THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 1, 2016

Worship Focus

Jesus Has Prepared Us for His Ascension



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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of Word and Sacrament

Christian Worship, p. 26

Service of Word and Sacrament © Northwestern Publishing House 1993. "Thank the Lord" Tune: Richard Hillert. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Augsburg Fortress All rights reserved. Used by permission, including hymns 230, 215, 377, 759, and Psalm 65 Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-714955

OPENING HYMN

230 - Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now



Text: Lutherische Hand-Bächlein, 2nd ed., Altenburg, 1648; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Tune: HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND (LM) Cantionale Germanicum, Gochsheim, 1628.

INVOCATION

MinisterThe grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.CongregationAnd also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

- **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.

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.



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.



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



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



PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto the Lamb of God we sing, In whom we are elected. He bought the Church with his own blood; He cleansed her in that blessed flood And as his bride selected. Holy, Holy Is our union And communion. His befriending Gives us joy and peace unending. (241:2)

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.





THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Acts 14:8-18

Paul and Barnabas faithfully preached the Word of God even when faced with the temptation to be treated as gods by the people of Lystra.

^{ACTS 14:8} In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. ⁹ He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed ¹⁰ and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.

¹¹ When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" ¹² Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. ¹³ The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

¹⁴ But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: ¹⁵ "Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them. ¹⁶ In the past, he let all nations go their own way. ¹⁷ Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." ¹⁸ Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

PSALM (8:00)

Psalm 65

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PRE-K-GRADE 4 ANTHEM (11:00)

Surely, I Will be with you Always By Linda Moeller

Refrain

Surely I will be with you always to the very end of the age. Surely I will be with you always to the very end of the age. Wherever you go and whatever you do My love and protection will go with you Surely I will be with you always to the very end of the age.

Christ Jesus had won our salvation By dying on Calvary's hill. Then arising triumphant and though He ascended We know He is here with us still. (refrain)

Now we are to go to all nations And tell them what Jesus has done. And when we are frightened or sad or discouraged Remember the words of God's Son: (refrain)

SECOND LESSON Revelation 21:10-14, 22, 23

The Lord reveals to the Apostle John that heaven is a strikingly beautiful place, a place we can be eager to reach.

REVELATION 21:10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹ It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. ¹³ There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. ¹⁴ The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

²² I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Jesus, your boundless love to me No thought can reach, no tongue declare. Dwell in my heart eternally, And reign without a rival there. To you alone, dear Lord, I live; Myself to you, dear Lord, I give. (479:1)

GOSPEL John 14:23-29

Jesus sends us his Holy Spirit and leaves us his peace while he is gone. In this way, we can be glad he has returned to the Father.

^{JOHN 14:23} Jesus replied, "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. ²⁴ He 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 Counselor, 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HYMN OF THE DAY



Text: F. B. P., 16th century, abr., alt. Tune: LAND OF REST (CM) Annabel M. Buchanan. © 1938, Renewed J. Fischer & Bro.

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SERMON

Revelation 21:10-14, 22, 23

This is the Place Jesus Has Prepared for Us

CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, С 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.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Let us pray to the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus, since He has promised that we will receive answers to our prayers.

Brief silence

M Father of mercy, we know that we will find tribulation in the world. Grant that we may know with greater confidence Your presence in trouble, Your courage in adversity and the peace of Jesus who has overcome the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- **M** Father of mercy, we rejoice that You have written our names in the Lamb's Book of Life and given us the new birth of water and the Word. Bless the pastors who proclaim Your Word to us, and deliver to us the Means of Grace. Bless all church workers and those preparing for Your service, that You may be glorified and Your people fed, nourished and sustained to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- **M** Father of mercy, we recall before You the sick, those in need of body or soul, the grieving in their tears and the dying in their last hours. Give them healing according to Your will, patience in their struggles, comfort in sorrow and peace at the last *[especially...]*. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- **M** Father of mercy, we humbly come to Your table, trusting in Your Word and promises. Give us Your Holy Spirit, that what we receive there we may keep faithfully, in true hearts, now in the days of our struggle and soon in everlasting light and life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- **M** Father of mercy, we pray in confidence that You will hear us as You have promised and will grant us all things needful for this body and life and for eternal life. Keep us holy and blameless to the day of Christ's coming, that with all the faithful departed we may look forward to our own joyful resurrection to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE and PROPER PREFACES



[12]

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 (Sanctus)

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.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)



[14]

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

377 - Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



- 6 The Son obeyed his Father's will, Was born of virgin mother, And, God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother. No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; A servant's form like mine he bore To lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me— I am your rock and castle.
 Your ransom I myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle.
 For I am yours, your friend divine, And evermore you shall be mine; The foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "The foe shall shed my precious blood, Me of my life bereaving.
 - All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing.
 - Life shall from death the vict'ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin, And you are blest forever.
- 9 "Now to my Father I depart, The Holy Spirit sending
 And, heav'nly wisdom to impart, My help to you extending.
 He will a source of comfort be, Teach you to know and follow me, And in all truth will guide you.
- 10 "What I on earth have lived and taught Be all your life and teaching; So shall my kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching. Take care that no one's man-made laws Should e'er destroy the gospel's cause. 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.

THANKSGIVING



PRAYER AND BLESSING

M Hear the prayer 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.



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.



CLOSING HYMN 759 - Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled Congregation sings refrain; cantor sings the verses. Congregation may join in singing the verses.





Text: John 14:1-3,6,7,10-14; alt. David Haas, b. 1957

Tune: DO NOT LET YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED (88 11 99 99 99)

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After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.

