

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

June 1st, 2025



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Louis, MO
Pastor Seth Georgson
314-914-6457

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Cover: “The Ascension.” from the Mortiers Bible, 1700.

They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:11)

THE COMMON SERVICE

Hymn ----- God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

CWS 737

1. God's own child, I gladly say it: I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it, Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free, Lasting to eternity!
2. *(All Women)* Sin, disturb my soul no longer: I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger: Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me Since my baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood, Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
3. *(All Men)* Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation; I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled, All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!
4. *(Choir)* Death, you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine To make life immortal mine.
5. There is nothing worth comparing To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring: Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising, Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ; I'm a child of paradise!

Stand.

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: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when he said: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” All of us are born into this world with a deep need for baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

C: **Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

M: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

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.**

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font. (CW p. 13)

PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

Glory be to God

Gloria in Excelsis



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



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



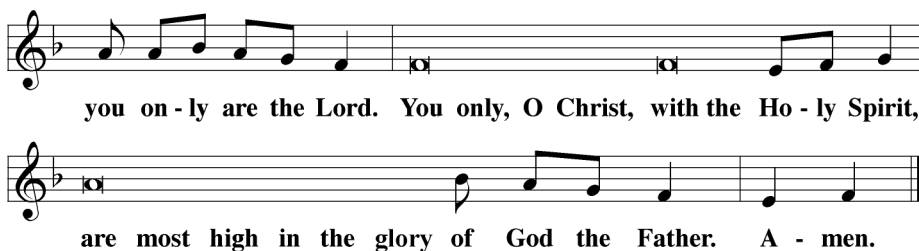
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



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;



Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens, and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that, at your command and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Ezekiel 36:22-28

Therefore, say this to the house of Israel.
This is what the LORD God says. I am about to act,

O house of Israel, not for your sake, but for the
sake of my holy name, which you have profaned

among the nations to which you have gone. I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the LORD God, when I reveal myself as holy in front of their eyes through you. I will take you from among the nations. I will gather you from all the lands, and I will bring you to your own soil. I will sprinkle purifying water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from

all your impurity and from all your filthy idols.

Then I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit inside you. I will remove the heart of stone from your body and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my Spirit within you and will cause you to walk in my statutes, and you will carefully observe my ordinances. Then you will live in the land I gave your fathers. You will be my people, and I will be your God.

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 27

CW p.75

Refrain

The Lord is my light and my salvation—of whom shall I be afraid, of whom shall I be afraid?

Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;*
be merciful to me and answer me.

Do not hide your face from me,*
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,*
O God my Savior.

Refrain

Though my father and mother forsake me,*
the LORD will receive me.

I am still confident of this:*
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD,*
be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

**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 ----- 1 Peter 4:7–11

The end of all things is near. So have sound judgment and be self-controlled for the sake of your prayers. Above all, love each other constantly, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining.

Serve one another, each according to the gift he has received, as good stewards of the many

forms of God's grace. If anyone speaks, let him do it as one speaking the messages of God. If anyone serves, let him do it as one serving with the strength God supplies so that God may be glorified in every way through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

Verse of the Day

John 14:18

M: Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. Alleluia.



Stand.

Gospel ----- John 15:26–16:4

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father—he will testify about me. And you also are going to testify, be-

cause you have been with me from the beginning.

I have told you these things so that you will not fall away. They will put you out of the synagogues. In fact, a time is coming when anyone

who murders you will think he is offering a service to God. They will do these things because they have not known the Father or me. But I have told you these things so that when their time

comes, you may remember that I told them to you. I did not tell you these things from the beginning, because I was with you.

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 ----- O Holy Spirit, Enter In

CW 184

1. O Holy Spirit, enter in And in our hearts your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine, Around and in us brightly shine,
To joy and gladness wake us
That we May be Truly living, To you giving Prayer unceasing
And in love be still increasing.
2. Give to your Word impressive pow'r
That in our hearts from this good hour
As fire it may be glowing,
That in true Christian unity We faithful witnesses may be,
Your glory ever showing.
Hear us, Cheer us By your teaching; Let our preaching And our labor
Praise you, Lord, and serve our neighbor.
3. O mighty Rock, O Source of life, Let your dear Word, in doubt and strife,
In us be strongly burning
That we be faithful unto death And live in love and holy faith,
From you true wisdom learning.
Your grace And peace On us shower; By your power Christ confessing,
Let us see our Savior's blessing.

Sermon ----- John 15:26–16:4

You Will Testify by the Spirit of Truth

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.**”*

M: Lord of hosts, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our King of glory, now stands with You uplifted in triumph far above the heavens. Leave us not without consolation, but send us always the Spirit of Your truth according to His promises. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lord God, Your name has been profaned among the nations and by those whom You have graciously redeemed. Forgive us, renew us and lead us to bear Your holy name in purity of faith, hope and love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Online giving option:

mluther.org/give



Offerings support the spread
 of the Gospel here and around the world.

- M: Strengthen Your Holy Church to give witness to Christ, to bear persecution and to live in the confidence that if You are for us nothing can separate us from You. Strengthen the ministers of Your Holy Church, especially Mark Schroeder, our synod president, Dennis Klatt, our district president, and our pastor. Send laborers into Your harvest, and sustain those You have sent. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: God and Father of all, build up our homes as strongholds for the tempted, tested and afflicted. Let the Word of salvation resound in them, and lead us to open our doors to the oppressed. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Lord, You are the ruler of all things. Grant that the nations may enjoy peace, goodwill, an end to terror and bloodshed, and freedom from tyranny. Guide our leaders to be faithful in their service for the protection of life and the pursuit of all that is just and good. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, praising Your Son's resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. [*We pray especially for _____.*] Graciously receive our prayers for the sake of Christ's eternal intercession on our behalf. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Lord, in Your Sacrament You give us the blessed gifts of Christ's flesh and blood. Enable all who come to the Lord's table to eat and drink in faith, and by repentance be renewed in their baptismal calling as the people of God. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Lord God, You promised the land of Canaan to our fathers of old. Now You promise a new creation to all Your saints. In their fellowship, sanctify us to do Your will in this life and at last to receive eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks that, through Your Holy Spirit, You have appointed us to bear witness to Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. We implore You that since the world despises this testimony and persecutes the Church, You would grant us courage and comfort, that we would not be offended because of the cross but continue steadfastly in this testimony and Church, until we obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same 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 -



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





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 ----- Take and Eat

CWS 741

The congregation sings the refrain.

Refrain:

Take and eat, take and eat, this is my body given up for you.

Take and drink, take and drink,

this is my blood given up for you.

1. I am the Word that spoke and light was made; I am the seed that died to be reborn; I am the bread that comes from heav'n above;

I am the vine that fills your cup with joy.

Refrain

2. I am the way that leads the exile home;
I am the truth that sets the captive free;
I am the life that raises up the dead;

I am your peace, true peace my gift to you.

Refrain

3. I am the Lamb that takes away your sin; I am the gate that guards you night and day. You are my flock: you know the Shepherd's voice;
You are my own: your ransom is my blood.

Refrain

4. I am the cornerstone that God has laid,
A chosen stone and precious in his eyes.
You are God's dwelling place; on me you rest
Like living stones, a temple for God's praise.

Refrain

5. I am the Light that came into the world; I am the Light that darkness cannot hide; I am the Morning Star that never sets.
Lift up your face; in you my light will shine.

Refrain

6. I am the First and Last, the living One; I am the Lord who died that you might live; I am the Bridegroom, this my wedding song.
You are my bride; come to the marriage feast.

Refrain

After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:

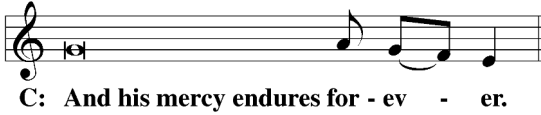
Song of Simeon

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



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



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.



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.



Be seated.

Hymn ----- Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

CW 352

1. Lord, enthroned in heav'nly splendor, Mighty Firstborn from the dead,
You alone, our strong Defender, You lift up your people's head.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Jesus, true and living Bread! Jesus, true and living Bread!
2. Though the lowliest form once veiled you As of old in Bethlehem,
Here as there your angels hail you, Branch and Flow'r of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
We in worship join with them; We in worship join with them.
3. Paschal Lamb, your off'ring, finished Once for all when you were slain,
In its fullness undiminished, Shall forevermore remain,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Cleansing souls from ev'ry stain; Cleansing souls from ev'ry stain.
4. Life-imparting heav'nly Manna, Stricken Rock with streaming side,
Heav'n and earth with loud hosanna Worship you, the Lamb who died.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Ris'n, ascended, glorified! Ris'n, ascended, glorified!

