

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 -
4 But God be - held my wretch-ed state be - fore the world's foun -



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



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



his right arm the vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly it has cost him!
had be - come a liv - ing hell, so firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
on - ly death to be my share and hell to 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.



A - men.

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*)



Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

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.



A - men.

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.



A - - men.

✠ 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. ²³For 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.

²⁴“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. ²⁵And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶From 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. ²⁷God 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. ²⁸For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

²⁹“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. ³⁰In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹For 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 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.

¹PETER 3:15 Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” ¹⁵But 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, ¹⁶keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸For 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. ¹⁹After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— ²⁰to 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, ²¹and 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, ²²who 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Sung by the choir.

5 *He spoke to his beloved 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.*

Stand

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.

¹⁰JOHN 14:15 “If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷the 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. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever 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.



7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me, I am your rock and
 8 "The foe will shed my pre-cious blood, me of my life be -
 9 "Now to my Fa - ther I de - part, the Ho - ly Spir - it
 10 "What I on earth have lived and taught be all your life and



cas - tle. Your ran - som I my - self will be; for you I
 reav - ing; all this I suf - fer for your good; be stead - fast
 send - ing and, heav'n - ly wis - dom to im - part, my help to
 teach - ing; so shall my king - dom's work be wrought and hon - ored



strive and wres - tle. For I am yours, your friend di - vine, and
 and be - liev - ing. Life will from death the vic - t'ry win; my
 you ex - tend - ing. He will a source of com - fort be, teach
 in your preach - ing. Take care that no one's man - made laws should



ev - er - more you shall be mine; the foe shall not di - vide us.
 in - no - cence shall bear your sin, and you are blest for - ev - er.
 you to know and fol - low me, and in all truth will guide you.
 e'er de - stroy the gos - pel's cause; this fi - nal word I leave you."

✠ Sermon ✠

Acts 17:22-31

God Inscribes Himself on Our Life

Sermon notes:

✠ Praise and Prayers ✠

Stand

RESPONSE TO THE WORD



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

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...



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.

SERMON HYMN

606 – Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re-deemed us by his blood."
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?

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.



BLE A - men.

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.



A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

617 – Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all



crea- tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;



praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Hymn 557 – Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-1887, alt.
 Tune: Etlich Cristlich liden, 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 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 quatre 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

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In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

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