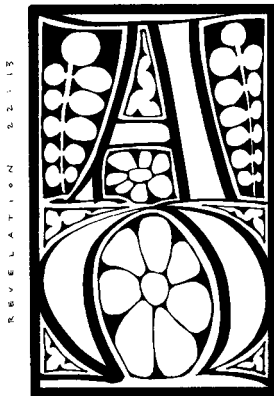


# THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 8, 2016

**Worship Focus**  
**The Ascended Lord Rules His Church**

I A M  
*the Alpha and the Omega*



*The Beginning and the End*  
*The First and the Last*

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# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Common Service

Christian Worship, p. 15

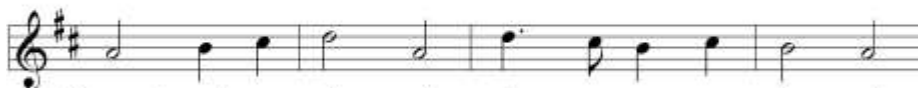
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## OPENING HYMN

558 - Christ High-Ascended



1 Christ high - as - cend - ed, now in glo - ry seat - ed,  
2 Christ, from the Fa - ther ev - 'ry pow'r pos - sess - ing,  
3 Christ, who in dy - ing won for us sal - va - tion,  
4 Christ in his splen - dor, all do - min - ion gain - ing,  
5 As at his part - ing, joy shall ban - ish griev - ing,



Throned and ex - alt - ed, vic - to - ry com - plet - ed,  
Who on his cho - sen lift - ed hands in bless - ing,  
Lives now the first - born of the new cre - a - tion;  
Christ with his peo - ple ev - er - more re - main - ing,  
Faith in his pres - ence strength - en our be - liev - ing;



Death's dread do - min - ion fi - nal - ly de -  
Sends forth his ser - vants, still in faith con -  
To win dis - ci - ples out of ev - 'ry  
Christ to all a - ges, glo - ri - ous - ly  
Filled with his Spir - it, love and pow'r re -



feat - ed— We are his wit - ness - es.  
fess - ing— We are his wit - ness - es.  
na - tion, We are his wit - ness - es.  
reign - ing— We are his wit - ness - es.  
ceiv - ing, We are his wit - ness - es.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926. © 1984 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.  
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Tune: CHRISTE SANCTORUM (11 11 11 6) Antiphoner, Paris, 1681.

## INVOCATION

**Minister** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



**Congregation** A - men.

**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*)

Two lines of musical notation on treble clef staves. The first line has a key signature of one flat and a common time signature. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B-flat4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B-flat4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). Below the staff is the text: "C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy". The second line has the same key signature and time signature. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B-flat4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B-flat4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). Below the staff is the text: "on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us." The staff ends with a double bar line.

## ABSOLUTION

**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.

A single line of musical notation on a treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature. The melody consists of a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, a quarter note C5, and a quarter note D5, all beamed together. The staff ends with a double bar line.

C: A - men.

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

1 "Come un - to me, ye wea - ry, And I will  
2 "Come un - to me, ye wan - d'ers, And I will  
give you rest." O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, Which  
give you light." O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, Which  
comes to hearts op - pressed! It tells of ben - e -  
comes to cheer the night! Our hearts were filled with  
dic - tion, Of par - don, grace, and peace, Of joy that  
sad - ness, And we had lost our way; But thou hast  
has no end - ing, Of love that can - not cease.  
brought us glad - ness And songs at break of day.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt.  
Tune: ANTHES (76 76 D) Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812-after 1857.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And al - so with you.

**M** Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## THE WORD

### **FIRST LESSON** Acts 16:6-10

Though Paul had his ideas of where to spread the Gospel, Jesus made it clear that he wanted it spread on the European continent.

ACTS 16:6 Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. <sup>7</sup> When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. <sup>8</sup> So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. <sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” <sup>10</sup> After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.



Hear the word of the LORD,  
O nations, and declare  
it in the coastlands  
far away ...

# PSALM

# Psalm 8

Refrain Tune: Lynn Trapp. © 1989 MorningStar Music Publishers.  
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*All sing Refrain and Gloria. Those seated on the baptismal font side (B), sing the first half of the verses. Those on the pulpit side (P) sing the second half.*



(B) O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in | all the earth!\*

(P) You have set your glory above the | heavens.

When I consider your | heavens,\*  
the work of your | fingers,

what is man that you are mind | ful of him,\*  
the Son of Man that you | care for him?

## *Refrain*

You made him a little lower than the heavenly | beings\*  
and crowned him with glory and | honor.

You made him ruler over the works | of your hands;\*  
you put everything un | der his feet.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit,  
as it was in the be | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

## *Refrain*

## **SECOND LESSON Revelation 22:12-17, 20**

Christ speaks about the eternity yet to come and assures us that he is the one who will usher it in.

REVELATION 22:12 “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

<sup>14</sup> “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. <sup>15</sup> Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

<sup>16</sup> “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

<sup>17</sup> The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

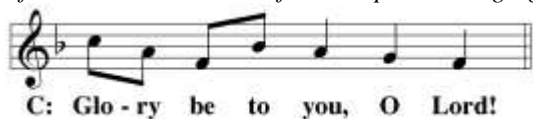
<sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.”  
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

**This done, he soared to God’s right hand,  
Yet orphaned not his chosen band,  
For he, not bound in grace and pow’r,  
Attends his own each day and hour. (5:3)**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:*



## GOSPEL John 17:20-26

Jesus prays for all believers, even those whom he will guide long after his death and resurrection.

JOHN 17:20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

<sup>24</sup> “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

<sup>25</sup> “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

J O H N 1 7 : 2 1



May they all be one,  
as you, Father, are in  
me and I am in you ...



## CONFESSIO OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES' CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there 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.**

The  
Apostles'  
+ Creed +

HYMN OF THE DAY

359 - Jesus, My Great High Priest



1 Je - sus, my great High Priest, Of - fered his blood and  
 2 To Christ, my sub - sti - tute, Will I com - mit my  
 3 My ad - vo - cate ap - pears For my de - fense on  
 4 Should all the hosts of death And pow'rs of hell un -



died; My guilt - y con - science seeks No sac - ri -  
 cause; He an - swers and ful - fills His Fa - ther's  
 high; A gra - cious Fa - ther hears And lays his  
 known Put their most dread - ful forms Of rage and



fice be - side. His pow'r - ful blood did once a -  
 bro - ken laws. Be - hold my soul at free - dom  
 thun - der by. Not all that hell or sin can  
 mis - chief on, I shall be safe, for Christ dis -



tone, And now it pleads be - fore the throne.  
 set— My Je - sus paid the dread - ful debt!  
 say Shall turn his heart, his love, a - way.  
 plays Su - pe - rior pow'r and guard - ian grace.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, abr., alt.  
 Tune: BEVAN (66 66 88) John Goss, 1800-80.

**SERMON**

Revelation 22:20

**The Church Prays: Amen, Come Lord Jesus**

1. come and take us from this age
2. come and take us to the next

## PRAISE AND PRAYER

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD



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.

### FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**M** Bidden by our Lord and confident of His promises, let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

**M** O Lord, as Your disciples once gathered together in anticipation of Your promise, so are we gathered today, that we may see Your face, wear Your name by Baptism and faith, and believe Your Word without fear. When our risen and ascended Lord returns in His glory, bring to completion that which You have begun in us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**M** O Lord, as Your Son prayed for His Church, so do we pray today for unity of faith, for bold witness and for those who will believe through our word. Give us peace among the nations and the freedom to hear Your call and serve You without constraint. Bless all governments and leaders, that they may promote justice, freedom and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**M** O Lord, as You ordered all things, You gave to us those who would show us a mother's love. Bless all women with child, all mothers as they care for child and home, and all children to love and honor them according to Your own command. Make all homes to be places of blessing where Your name is honored and Your people learn to know You and love You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**M** O Lord, as You bore all the burdens of our mortal flesh in Your Son, give to the sick, the hospitalized, the recuperating, those suffering chronic ills and all people in their afflictions Your healing and peace. [*Today we especially commend into Your hands \_\_\_\_\_.*] Keep them steadfast in trouble and comfort them, that they may endure to eternal life and perfect healing in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**M** O Lord, risen, ascended and glorified, to You we give thanks for the promise of resurrection to Your departed. Bring us to share with them the unending joys of our final home. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**M** O Lord, as You have promised, hear Your people as they pray. Grant them the comfort of Your presence and the gift of Your Spirit, that they may walk in love and live in hope, both now and even forevermore; 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.**

SERMON HYMN

220 – O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking



1 O'er the dis - tant moun - tains break - ing Comes the red -  
 2 Come, O Long - Ex - spect - ed; wea - ry Waits my spir -  
 3 Near - er is my soul's sal - va - tion; Spent the night,  
 4 With my lamp well - trimmed and burn - ing, Swift to hear



d'ning dawn of day. Rise, my soul, from sleep a - wak - ing;  
 it anx - ious - ly, Life is dark and earth is drear - y  
 the day at hand, Keep me in my hum - ble sta - tion,  
 and slow to stray, Watch - ing for your glad re - turn - ing,



Rise and sing and watch and pray, 'Tis your Sav - ior,  
 Where your light I can - not see, O my Sav - ior,  
 Watch - ing for you till I stand, O my Sav - ior,  
 Wait - ing for the bless - ed day. Come, my Sav - ior,



'Tis your Sav - ior, On his bright re - turn - ing way.  
 O my Sav - ior, When will you re - turn to me?  
 O my Sav - ior, In your bright, your prom - ised, land,  
 Come, my Sav - ior, O my Sav - ior, quick - ly come!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-75, abr., alt.

Tune: O JERUSALEM, DU SCHÖNE (87 87 447) Johann G. C. Stölz, 1675-1719, alt.



## PRAYER AND BLESSING

**M** Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, 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.



## CLOSING HYMN

318 - Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, Our true faith con -  
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing, To God ev - er -  
 fess - ing, The peo - ple of God from his dwell - ing take  
 liv - ing, The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will  
 leave. The sup - per is end - ed; Oh, be now ex -  
 face. Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er

tend - ed The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be -  
 car - ing. Em - brac - ing his chil - dren of each tribe and

lieve. The seed of his teach - ing, Re - cep -  
 race. With your feast you feed us; With your

tive souls reach - ing, Shall blos - som in ac - tion for  
 light now lead us; U - nite us as one in this

God and for all. His grace did in - vite us; His  
 life that we share. Then may all the liv - ing With

love shall u - nite us To work for God's  
 praise and thanks - giv - ing Give hon - or to

king - dom and an - swer his call.  
 Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, b. 1916, alt. © 1964 World Library Publications, Franklin Park, IL. www.wlpmusic.com.  
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 Tune: THE ASH GROVE (06 11 66 11 D) Welsh folk tune.

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

*And whosoever will,  
let him take the  
water of life freely.*

*Revelation 22:17*

