

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday – May 17, 2020 – 9:30 am. Live-Streamed



Friends in Christ Lutheran Church

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THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

† Call to Worship †

Hymn # 645 "Built on the Rock"



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how

stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's

ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives

ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim

But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,

Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.

5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
 That, when the church bells are ringing,
 Many in saving faith may come
 Where Christ His message is bringing:
 "I know My own; My own know Me.
 You, not the world, My face shall see.
 My peace I leave with you. Amen."

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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

Invocation

LSB 203 Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

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

Easter Acclamation

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Exhortation

LSB 203 Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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** Is this your confession? If it is then repeat after me:
Yes, it is. / I confess my sins. / And I pray for God's mercy.

Absolution

LSB 151 (Alt.) [John 20:19–23]

- P** Upon this, your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you “all your sins.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, by His authority, and by His command, I therefore forgive you “all your sins” in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

† Service of the Word †

Psalm 28:1-3, 6-9

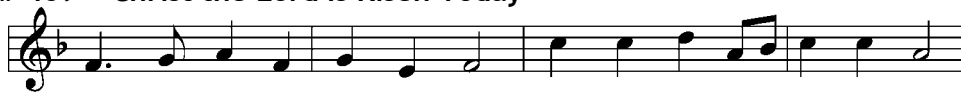
- P** ¹To you, O LORD, I call;
C my rock, be not deaf to me,
P lest, if you be silent to me,
C I become like those who go down to the pit.
- P** ²Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy,
C when I cry to you for help,
P when I lift up my hands
C toward your most holy sanctuary.
- P** ³Do not drag me off with the wicked,
C with the workers of evil,
P who speak peace with their neighbors
C while evil is in their hearts.
- P** ⁶Blesséd be the LORD!
C for he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.
- P** ⁷The LORD is my strength and my shield;
C in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;
P my heart exults,
C and with my song I give thanks to him.
- P** ⁸The LORD is the strength of his people;
C he is the saving refuge of his anointed.
- P** ⁹Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!
C Be their shepherd and carry them forever.
- ALL** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord have mercy.**
- P** For all in authority in our lives, especially our President, Vice-President, Congress, Judiciary, Governors and all public servants, that they may serve God, bringing His appointed blessings to meet our earthly needs, and that they may be guided by heavenly wisdom let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord have mercy.**
- P** For those who mourn the passing of loved ones, for those who struggle with illness in their communities, and for those who are dealing with financial distress in their families, that those who mourn may be comforted, that our communities may be healed, and that families in distress may find relief let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord have mercy.**
- P** For all who do the work of the Lord, supplying our many and various needs that as they work to care for their neighbor they may be blessed, protected and strengthened let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord have mercy.**
- P** For electrical line workers, truck drivers, and many whose work is long, exhausting, and dangerous that they may be preserved, protected and kept vigilant as they serve God and their neighbor let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord have mercy.**
- P** For all of us who long for the gathering in worship, that in our separation we may be strengthened by the presence of God, the friendship of Jesus and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord have mercy.**
- P** For our Doctors, Nurses, Care Center, and all other Medical workers as they continue to labor to bring healing, and keep the vulnerable safe, that they may be held within the merciful preserving and blessing of God let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord have mercy.**
- P** For those around our nation returning to work that they may be protected from illness, and that we may be delivered from affliction, wrath, danger and pestilence let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

Collect 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.**

Hymn # 469 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on earth and an - gels say;
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won;
 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
 4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
 Lo! Our Sun's e - clipse is o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.
 Death in vain for - bids His rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
 Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Soar we now where Christ has led;
 Foll'wing our exalted Head.
 Made like Him, like Him we rise;
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
 Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
 Thee we greet triumphant now:
 Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

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First Reading: Acts 17:16-31

¹⁶Now while 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?*" ²⁰*For 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.*"

²⁴*The 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.'"

²⁹*Being 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."*

A 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.*
¹⁶*And 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.

Hymn # 556 "Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice"



2 Fast bound in Sa-tan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark - ly
 4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be - fore the world's foun -
 5 God said to His be - lov - ed Son "It's time to have com -
 6 The Son o - beyed His Fath-er's will, Was born of vir - gin
 o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin my
 da - tion, And mind-ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for
 pass - ion. Then go, bright jew - el of My crown, And bring to
 moth - er; And God's good pleas-ure to ful - fill, He came to
 moth-er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My
 my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He
 all sal - va - tion. From sin and sor - row set them free; Slay
 be my bro - ther. His roy-al pow'r dis-guised He bore; A
 life be - came a liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
 did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear-est trea - sure.
 bit-ter death for them that they May live with You for - ev - er."
 ser-vant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the de - vil cap - tive.

- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me,
 I am your rock and castle.
 Your ransom I Myself will be;
 For you I strive and wrestle.
 For I am yours, and you are Mine,
 And where I am you may remain;
 The foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "Though he will shed My precious blood,
 Me of My life bereaving,
 All this I suffer for your good;
 Be steadfast and believing.
 Life will from death the vict'ry win;
 My innocence shall bear your sin,
 And you are blest forever.

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Sermon "Dragged Along by Jesus" John 14:15-21

Apostles' Creed

C 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

Responses:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Final Petition:

P Hear us Father for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives
and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, who has taught us to
pray,

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13 LSB 162

C 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

Numbers 6:24–26 LSB 166

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.
C Amen.

Hymn # 490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won

1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -
 2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is
 3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus
 4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall

pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!
 giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,
 liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,
 sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell

From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er
 Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is
 Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I
 Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will

scenes will then com-mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
 faith - ful; doubt-ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.
 need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
 be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.

5 Jesus lives! And now is death
 But the gate of life immortal;
 This shall calm my trembling breath
 When I pass its gloomy portal.
 Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:
 Jesus is my confidence!

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Acknowledgments

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