

# The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday – May 14, 2023 – 9:30 a.m. Worship

*(In-Person & Live -Streamed)*



*“Blessed be the Lord . . . Who has not left you without a Redeemer!” -Ruth 4:14*

## Friends In Christ Lutheran Church

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# † Call to Worship †

## Greeting and Opening Prayer

### Opening Hymn #528 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My  
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -  
3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That  
Δ7 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love Be  
great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my  
sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the  
bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the  
now and ev - er giv'n By saints be - low and  
God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!  
earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.  
sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.  
saints a - bove, The Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.  
Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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

## Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

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

## Exhortation

*1 John 1:8–9 LSB 151*

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession of Sins

*LSB 184*

- P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**C** O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Absolution

*[John 20:19–23] LSB 151*

- P** 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, and by His authority, 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 †

### Responsive Psalm 66:8-20

- P**<sup>8</sup> Bless our God, O peoples;  
**C** let the sound of his praise be heard,  
**P**<sup>9</sup> who has kept our soul among the living  
**C** and has not let our feet slip.  
**P**<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have tested us;  
**C** you have tried us as silver is tried.  
**P**<sup>11</sup> You brought us into the net;  
**C** you laid a crushing burden on our backs;  
**P**<sup>12</sup> you let men ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and through water;  
**C** yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.  
**P**<sup>13</sup> I will come into your house with burnt offerings;  
**C** I will perform my vows to you,  
**P**<sup>14</sup> that which my lips uttered  
**C** and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.  
**P**<sup>15</sup> I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals,  
**C** with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;  
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.  
**P**<sup>16</sup> Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
**C** and I will tell what he has done for my soul.  
**P**<sup>17</sup> I cried to him with my mouth,  
**C** and high praise was on my tongue.  
**P**<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
**C** the Lord would not have listened.  
**P**<sup>19</sup> But truly God has listened;  
**C** he has attended to the voice of my prayer.  
**P**<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God,  
**C** because he has not rejected my prayer  
or removed his steadfast love from me!

**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.

### Kyrie

*Mark 10:47 LSB 204*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
**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**

<sup>16</sup>While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So 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. <sup>18</sup>Some 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. <sup>19</sup>And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?” <sup>20</sup>For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” <sup>21</sup>Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For 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. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup>And 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, <sup>27</sup>that 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, <sup>28</sup>for

“‘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.’

<sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because 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**

<sup>13</sup>Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup>but 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; <sup>16</sup>yet 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. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup>For 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, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because 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. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, 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, <sup>22</sup>who 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

John 6:68 LSB 156



## Holy Gospel: John 14:15-21

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.  
**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup>even 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.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever 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.

*Sit*

## Sermon Hymn #760 “What God Ordains Is Always Good”

## Sermon "Mothers' Hearts' Attacks"

### Sermon Texts

#### Ruth 1:16-17 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> But Ruth said,

“Entreat me not to leave you,  
Or to turn back from following after you;  
For wherever you go, I will go;  
And wherever you lodge, I will lodge;  
Your people shall be my people,  
And your God, my God.

<sup>17</sup> Where you die, I will die,  
And there will I be buried.  
The LORD do so to me, and more also,  
If anything but death parts you and me.”

#### Ruth 4:14 (ESV)

<sup>14</sup> Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel!

*Stand*

### 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.

*Sit*

### 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.  
**C** Amen.

## Offerings are brought to the LORD's altar

*stand*

### Offertory

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19 LSB 159*



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

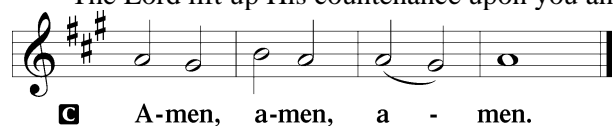
### Lord's Prayer

**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 202*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Closing Hymn "Blessed Assurance"

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a  
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light! Vi - sions of  
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion - all is at rest, I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of  
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -  
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

God, born of His Spir - it, washed in His blood. This is my  
 -bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
 -bove, filled with His good - ness, lost in His love.

sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long; This is my

sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

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