



May 9, 2021 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Building up God's people through His word for His world

Sixth Sunday of Easter May 9, 2021

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

PRELUDE "Draw Us to Thee" Michael Burkhardt

Draw us to Thee,
For then shall we walk in Thy steps forever
And hasten on where Thou art gone
To be with Thee, dear Savior.

WELCOME Pastor James **OPENING HYMN** "Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom" Hymn No. 481 1 Scat - ter the dark - ness, break the gloom; Sun, re - veal an 2 Bear-ing the stan - dard from on high As the Lamb of 3 Ban - ners of tri - umph, be un - furled! Trum - pets, sound through-Shin - ing with joy for all emp - ty tomb our sor - rows, God die: He who for cruel - ly treat - ed. to us. SO the world! Cry - ing and sighs, give way sing - ing: out to Hope all and peace for to - mor rows, Life un gain de - feat Lives our foes ed! Where is a your Life Lord death, is bring ing! Let there befrom our clipsed by doubt and dread: Christ has ris from the dead! en O death and grave? Christ has shown His strength to sting, the ju - bi - lee— Christ has gained the gin vic to - ry!

INVOCATION, CONFESSION, AND FORGIVENESS

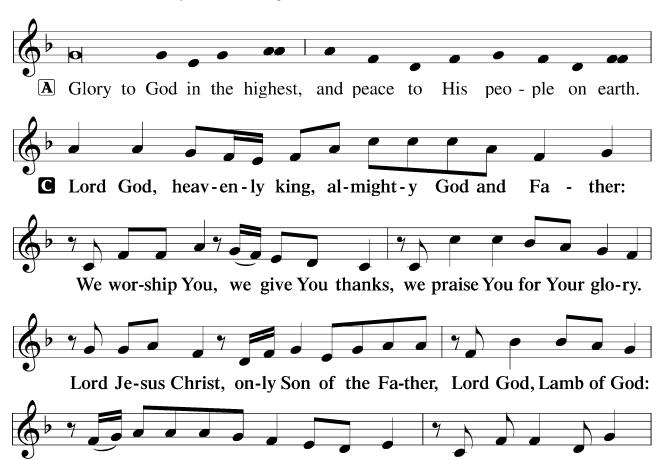
- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

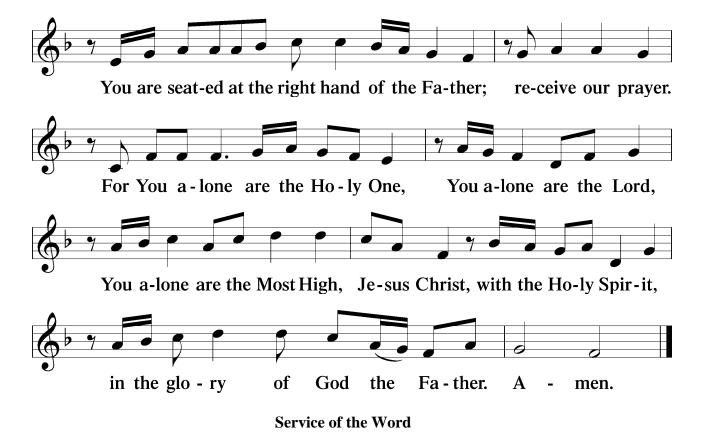
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS [Glory to God in the Highest]



have mer-cv

on us.

You take a - way the sin of the world;



FIRST READING Acts 10:44–48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SECOND READING 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

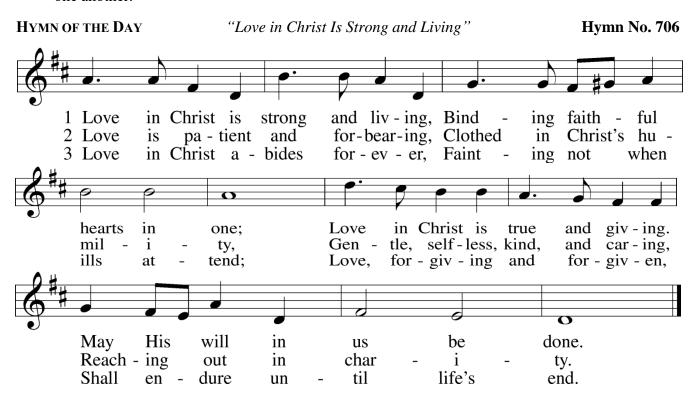
⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

HOLY GOSPEL John 15:9–17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[Jesus said:] ⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."



MESSAGE "Are You Jesus?" Pastor James

REFLECTIVE RESPONSE

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

Pastor James

CHORAL ANTHEM "Alleluia" Randall Thompson

OFFERING PRAYER

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The people respond after "Lord, hear our prayer" by singing:

Leader: You hear us calling, You hear us calling, Abba Father

You hear us calling, You hear us calling, Abba Father

All: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy

"Prayers Of The People" Ben Kilgore, David Gungor, Evan Wickham, Ian Cron, John Arndt © 2015 Brownie Hawkeye Music | Integrity's Praise! Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (Integrity Music, David C Cook)); Evan Wickham Music (Admin. by Moon & Musky Music) CCLI #858354

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.

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

People come together Strangers, neighbors, our blood is one Children of generations Of every nation, of Kingdom come

Don't let your heart be troubled Hold your head up high, don't fear no evil Fix your eyes on this one truth God is madly in love with you Take courage, hold on, be strong Remember where our help comes from

Jesus, our redemption Our salvation is in His blood Jesus, Light of heaven Friend forever, His Kingdom come

Chorus

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

+

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

"Good Grace"

Swing wide, all you heavens
Let the praise go up as the walls come down
All creation, everything with breath
Repeat the sound
All His children, clean hands, pure hearts,
Good grace, good God, His Name is Jesus
(Repeat 2x)

Jesus, our redemption Our salvation is in His blood Jesus, Light of heaven Friend forever, His Kingdom come

"Good Grace"
Words and music by Joel Houston
© 2018 Hillsong Music Publishing (Capitol CMG Publishing)
CCLI #858354

POSTLUDE "Toccata for Organ" John Weaver (1937-2021)

We hope you will continue to connect with us by liking our Facebook page and following our Instagram account. Find them by searching @gslcva within these social media platforms. We also encourage you to subscribe to our YouTube channel and follow us on Vimeo so that you don't miss any of our virtual services, kids' messages, and more!

If you have any questions, please reach out to grace@gslcva.org.

Worship Leader & Preacher

Director of Music

Organist

Singers

Pastor James

Nemeh Azzam

Todd Grivetti

Stephanie Batchelder

Alison Carlson

Alison Carlson
Emma Gorin
Chelsea Holmes
Ronald Holmes
Mauricio Miranda
Kylena Parks
Alex Razskazoff
Lawrence Reppert
Chrissy Tangredi
Nigel Tangredi
Lisa Barker

Praise Band
Julia

Julian Berkowitz
Scott Dyer
Ruth Filipiak
Dan Lamaestra
Andy Muich
Steve Mutter
Maryanne Perkel

Reader Georgia Thorstenson Video & Audio Production Matt Hardy

Matt Hardy Dan Lamaestra

Worship Materials Support

Jeff Donahue
Jeannie Johns

Donna Neil David Nestleroth Julie Schorfheide

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BOARD OF SERVANT LEADERS

Jim Micsan, Chair Ted Lillestolen, Vice-Chair Leta Kent Will Metts Anne Morgan Vicki Peter

Josh Linder, Secretary

CORE MINISTRY AREAS

Worship Team Leaders: Georgia Thorstenson and Julie Schorfheide;

Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

music, seasonal celebrations, arts, worship schedule, Sanctuary Choir, Children's Choir (Laura Owens), traditional, contemporary, physical space, support personnel (e.g., ushers, greeters, acolytes)

Discipleship Team Leader: Andy Muich

adult education, Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, family ministry, children's ministry, youth ministry

Parish Life Team Leader: Brian Cors; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

Life Groups (Brian Cors), member engagement, fellowship events, new member inclusion (Melinda DeWan), concerts, public events, picnics, intergenerational events

Administration Team Leader: Pastor Johann

property (Roger Thorstenson), financing the mission (Mike DeWan), stewardship (Don Kidwell), human resources/personnel (Matt Franker), communications, contracts, church office, calendar/program management, technology

Mission Team Leader: Matt Dickert; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann

world missions, synod, outreach, social ministry, community service, evangelism, publicity, media, social media

Congregational Care Team Leader: Marilyn Voigt; Staff Liaison: Pastor Johann *member care visits, emergency transportation, maintain roster of the willing, guest follow-up*

Good Shepherd is a member congregation of the Southeastern District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

About Good Shepherd...

Our vision

We will be a congregation known for building up God's people through His Word for His world.

Worship

During worship, God comes to us through his gifts of Word and Sacrament. What a joy to respond with prayer and songs of praise. Our worship services give us opportunity to listen to God's word and meditate upon it, thus feeding our faith; and express our concerns for our friends, families, community, and the world through prayer.

Serve

We are called to actively share the Good News of Jesus Christ through word and deed. One way we share is by serving one another and our neighbors in our community and throughout the world. Look at our Community Service Opportunities listing to find a way to serve.

Grow

We are committed to spiritual growth through the weekly gathering for prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, and through lifelong learning. In addition to growing in knowledge, we want to grow in love and service to others within and beyond our church community.

Connect

As we grow in our love for Jesus and our neighbors, as we serve our neighbors near and far, we help and encourage one another, challenge one another, and share one another's joys and sorrows. We build strong ties when we gather for worship as well as for events throughout the week. Look inside for many opportunities for connection.



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