# THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14, 2023

**Worship Focus** 

He Lives and Calls Me to Live for Him



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# Order of Service for

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**Order of Service** 

**Common Service** 

# **▼** Gathering **▼**

#### **OPENING HYMN**

557 – Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (sts.1-4)



- 1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, with ex-ul-ta-tion
- 2 Fast bound in Sa tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark ly
- 3 My own good works a vailed me naught, no mer it they at -
- But God be held my wretch-ed state be fore the world's foun-



and, with u - nit - ed heart and voice spring - ing, and ho - lv sin tor - ment night and day; me. Sin was mv in mv mv will a - gainst God's judg-ment fought, no hope for tain - ing: da - tion, and, mind - ful of his mer-cies great. he planned for



sing - ing, pro-claim the won-ders God has done, how rap - ture Yet deep and deep - er still fell: life moth - er bore me. re - main - ing. My fears in-creased till sheer de - spair left sal - va - tion. fa-ther's heart he turned to



his right arm the vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly it has cost him! so firm - ly had be - come a liv - ing hell, sin pos - sessed me. and hell to on - lv death to be my share be my sen - tence. my re - demp - tion fer - vent - ly; he gave his dear-est trea - sure.

Stand

#### INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.



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.

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.

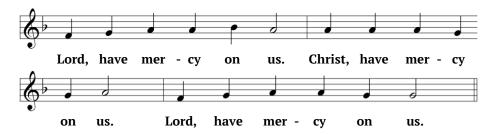
For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.

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)



## **ABSOLUTION**

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.



Be seated

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

#### SONG OF PRAISE

539 – O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer

Sung by the worship team

- 1 O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer, greatest treasure of my longing soul, my God, like you there is no other, true delight is found in you alone.

  Your grace, a well too deep to fathom, your love exceeds the heavens' reach, your truth, a fount of perfect wisdom, my highest good and my unending need.
- 2 O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer, strong defender of my weary heart, my sword to fight the cruel deceiver, and my shield against his hateful darts, my song when enemies surround me, my hope when tides of sorrow rise, my joy when trials are abounding, your faithfulness, my refuge in the night.
- 3 O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer, gracious Savior of my ruined life, my guilt and cross laid on your shoulders, in my place you suffered, bled, and died. You rose, the grave and death are conquered; you broke my bonds of sin and shame. O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer, may all my days bring glory to your name.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; 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 READING Acts 17:22-31

To the people of Athens Paul proclaims that living as the offspring of the one true God means living a life of repentance and obedience.

ACTS 17:22 Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

<sup>24</sup>"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. <sup>25</sup>And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. <sup>26</sup>From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. <sup>27</sup>God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup>'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup>"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. <sup>30</sup>In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. <sup>31</sup>For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### JUNIOR CHOIR

Mungu ni Mwema with God Is So Good

#### Refrain

God is so good, God is so good, God is good to me.

Mungu, Mungu ni mwema daima. Daima Mungu ni mwema. Mungu, Mungu ni mwema daima. God is good to me.

Refrain

God is good all the time, and all the time God is good. I will not fear, for God is near, and God is so good, God is good to me.

Refrain

God is good to me. God is good, all the time and all the time God is good. God is good.

SECOND READING 1 Peter 3:13-22

Peter teaches that love for God means obedience to his commands even if that brings suffering into our lives.

<sup>1 PETER 3:13</sup> Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." <sup>15</sup>But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup>keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. <sup>17</sup>For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. <sup>19</sup>After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— <sup>20</sup>to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, <sup>21</sup>and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

Sung by the choir.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

557 – Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (sts.5-6)

- He spoke to his belovèd Son:"It's time to have compassion.Then go, bright jewel of my crown, and bring to all salvation.
  - From sin and sorrow set them free; slay bitter death for them that they may live with you forever."
- 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.

GOSPEL READING John 14:15-21

Jesus explains that those who love him will obey his teaching. Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit who gives us the power to live for Christ.

JOHN 14:15" If you love me, keep my commands. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— <sup>17</sup>the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives 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>Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Be seated

#### JUNIOR CHOIR

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God, do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near, life up your voices, the Lord is near.

# ▼ The Confession of Faith ▼

## The Apostles' Creed

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.



# **¥** Sermon **¥**

Acts 17:22-31

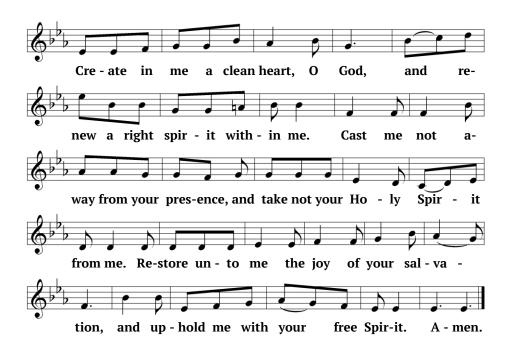
# God Inscribes Himself on Our Life

Sermon notes:

# ▶ Praise and Prayers ▶

Stand

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**



Be seated

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MUSICAL OFFERING

We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.

Offerings can be given in any of four ways:

- Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary
- On the Calvary website: https://calvarydallas.org/give/
- On your phone with the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app
- Scan the QR code to the right...



Calvary

Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, https://calvarydallas.org or by scanning the code to the left...

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

You may remain seated for prayer.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

For the Church, that the Lord would bless and protect His people in a world where many false gods, known and unknown, are worshiped; and that He would give His saints a clear and bold proclamation of Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

For patience and endurance in Christ, that we may have the privilege not only of believing in Him but also of suffering for His sake, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

For the leaders of all nations, that those who seek peace and serve justice would be sustained in their service; and that all who cause evil, violence or oppression would be frustrated, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

For the gift of mothers who raise their children in all things good, a mirror of God's love, that they may be strengthened in their calling and sustained through weary and difficult times, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.** 

For the lonely, the destitute and the homeless, that they would rejoice in the presence of the Lord and trust Him for their daily bread; and that the Lord, who has promised not to abandon nor leave them as orphans, would make us messengers of His mercy to reach out to those in need, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

For the needy, the sick and those who have requested our prayers, [especially \_\_\_\_\_\_,] let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.



Stand

#### SENDING PRAYER

Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

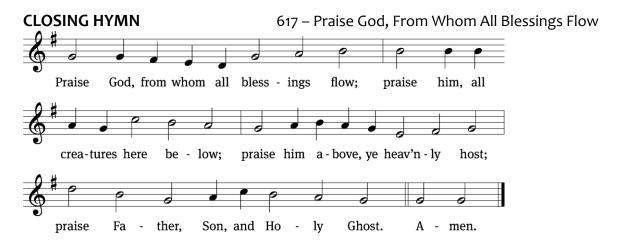


The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.





## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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<u>Hymn 557 – Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice</u>
Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-1887, alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal

Scripture references: Ro 3:28; Ps 98:1-3; Gal 4:4,5; 2 Ti 1:9,10 Text and music: public domain

Hymn 539 – O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer

Text and music: Nathan Stiff, b. 1985
Scripture references: Ps 19:14; 71:19
Text and music: 2017 Severaign Cross V

Text and music: ©2017 Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP) (adm. at

CapitolCMGPublishing.com)

Hymn 606 – Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, abr., alt.

Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796-1867

Scripture references: Rev 5:6-10; 14:1-5; Heb 7:25; Mt 28:20; Jn 14:18 Text and music: Public domain

Hymn 617 - Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Tune: Trente quartre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois;

setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Scripture references: Ps 148; Isa 6:1-4; Jas 1:17

Text and music: public domain

Mungu ni Mwema

Mark Burrows; © 2017 Choristers Guild

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier

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