Renee Winters-Dunn) **Joseph McLaughlin** (father of Sally Jones), **Alan Lewis** (son of Joanne Zinn Lewis) **Ron Roth** (friend of George Gallagher), **Lee Flinner, Matthew Leonard, Kathy McKay-Siegel** working at **Baltimore/Washington Medical Center** and **Janet McKay-Landefeld** working at **Holy Cross Hospital**.

We pray for those who mourn the death of loved ones including the **friends and family at the death of Bill Roulette** (brother of Kib Roulette), **Randy Jessup** (Rose Anderson's son-in-law), and **John Vannorsdall** (former Gettysburg College Chaplain) **Janet Carlson** (former Bell Choir director at Christ Lutheran Church) and **Charlie Kuttler** (husband of the Rev. Karen Kuttler).

We pray for those serving in our nations armed forces: **Jacob Romero** (grandson of Pat and Harold Kint) and **Mark Dende, Elizabeth Gelner and Gregory Sprowl** (Mike and Kathy Gelner's daughter and son-in-law)

We pray for those currently living in Personal Care Facilities: **Helen Bream, Phyllis Hale, Anna Jane Moyer, Gladys Zech, Pearl Hoffman, Kay Gray, Walter Nyblade**

We pray for those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week: **Brody Granger, Vinton Smith, Sophia Gastley, Abby Blaney, Jean Ask**

In this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic we pray for all those providing healthcare to our community and the world.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister- Pastor Jay Eckman

Preacher – Pastor Stephen Herr

Organist- Cameron Wentz

Soloist – Joey Slavin

Choir: Nancy Gable, Austin Nikirk, Jeanne Suehr, Janet Schroeder, Marty Schroeder, Mark Oldenburg

Introduction –Elizabeth Peter, M. Div.

Lectors – Jill, Jared and Joshua Herr

Camera and Editing – Jared Herr

Staff

Pastor: Stephen Herr

Pastor: Jay Eckman

Administrative Assistant: Heather King

Cantor: Cameron Wentz

Worship Nursery: Vicki Crouse

Housekeeper: Denise Henriquez

Security: Randolph Fullerton

Preschool: Lori Weaver, Jane Clements



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