

# THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 25th, 2025



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MARTIN LUTHER  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Louis, MO

Pastor Seth Georgson

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*Cover: “Jesus teaches His disciples how to pray.” Woodcut from the 1558 edition  
of Luther’s Small Catechism.*

## THE COMMON SERVICE

Hymn ----- Awake, My Heart, with Gladness

CW 156

1. Awake, my heart, with gladness!  
See what today is done;  
Now, after gloom and sadness,  
Comes forth the glorious sun.  
My Savior there was laid  
Where our bed must be made  
When to the realms of light  
Our spirit wings its flight.
2. The foe in triumph shouted  
When Christ lay in the tomb.  
But lo, he now is routed;  
His boast is turned to gloom.  
For Christ again is free;  
In glorious victory  
He who is strong to save  
Has triumphed o'er the grave.
3. This is a sight that gladdens—  
What peace it does impart!  
Now nothing ever saddens  
The joy within my heart.  
No gloom shall ever shake,  
No foe shall ever take  
The hope which God's own Son  
In love for me has won.

4. Now I will cling forever  
To Christ, my Savior true;  
My Lord will leave me never,  
Whate'er he passes through.  
He rends death's iron chain;  
He breaks through sin and pain.  
He shatters hell's dark thrall;  
I follow him through all.

5. He brings me to the portal  
That leads to bliss untold,  
Whereon this rhyme immortal  
Is found in script of gold:  
"Who there my cross has shared  
Finds here a crown prepared;  
Who there with me has died  
Shall here be glorified."

*Stand.*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



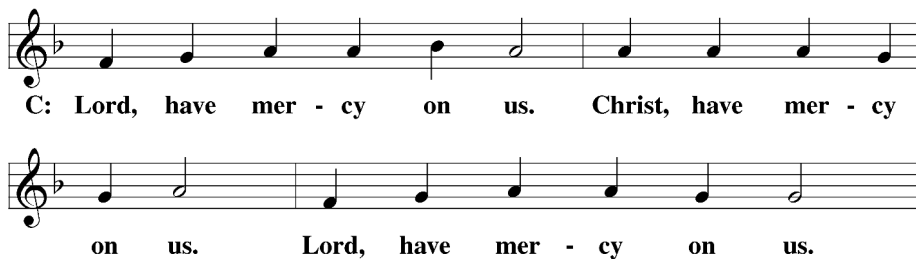
#### CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins  
to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant  
us forgiveness.

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.

*Lord, Have Mercy*

*Kyrie*



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.



#### PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

*Glory be to God*

*Gloria in Excelsis*



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,  
 we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,  
 God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;  
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the  
 sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the  
 sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of  
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;  
 you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,  
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## *Prayer of the Day*

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

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: A - men.

*Be seated.*

## THE WORD

### **First Lesson** ----- **Numbers 21:4–9**

They set out from Mount Hor along the road to the Red Sea to go around the land of Edom, but the people became very impatient along the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? Look, there is no food! There is no water! And we are disgusted by this worthless food!”

The LORD sent venomous snakes among the people, and the snakes bit the people. As a result many people from Israel died. The people went to

Moses and said, “We have sinned, because we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD to take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed on behalf of the people.

The LORD said to Moses, “Make a venomous snake and put it on a pole. If anyone who is bitten looks at it, he will live.” Moses made a bronze snake and put it on the pole. If a snake had bitten anyone, if that person looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

**Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 66**

CW p.90

*Refrain*

**At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song;  
I sing for joy.**

Shout with joy to God, all the earth!\*

Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious!

Praise our God, O peoples,\*

let the sound of his praise be heard.

He has preserved our lives\*

and kept our feet from slipping.

*Refrain*

Come and listen, all you who fear God;\*

let me tell you what he has done for me.

If I had cherished sin in my heart,\*

the Lord would not have listened;

but God has surely listened\*

and heard my voice in prayer.

**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.**

*Refrain*

**Second Lesson ----- James 1:22-27**

Be people who do what the word says, not people who only hear it. Such people are deceiving themselves. In fact, if anyone hears the word

and does not do what it says, he is like a man who carefully looks at his own natural face in a mirror. Indeed, he carefully looks at himself; then, he goes



away and immediately forgets what he looked like. But the one who looks carefully into the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continues to do so—since he does not hear and forget but actually does what it says—that person will be blessed in what he does.

If anyone considers himself to be religious

*Verse of the Day*

*John 14:23*

M: Alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will hold on to my word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia.



*Stand.*

**Gospel ----- John 16:23–30**

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



“In that day you will not ask me anything. Amen, Amen, I tell you: Whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask, and you will receive, so that your joy may be made complete.

“I have told you these things using figurative language. A time is coming when I will no longer speak to you using figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. In that day you will ask in my name, and I am not telling you that I will make requests of the Father on your behalf.

but deceives his own heart because he does not bridle his tongue, this person’s religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled in the sight of God the Father is this: to take care of orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am going to leave the world and go to the Father.”

“Yes!” his disciples said. “Now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative language. Now we know that you know everything and do not need to have anyone ask you anything. For this reason we believe that you came from God.”

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



*Nicene Creed*

C: 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 worshiped 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.*

**Hymn of the Day ----- Our Father Who from Heaven Above**

CW 410

1. Our Father, who from heav'n above Bids all of us to live in love  
As members of one family And pray to you in unity,  
Teach us no thoughtless words to say,  
But from our inmost hearts to pray.
2. Your name be hallowed. Help us, Lord, In purity to keep your Word,  
That to the glory of your name We walk before you free from blame.  
Let no false doctrine us pervert; All poor, deluded souls convert.
3. Your kingdom come, we humbly pray, That Christ may rule in us today  
And that your Holy Spirit bring Still more to worship Christ as King.  
Break Satan's pow'r, defeat his rage;  
Preserve your Church from age to age.
4. Your gracious will on earth be done  
Just as in heav'n around your throne,  
That patiently we may obey Throughout our lives all that you say.  
Curb sinful flesh and ev'ry ill That sets itself against your will.
5. Give us today our daily bread, And let us all be clothed and fed.  
From hardship, war, and earthly strife,  
From sickness, famine, spare our life.  
Let selfishness and worry cease That we may live in godly peace.
6. Forgive our sins, Lord, we implore, That they may trouble us no more;  
We, too, will gladly those forgive Who hurt us by the way they live.  
Help us in our community To serve each other willingly.
7. Into temptation lead us not. When evil foes against us plot  
And vex our souls on ev'ry hand, Oh, give us strength that we may stand  
Firm in the faith, a mighty host, Through comfort of the Holy Ghost.

8. From evil, Lord, deliver us; The times and days are perilous.  
Redeem us from eternal death, And, when we yield our dying breath,  
Console us, grant us calm release, And take our souls to you in peace.
9. Amen, that is, it shall be so. Make strong our faith that we may know  
That we may doubt not but believe What here we ask we shall receive.  
Thus in your name and at your Word We say, "Amen. Oh, hear us, Lord!"

Sermon ----- John 16:23-30

*He Lives so that We Can Pray*

*Stand.*

*After the sermon, the congregation sings:*

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

*Be seated.*

## *Offering*

### *Stand.*

## *Prayer of the Church*

*The minister offers the petitions and the congregation responds with “**hear our prayer.**”*

*Online giving option:*

*[mluther.org/give](http://mluther.org/give)*



*Offerings support the spread*

*of the Gospel here and around the world.*

- M: Heavenly Father, You have redeemed Your servant Jacob and gathered Your Church. Help us declare, proclaim and utter this great salvation in speech and song to the very ends of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, You threaten to punish all those who break Your commandments. To the grumbling and unfaithful people of Israel, You sent poisonous serpents. They tested Christ and were destroyed. Instruct us by these examples, that we may not follow them in their desire for evil, but live God-pleasing lives as the end of the ages approaches. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Lord of the Church, all this year we are celebrating 175 years since our synod was first organized. We give thanks to You for all the blessings of Christian fellowship and we ask that You would cause us always to hear Your Word and do what it says. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Blessed Lord, by Your Holy Spirit inspire Your people in their homes, occupations and lives to follow Your Word, that we would show our holy religion sincerely in all that we do. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O Lord, receive our supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings for all civil authorities and servants in high positions. As we remember all who have given their lives in service to our country this Memorial Day, lead us and our fellow citizens to pray to You in Jesus' name for Your blessing of peace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- M: Lord of hosts, for our learning You have written of Israel, of their impatient complaint against You and of their punishment. Instruct our hearts to trust You through all our trials. Bless [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all who struggle among us, and fix their eyes on Christ, their savior. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Heavenly Father, like the children of Israel, we are strangers and pilgrims in this wilderness of the world. Remind us that our citizenship is in heaven and that we desire a better, heavenly country. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

*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.**

## THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Sanctus*



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### *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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.





*O Christ, Lamb of God*

*Agnus Dei*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us your peace. A - men.

*Be seated.*

#### DISTRIBUTION

*In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.*

*During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymn:*

Hymn ----- Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

CW 311

1. Soul, adorn yourself with gladness; Leave behind all gloom and sadness.  
Come into the daylight's splendor; There with joy your praises render  
Unto him whose grace unbounded Has this wondrous supper founded.  
Though he reigns above most holy, Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
2. Hasten as a bride to meet him, And with loving rev'rence greet him,  
For with words of life immortal He is knocking at your portal.  
Open wide the gates before him, Saying, as you there adore him:  
Grant, Lord, that I now receive you, That I nevermore will leave you.
3. He who craves a precious treasure Neither cost nor pain will measure,  
But the priceless gifts of heaven God to us has freely given.  
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,  
Naught would buy the gifts here offered:  
Christ's true body, for you riven, And his blood, for you once given.
4. Now I kneel before you lowly, Filled with joy most deep and holy,  
As with trembling awe and wonder On your mighty work I ponder,  
How by mystery surrounded, Depths that no one ever sounded.  
None may dare to pierce unbidden Secrets that with you are hidden.
5. Human reason, though it ponders, Cannot fathom these great wonders,  
That Christ's body must be boundless  
Since the souls it feeds are countless,  
And that he his blood is giving With the wine we are receiving.  
These great mysteries unsounded Are by God alone expounded.
6. Lord, by love and mercy driven, You have left your throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forgo all joy and gladness And to shed your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.

7. Jesus, Sun of life, my Splendor, Jesus, Friend of friends most tender,  
Jesus, Joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring-  
At your feet I cry, my Maker: Let me be a fit partaker  
Of this blessed food from heaven For our good, your glory, given.
8. Jesus, Lord of life, I pray you, Let me gladly here obey you.  
By your love I am invited; Be your love with love requited.  
By this supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
Through the gift of grace you give me  
As your guest in heav'n receive me.

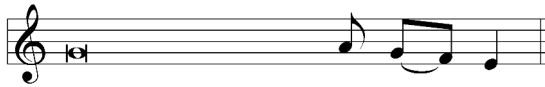
*After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:*

*Song of Simeon*

*Nunc Dimittis*

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M: 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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Be seated.*

**Hymn ----- Abide, O Dearest Jesus**

CW 333

1. Abide, O dearest Jesus, Among us with your grace  
That Satan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.
2. Abide, O dear Redeemer, Among us with your Word  
And thus now and hereafter True peace and joy afford.
3. Abide with heav'nly brightness Among us, precious Light;  
Your truth direct and keep us From error's gloomy night.
4. Abide with richest blessings Among us, bounteous Lord;  
Let us in grace and wisdom Grow daily through your Word.
5. Abide with your protection Among us, Lord, our Strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us And overcome at length.
6. Abide, O faithful Savior, Among us with your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.

