
✻ SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ✻
ORDER OF WORSHIP • MAY 10, 2026 • 9:00 AM
✚ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

CHORAL PRELUDE
BY THE PARISH CHOIR

I SING BECAUSE I'M HAPPY

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

✚ GATHERING HYMN

COME, THOU ALMIGHTY KING
LBW #522

✚ INVOCATION

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

All: **Amen.**

WL: Christ is risen!

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

✚ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: When we keep our fears and faults locked up inside us, it is hard to be healed and receive new life. So let us open ourselves to God in confession, trusting the Lord's desire to give us peace.

All: **God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts, we have sometimes been afraid to speak and act with faith in the world. Forgive us and help us to boldly proclaim. We have sometimes been afraid to love our enemies. Turn us and give us the power to forgive. We have sometimes been afraid to stand up to misguided authority. Join us with the weak to make us all strong. We have sometimes been confined by our hurts. Touch us with Your wounded hands and set us free. We are often locked behind our doubts and fears. Pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. Amen.**

WL: Children of God, you are forgiven. Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts, resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life. As God's own beloved children, go forth to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

WL: Christ is risen!

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

FIRST LESSON

ACTS 17:16-31

R: The First lesson for this Sixth Sunday of Easter is from the 17th chapter of Acts.

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

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. 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.

"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. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. 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. 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. 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

"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. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. 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."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

1 PETER 3:13-22

R: The Second lesson is from the third chapter of First Peter.

Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” 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, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. 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. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— 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, 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, who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

✠ VERSE

BE NOT AFRAID!

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

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

✠ HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 14:15-21

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

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

“If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— 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. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. 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.”

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

AND VACATION BIBLE CAMP MINISTRY MINUTE

TODAY’S MESSAGE

✠ MESSAGE HYMN LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING
LBW #315

✠ PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles’ Creed

WL: Let us boldly confess our faith, with 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

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

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SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

✠ PREFACE

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.

✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: As Jesus taught His disciples to pray, so we pray together:

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.

✠ PAX DOMINI

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

All: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMN

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

LBW #561

✠ THE DISMISSAL

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

All: **Amen.**

✠ CLOSING PRAYER

WL: Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

All: **Amen.**

✠ 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.**

✠ SENDING HYMN

OUR FATHER, BY WHOSE NAME
LBW #357

✠ SENDING

WL: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

WL: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!
SOLI DEO GLORIA
TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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Liturgy from Lutheran Service Book.

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BE NOT AFRAID

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

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