6th Sunday of Easter

The Season The Resurrection of Christ is the essential truth of the Christian faith. We continue to celebrate the importance of the resurrection during the Sundays of Easter.

The Sunday Love for Christ shows itself in obedience to his teaching and trust in his peace.

Opening Hymn

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won CW 145



Text: Christian F. Gellert, 1715–69, abr.; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1815–97, alt. Tune: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT (78 78 77) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662.



Christ. This is the focus

of our worship.

Stand

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

- M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- M: God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: Amen

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



This Is the Feast of Victory

 Text: John W. Arthur, 1922–80. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.
Tune: FESTIVAL CANTICLE (Irregular with Refrain) Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923. © 1975, 1988 Richard Hillert. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: Amen.

Be Seated

THE WORD

First Lesson:

Obeying the Word of God had brought Elisha and his servant to the brink of death. The servant of Elisha was gripped in fear when he saw the forces that King of Aram sent to capture his master. In a stunning revelation of divine knowledge, the servant receives spiritual sight. The sight of the vast army of fire brought peace to his fainting heart. God's message is simple, but profound. Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God!

¹⁵ When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked.

¹⁶ "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Refrain

The earth is full of the good-ness of God, the good-ness of our God. Psalm tone * Praise awaits you, O God,* you call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and <u>wa</u>ter it;* you soften it with showers and <u>bless</u> its crops.

The streams of God are filled with <u>wa</u>ter* to provide the peo<u>ple</u> with grain.

Refrain

You crown the year with your <u>boun</u>ty,* and your carts overflow with a<u>bun</u>dance.

Psalm 65

2 Kings 6:15-17

The grasslands of the desert <u>overflow</u>;* the hills are clothed with <u>glad</u>ness.

The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are man<u>tled</u> with grain;* they shout for <u>joy</u> and sing.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Marty Haugen. @ 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Second Lesson

Revelation 3:14-22

Spiritual apathy has disastrous results. The Laodiceans failed to obey the teaching of Christ. Their lukewarm Christianity was taking them to destruction. But Christ called them to new obedience and new love for him by offering them real wealth, clothes of holiness, and the salve of healing. Hear what the Spirit says and overcome the world even as the risen Lord has overcome it.

¹⁴ "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. ¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

¹⁹ Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. ²⁰ Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

²¹ To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia.

M: If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia. (John 14:23)

Stand

Gospel

John 14:23-29

Jesus continues to prepare the disciples for his visible departure. The new command to love one another also means loving him and his Word. Loving Jesus means obeying his teaching. We do not fear at the thought of this impossible task. The gift of the Spirit comes to bring knowledge and peace. With untroubled hearts, we believe.

²³ Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

²⁵ "All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

²⁸ "You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

Dear Chris - tians, one re - joice, With 1 and all, 2 Fast bound in Sa _ tan's chains I lay; Death 3 My good works vailed naught, No own а me 4 But God held Be be my wretch - ed state _ ul tion spring And, with ex ta _ ing, u brood - ed dark ly o'er me. Sin was my they mer _ it at tain ing; My will а the world's foun da And. mind - ful fore tion. ed voice And ly nit _ heart and ho rap ture _ ment night and day; In sin my moth tor er gainst God's judg - ment fought, No hope for me re of his mer - cies great, He planned my soul's sal sing ing, Pro claim the ders God won _ _ Yet still bore me. deep and deep _ er main My fears in creased till sheer ing. tion. Fa ther's heart he turned va Α _ done. How his right the vic - t'ry has arm fell; Life had I be _ come а liv - ing spair Left naught but death de to be my me. Sought my demp tion fer - vent to re -How ly him! won. dear it has cost hell. So firm ly sin sessed me. pos share And hell be my to sen tence. ly; He gave his dear est trea sure. 7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me-10 "What I on earth have lived and taught Be all your life and teaching; I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I myself will be; So shall my kingdom's work be wrought For you I strive and wrestle. And honored in your preaching. For I am yours, your friend divine, Take care that no one's man-made laws Should e'er destroy the gospel's cause. And evermore you shall be mine; The foe shall not divide us. This final word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tune: NUN FREUT EUCH, LIEBEN CHRISTEN (87 87 887) Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524.

Sermon

Stand

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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be Seated

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord's 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.

THE SACRAMENT

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.

- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy



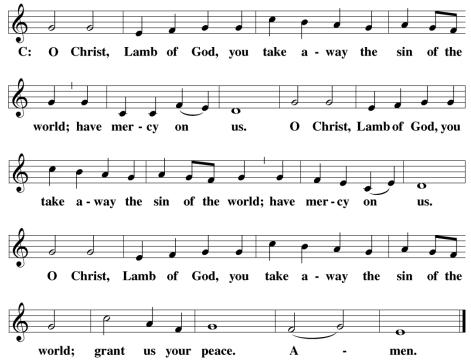
Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

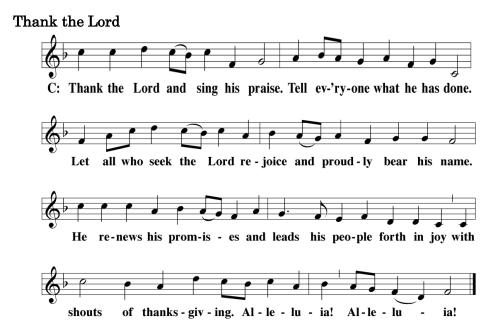


Be Seated

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith and warns us against the dangers of not understanding what communion is, we practice close communion. WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor before communing. If you would like to learn more about communing with us in the future, please contact a pastor.

Distribution

Stand



- M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

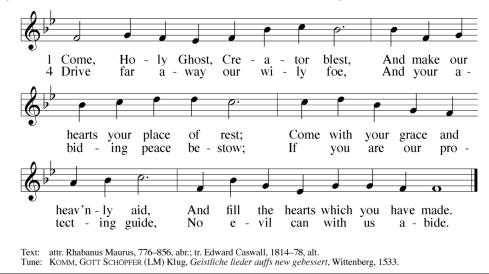
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be Seated



Hymn

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