

# **Sixth Sunday of Easter**



The Risen Jesus Calls Us His Friends; We Show Our Friendship with Him in Deeds of Love

# **Lord of Love Lutheran Church**

# May 9, 2021

## SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

**OPENING HYMN** (CW 162)

He Is Arisen! Glorious Word



Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742–1824; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt. Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET (887 887 22 44 48) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.

#### STAND

**M:** The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.



#### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

**M:** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: 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.

M: 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.

C: Amen.



#### PRAYER AND PRAISE

#### LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

**M:** For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



**M:** For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



**M:** For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

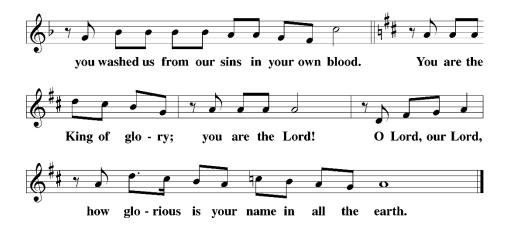


**M:** Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



**M:** The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### M: Let us pray.

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED



#### THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Acts 11:19-26

<sup>19</sup> Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that took place at the time of Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. <sup>20</sup> But there were some men from Cyprus and Cyrene who came to Antioch and also began to speak to the Greeks, preaching the good news about the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> The Lord's hand was with them, and a large number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

<sup>22</sup> A report about this reached the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to go on to<sup>[a]</sup> Antioch. <sup>23</sup> When he arrived and saw God's grace, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with devoted hearts. <sup>24</sup> He was a good man who was full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a large number of people were added to the Lord.

<sup>25</sup> Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul. <sup>26</sup> When he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year they met with the church and taught a large number of people. It was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians.

SECOND LESSON 1 John 4:1-11

4 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup> This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup> and every spirit who does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard is coming and is already in the world. <sup>4</sup> You are from God, dear children, and you have overcome the false prophets, because the one in you is greater than the one in the world. <sup>5</sup> They are from the world. That is why they speak from a worldly perspective and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> We are from God. The one who knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. That is how we can distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> The one who does not love has not known God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> This is how God's love for us was revealed: God has sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we may live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, if God loved us so much, we also should love one another.

#### VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia. (John 14:23 cf. NIV)

STAND

GOSPEL John 15:9-17

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so also I have loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you hold on to my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have held on to my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you these things so that my joy would continue to be in you and that your joy would be complete.

12 "This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this: that someone lays down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you continue to do the things I instruct you. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. <sup>17</sup> These things I am instructing you, so that you love one another.

BE SEATED



Text: Josiah Conder, 1789-1855, alt.

Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, Basel, 1745, alt.

SERMON John 15:13-15

#### He Calls You "Friend"!

STAND

#### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,

and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**M:** Let us pray to our God who does not remove his steadfast love from us or reject our prayers for his whole Church and for all people according to their needs.

For all who come and hear God's Word, that they would rightly fear God and learn what he has done for their souls, let us pray to the Lord:

#### C: Lord, have mercy.

**M:** For the work of our missionaries, that in every nation there would be people who fear God, do what is right and, believing in Jesus, receive forgiveness of sins through his name, let us pray to the Lord:

#### C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For our mothers, that with thanksgiving we may honor them aright as Christ honored and obeyed his mother while here on earth; for all women with child, that God would give them safe delivery; and for all women who long to have children but cannot, that they may find their consolation in Christ and his unfailing love, let us pray to the Lord:

#### C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially \_\_\_\_\_\_,] that they would receive from God all his good gifts of healing for the body, grace to bear the cross, and finally a blessed end and the gift of eternal life in his kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:

#### C: Lord, have mercy.

**M:** For all who come to the Holy Supper, that having received the testimony of God in the water of Baptism, they may also receive it in the body and blood of Jesus and so overcome the world by faith in him, let us pray to the Lord:

#### C: Lord, have mercy.

**M:** Into your hands, Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

The recorded service for members at home concludes here as we conclude the service of the Word. We continue with the service of the Sacrament with those gathered in the sanctuary.



#### THE SACRAMENT

**M:** The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

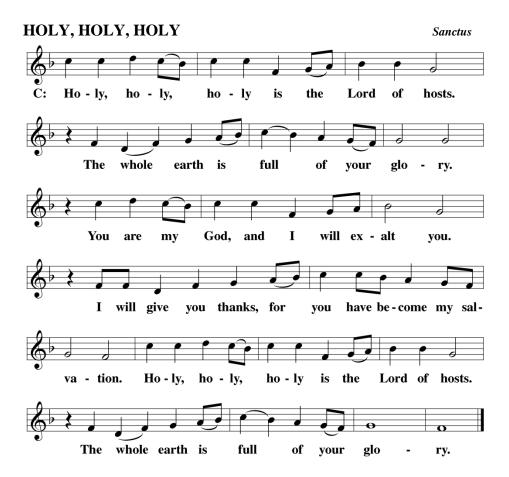


M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:



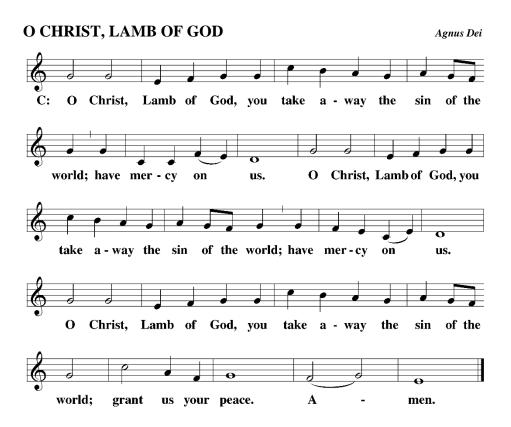
#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.





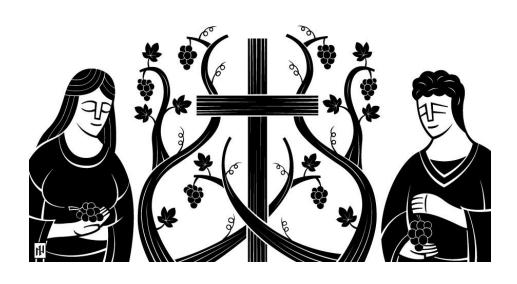
#### DISTRIBUTION

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with a pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.

To limit the proximity of our members and reduce the possibility of transmitting disease, we are asking our communicants to approach the chancel steps by families. If your family is seated closer to the center aisle, you may come to the table closer to the Baptismal font. If your family is seated closer to a side aisle, you may come to the table farther from the font. Please wait until the family ahead of you has communed and returned to their seats before approaching.

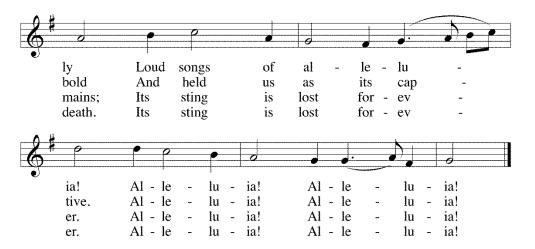
**DISTRIBUTION HYMN** (CWS 720)

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands (see page 16)



# 720 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands





- 5 Here the true Paschal Lamb we see, Whom God so freely gave us; He died on the accursed tree -So strong his love—to save us. See, his blood now marks our door; Faith points to it; death passes o'er, And Satan cannot harm us. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 So let us keep the festival To which the Lord invites us; Christ is himself the joy of all, The sun that warms and lights us. Now his grace to us imparts Eternal sunshine to our hearts; The night of sin is ended. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 Then let us feast this Easter Day On Christ, the bread of heaven; The Word of grace has purged away The old and evil leaven. Christ alone our souls will feed: He is our meat and drink indeed; Faith lives upon no other! Alleluia! Alleluia!

This important and historic Easter text is set to a new tune with the hope of reviving its use within the church.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-1887, alt.

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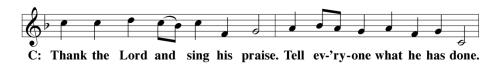
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#### **THANKSGIVING**

STAND.

#### THANK THE LORD







He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here **M**: may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



BE SEATED

#### **CLOSING HYMN** (CW 143)

He's Risen, He's Risen (v. 4-5)

Oh, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more; Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door. For all our transgressions his blood does atone; Redeemed and forgiven, we now are his own.

Then sing your hosannas, and raise your glad voice; Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice. Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain, Who now sits in glory, and ever shall reign.

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#### **Personal Prayers for Worship**

#### **Before Communion:**

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

#### **After Communion:**

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.



# **Ascension Worship**

Lord of Love Lutheran Thursday May 13 6:30 pm

Sunday May 9: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
The Family Altar Devotion, 8:00 am
Private Communion 8:00 – 8:30 am (Please sign up prior.)
Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 with Holy Communion
At-Home Sunday School #4: Zacchaeus



Happy Mother's Day

- Preaching Pastor: Joel Jenswold Presiding Pastor: Michael Willitz
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Councilman: Jim Miller (9:00) and Greg Zeman (10:30)
- Ushers 9:00 am: Bob Degnan and Sef Fox
- Ushers 10:30 am: Matt Heath and Greg Zeman
- Altar Guild: Candace Saidler/Erica Willitz A/V & Recording: Joe Hornbeck

# Thursday May 13: Ascension Worship at Lord of Love Lutheran Service at 6:30 pm

- Preaching Pastor: Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Ushers: Needed
- Altar Guild: Candace Saidler/Erica Willitz A/V & Recording: Jen Olson

Sunday May 16: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter The Family Altar Devotion, 8:00 am

Private Communion 8:00 – 8:30 am (Please sign up prior.)

Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 with Holy Communion

At-Home Sunday School #7: The Parable of the Bags of Gold

- Preaching Pastor: Michael Willitz
   Presiding Pastor: Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Councilman: Jim Miller (9:00) and Mitch Myhre (10:30)
- Ushers 9:00 am: Lynn Biwer and Ryan Jaeger
- Ushers 10:30 am: Joshua Hodkiewicz and volunteer
- Altar Guild: Candace Saidler/Erica Willitz
   A/V & Recording: RaeLyn Parker

**Happy Birthday:** We wish God's blessings to John Schwark (5/9), Sharon Wightman (5/9), Peter Moll (5/11), Walt Schroeder (5/11), Brett Sellmeyer (5/11), Lori Krey (5/12) and Peg Schroeder (5/15) as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

**In Our Prayers:** Fred Bakken, Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Wyatt Kingsland, Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Jack Richardson, Marge Ripp and Peg Schroeder who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all of our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett, Sara Goss and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

## Sunday Devotion at 8:00 am - The Family Altar

Families of all ages are invited to this morning devotion. The group follows the format of *The Family Altar* which is available each week at the back of church, or on our website under **Devotions**. The group meets in the sanctuary.

## At-Home Sunday School – May 9 Lesson: Zacchaeus, Luke 19:1-10

Student lessons and instructional videos are available for all children 4 years through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Lesson materials are available at church. Contact the church office. Video lessons are available at <a href="https://online.nph.net/ss-at-home">https://online.nph.net/ss-at-home</a>.

#### Tuesday Bible Study at 9:00 am

Topic: Elephants in the Room: Evolution vs. The Message of Scripture The group meets downstairs and enters and exits through the lower doors of church.

## Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30 pm Topic: Man: From Glory to Ashes and Back

This study meets in the sanctuary.

# Friday Breakfast/Bible Study at 6:00 am Topic: Acts

The group meets each Friday morning at the DeForest Family Restaurant. (505 W. North Street, DeForest) Breakfast is at 6:00 am with the study starting at approx. 6:50 am.



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Office Secretary: Jen Olson, Office hours Tues. – Fri. mornings.
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling*.

# "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD." Psalm 122:1

