
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ORDER OF WORSHIP • MAY 21, 2023 • 9:00 AM

T Indicates the congregation should stand as able

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETING

T OPENING HYMN

A HYMN OF GLORY LET US SING

LBW #157, stanzas 1, 5 & 7

T INVOCATION

WL: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

WL: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

T CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

All: **Amen.**

WL: Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death, let us come before God who calls us to repentance.

a brief silence for meditation and confession

God of life,

All: **by the resurrection of Your Son You make everything new.**

You have chosen us and You call us by name.

You have asked us to humble ourselves, to die with Christ, and to live with him a new life.

We have not been prepared. We have hidden in fear.

We have remained silent and failed to act.

Our hearts are slow to hear You and believe Your promises.

Forgive us, O God, and renew us to share without fear the new life You have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

WL: People of God, hear the good news!

Jesus Christ, our Savior, loves us and gave his very life for us.

He calls us by name and walks by our side.

He brings us through death to the joy of new life.

In the + name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven!

To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

All: **Amen!**

T HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast

pg. 60-61

T PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

WL: Let us pray: O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

ACTS 1:1-11

R: Our first lesson on this Seventh Sunday of Easter is from the book of Acts, the first chapter.

In my former book, *Theophilus*, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 PETER 4:12-19; 5:6-11

R: Our Epistle lesson is from the 1st letter of St. Peter, the 4th and 5th chapters.

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And,

"If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

T ALLELUIA VERSE

Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

T HOLY GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 24:44-53

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

All: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

TODAY'S MESSAGE

T MESSAGE HYMN

CHRIST IS ALIVE! LET CHRISTIANS SING
LBW #363

T PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

WL: With people of God throughout the ages, let us boldly confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great***

WL: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

WL: God of harmony, as you drew your Son to your side, you draw us to you and unite us with the planet and one another. Weave your church together in a web of mutual love for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

WL: As your Spirit hovered over the waters of creation, so your Spirit hovers over all that you have made. Bless the water that sustains the planet and grant wisdom to use it wisely. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

WL: You empower your people with the fire of your Spirit. Challenge activists and organizers, teachers and politicians, and all in leadership to speak your message of peace and justice. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

WL: You care for all your children. Show your steadfast love to those suffering isolation, especially exiles, refugees, or prisoners. Break the chains of all held fast by systemic oppression of any kind. Comfort all who are afraid or suffering from illness, and all who are waiting and watching for you (*especially. . .*). Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

WL: You raise your saints to new life in Christ. We give you thanks for all your saints who have given us glimpses of your redeeming love (*especially*). *Bring us with them to the everlasting joy around your throne.* Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

WL: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

All: Amen.

GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Giving envelopes are available in the back of each pew.

Give online at www.poporlando.com/give

Text-to-give by texting an amount to 407.543.1011

FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

*Welcome to the Lord's Table, where He gives us His body and blood
in, with, and under the bread and wine, joining Himself to us.*

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Prince of Peace in the belief and confession that in this Sacrament Jesus gives us His very body and blood (His real presence) with the bread and wine for us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our faith. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of their sins, and seek to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. We welcome those who share these beliefs regarding the nature and meaning of this Sacrament.

- ❖ **CHILDREN'S BLESSING** - We invite young children who have not yet had their First Communion to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.
 - ❖ **GLUTEN-FREE BREAD** is available for those who are gluten intolerant. As the pastor approaches to give you the bread, simply motion with your hand toward the altar to indicate your need for the gluten free bread. It can also be helpful to speak to the pastors before or after the service to remind them of your need.
 - ❖ **NON-ALCOHOLIC** grape juice is available in the center of the trays.
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SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

T PREFACE & SANCTUS

pg. 69

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

WL: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

WL: *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ; who, enthroned forever at your right hand, intercedes for us as our great high priest. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:**

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

T THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

T THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: **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.**

T PAX DOMINI

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

pg. 72

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR
LBW #518

T THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

All: **Amen.**

T CLOSING PRAYER

WL: Let us pray. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

All: **Amen.**

T BLESSING

WL: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

All: **Amen.**

T SENDING HYMN

CHRIST IS ALIVE! LET CHRISTIANS SING
LBW #363

T SENDING

WL: Christ is risen!

All: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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BE NOT AFRAID

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

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