

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 17, 2020

Trinity Free Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, ND

*"I WILL ASK THE FATHER, AND HE WILL GIVE YOU ANOTHER HELPER, TO BE WITH YOU FOREVER."*

—John 14:16—

---

### RESURRECTION ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### INTROIT: PSALM 119:89-93 (ESV)

<sup>89</sup> Forever, O LORD, your word  
is firmly fixed in the heavens.

<sup>90</sup> **Your faithfulness endures to all generations;**  
**you have established the earth, and it stands fast.**

<sup>91</sup> By your appointment they stand this day,  
for all things are your servants.

<sup>92</sup> **If your law had not been my delight,**  
**I would have perished in my affliction.**

<sup>93</sup> **I will never forget your precepts,**  
**for by them you have given me life.**

### OPENING PRAYER

O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your Holy Word. We pray that You will open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and in death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake.

**Amen.**

### HYMN #103: "ENDED HIS STRIFE, THE BATTLE DONE"

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

- 1 Ended His strife, the battle done!  
Vict'ry of life by Christ is won!  
Jubilant songs have now begun.  
*Alleluia!*
  - 2 Powers of death have done their worst,  
Christ hath their legion all dispersed;  
Shouts of rejoicing let outburst!  
*Alleluia!*
  - 3 Three days of weeping quickly sped;  
Glorious He rises from the dead;  
Glory to Him, our risen Head!  
*Alleluia!*
  - 4 He closed the yawning gates of hell;  
Bars closing heaven's portal fell;  
Anthems of praise His triumph tell!  
*Alleluia!*
  - 5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,  
Set from death's sting Thy servants free,  
That we may live and sing to Thee,  
*Alleluia!*
- Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## CONFSSION OF SIN

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:8-9) Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ's sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## KYRIE (spoken)

**O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us!**

**O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us!**

**O God the Holy Ghost, true Comforter, have mercy upon us!**

## ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name, He gives power to become sons of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes, and is baptized, shall be saved. Grant this, LORD, to us all.

Amen.

## FIRST LESSON: ACTS 17:16-34 (ESV)

<sup>16</sup> Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup> For you bring

some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." <sup>21</sup> Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup> So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup> 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, <sup>27</sup> that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup> 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.'

<sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> 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."

<sup>32</sup> Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this." <sup>33</sup> So Paul went out from their midst. <sup>34</sup> But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

## EPISTLE LESSON: 1 PETER 3:13-22 (NIV, 1984)

<sup>13</sup> Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened.” <sup>15</sup> But in your hearts set apart 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, <sup>16</sup> keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. <sup>17</sup> It is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the spirit, <sup>19</sup> through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison <sup>20</sup> who disobeyed 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, <sup>21</sup> and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

## CONFESION OF FAITH: 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, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall 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.

## GLORIA PATRI (spoken)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

David Hysjulien, Katie Hysjulien, and Dave and Sarah Lucas

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## HYMN #105: "Good CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE AND SING!"

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;  
Bring flow'rs of song to strew His way;  
Let all the world rejoice and say:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 Praise we in songs of victory  
That love, that life which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
And sing today with one accord,  
The life laid down, the life restored:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

Jon Dryburgh

## GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 14:15-31 (ESV)

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> 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.” <sup>22</sup> Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. <sup>24</sup> Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.

<sup>25</sup> “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup> You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. <sup>30</sup> I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, <sup>31</sup> but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.”

#### SERMON: “THE HELPER”

#### HYMN #113: “JESUS ALL GLORIOUS”

- 1 Jesus all glorious, Christ all victorious,  
Risen in triumph o’er death and the grave!  
Homage we bring Thee, Praises we sing Thee,  
Lord over all, ever mighty to save.
- 2 Jesus all glorious, Savior victorious,  
Shedding for sinners Thy blood in the strife:  
Now there is streaming Grace all redeeming  
Forth from Thy cross with forgiveness and life.

- 3 Jesus all glorious, Master victorious,  
Thee will we follow, Thy mandates obey:  
Bring ev’ry nation Words of salvation,  
Trusting Thy promise, “I’m with you alway.”
- 4 Jesus all glorious, King all victorious,  
Reign in Thy power on earth and in heav’n!  
Kingdoms terrestrial, Honors celestial  
Unto our Lord and His Christ shall be giv’n!

#### THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 (Numbers 6:4-26)

The LORD bless you and keep you.  
The LORD make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you.  
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

#### DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.