

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 9, 2021

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

### ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Since we have such a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus Christ our Lord, let us with confidence draw near to God, that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**Have mercy on us, O God, according to your lovingkindness.**

**In your great mercy, wash away our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.**

**Do not remove us from your presence; do not take your Spirit away.**

**Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and sustain us with your Spirit. Amen**

God is merciful and gracious, granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who confess their sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

### CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day that the Lord has made;

**we will rejoice and be glad in it!**

The Lord is my strength and my song.

**The Lord has become my salvation.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness;

**I will go through them and praise the Lord.**

I shall not die, but live,

**and declare the works of the Lord.**

This is the day that the Lord has made;

**we will rejoice and be glad in it! (Psalm 118:14, 17, 19, 24)**

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

**FIRST READING:** Acts 10:44-48

**PSALM:** Psalm 98 (*Spoken Responsively*)

1 Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

**2 O Lord, you have made known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness  
in the sight of the nations.**

3 You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**4 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

5 Sing to the Lord | with the harp,  
with the harp and the | voice of song.

**6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.**

7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,  
the world and those who dwell therein.

**8 Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
who comes to judge the earth.**

9 The Lord will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

**SECOND READING:** I John 5:1-6

**GOSPEL READING:** John 15:9-17

## **SERMON**

**Silence for Reflection**

**Music Meditation**

**Apostles' Creed**

*The presiding minister may introduce the Creed.*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Today we pray for the Moravian Church, giving thanks for the life and witness of Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering (*especially*). Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. Be with the dying (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives (*especially*). Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **OFFERING**

In response to all that God has done and continues to do for us in Christ Jesus, we now come to that part of our worship when we give . . . not reluctantly, but cheerfully and in thanksgiving.

While many of us have been accustomed to giving in the offering plate, because of the pandemic, there are other ways: through the mail or with Vanco online. However you choose to give, please know that your gifts make a difference. Your support of our mutual ministry enables us to reach out with the gospel in word and deed in our community and to the world.

## **OFFERTORY MUSIC**

## **OFFERTORY 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**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. 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, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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**

## COMMUNION

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God,  
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.  
Satisfy the hunger still around us,  
and send us as joyful witnesses,  
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

May Almighty God, Father,  $\text{†}$  Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE