

Grow....Go....Gather

May 17, 2020

BAPTIZED IN
WATER,
SEALED
BY THE
SPIRIT,



FREED AND
FORGIVEN
THANKFULLY
NOW GOD'S
PRAISE
WE SING.

**ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
LCMS**

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The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Welcome

The Opening Hymn *LSB 467* "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness, See what to - day is done;
2 The foe in tri - umph shout - ed When Christ lay in the tomb;
6 Now I will cling for - ev - er To Christ, my Sav - ior true;
7 He brings me to the por - tal That leads to bliss un - told,



Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, Comes forth the glo - rious sun.
But lo, he now is rout - ed, His boast is turned to gloom.
My Lord will leave me nev - er, What - e'er He pass - es through.
Where - on this rhyme im - mor - tal Is found in script of gold:



My Sav - ior there was laid Where our bed must be made
For Christ a - gain is free; In glo - rious vic - to - ry
He rends death's i - ron chain; He breaks through sin and pain;
"Who there My cross has shared Finds here a crown pre - pared;



When to the realms of light Our spir - it wings its flight.
He who is strong to save Has tri - umphed o'er the grave.
He shat - ters hell's grimthral; I fol - low Him through all.
Who there with Me has died Shall here be glo - ri - fied."

Text and tune: Public domain

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

C: **Amen.**

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **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.**

Absolution

LSB 151

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

A Hymn of Praise “Here I am to Worship”

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

***So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me***

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor **(Chorus)**

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

The First Reading

Acts 17:16–31

While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed

along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his offspring.'

Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle

1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being

prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Sermon Hymn LSB 484 "Make Songs of Joy"



1	Make songs of joy to Christ,	our head;	Al - le - lu - ia!
2	Our life was pur - chased by	His loss;	Al - le - lu - ia!
3	O death, where is your dead - ly	sting?	Al - le - lu - ia!
4	And where your vic - to - ry,	O grave,	Al - le - lu - ia!



He lives a - gain	who once was dead!	Al - le - lu - ia!
He died our death	up - on the cross.	Al - le - lu - ia!
As - sumed by our	tri - um - phant King!	Al - le - lu - ia!
When one like	Christ has come to save?	Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Behold, the tyrants, one and all,
Alleluia!
Before our mighty Savior fall!
Alleluia!
- ^ 6 For this be praised the Son who rose,
Alleluia!
The Father, and the Holy Ghost!
Alleluia!

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Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**☩ 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.**

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The 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.

Benediction

LSB 166

P: 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.

C: Amen.



Hymn to Depart_ "Come, People of the Risen King"

Verse 1

Come people of the Risen King
Who delight to bring Him praise
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in

Chorus

**Rejoice rejoice let ev'ry
tongue rejoice
One heart one voice
O Church of Christ rejoice**



Verse 2

Come those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night
Come those who tell of battles won
And those struggling in the fight
For His perfect love will never change
And His mercies never cease
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace **(Chorus)**

Verse 3

Come young and old from ev'ry land
Men and women of the faith
Come those with full or empty hands
Find the riches of His grace
Over all the world His people sing
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through ev'ry age
Our God is all in all **(Chorus)**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Events of the Week: May 17 – May 24, 2020

TODAY: 9:30 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live) and at
11:00 a.m. Bible study w/ Pastor (Facebook Live)
Monday – Thurs: Noon Devotions w/ Pastor (Facebook)
Monday: 1:00 – 1:45 p.m. Holy Communion @ St. James
Thursday: 8:45 a.m. Chapel for kids (Facebook Live)
7:00 – 7:45 p.m. Holy Communion @ St. James
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship (Facebook Live) and at
11:00 a.m. Bible Study w/ Pastor (Facebook Live)

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP (May 7, 2020)

	<u>Offering</u>
General Fund	\$4,954.00
Reimbursement: conference	60.00
Future Building Expansion	100.00
Roof Repair Fund	275.00
Plate Collection	850.00
Music Fund	20.00
ISJ Academy	300.00
<u>Tessaro Ministry – Nigeria</u>	<u>40.00</u>
Total:	\$6,599.00

JUNE-JULY NEWSLETTER Deadline: Friday, May 22



The newsletter will be adding a new feature. Each newsletter will have a topic that you can add your input to. The topic for the upcoming newsletter is:

What has everyone in our congregation been doing during this Stay Home – Stay Safe mandate?

OR

What are your plans (hopes) for the Summer?

Please send all your submissions to the office at office@stjamesgr.com by May 22.



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

NECM Supper House

Last fall, our service organization, Friends in Faith, and the Board of Social Ministry committed to serving 4 dinners to the clients at North End Community Ministries (NECM). The first meal was a success with many congregational members working at it. Our next dinner is scheduled for May 28, 2020, but due to COVID-19 the dinner will not be held. NECM has suspended the prepared dinners and is providing food to their clients through their food pantry, which is running extremely low. We have decided to keep our commitment the best we can and are asking for monetary donations of any amount to present to NECM. By approaching it this way, we should be able to get a Thrivent Action Grant to supplement our donations. If you are so moved to help, please make a check out to **“NECM”** and mail it to the church by Monday, May 25. If you have any questions, please contact Dale Rosema or Melissa Ensing.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.....Truly I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.”

Matthew 25:35, 45

