

# FOR OUR 9:30 A.M. DIVINE WORSHIP

6th Sunday of Easter 2024

May 5, 2024

**WE PRAY:** God, Source of love, whose love is manifested by the crucified and risen Jesus, hold us in Your love so strongly that we cannot but love one another as You love us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever. Amen.

*(Please turn off cell phones in preparation for Divine Worship)*

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## PRELUDE

## PASTORAL GREETING

## OPENING HYMN

LSB 829

*Christ the Eternal Lord*

- 1 Christ the eternal Lord,  
Whose promise here we claim,  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured  
On all who name Your name;  
With thankfulness and praise  
We stand before Your throne,  
Intent to serve You all our days  
And make Your glory known.
- 2 Christ the unchanging Word  
To ev'ry passing age,  
Whose timeless teachings still are heard  
Set forth on Scripture's page;  
Transform our thought and mind,  
Enlighten all who read,  
Within Your Word by faith to find  
The bread of life indeed.
- 3 Christ the redeeming Son,  
Who shares our human birth,  
And by His death salvation won  
For ev'ry child of earth;  
Inspire our hearts, we pray,  
To tell Your love abroad,  
That all may honor Christ today  
And follow Him as Lord.

- 4 Christ the unfading Light  
 Of everlasting day,  
 Our Morning Star in splendor bright,  
 The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
 That light of truth You give  
 To servants as to friends,  
 Your way to walk, Your life to live,  
 Till earth's brief journey ends.
- 5 Christ the ascended King  
 Exalted high above,  
 Whose praise unending ages sing,  
 Whom yet unseen we love;  
 When mortal life is past  
 Your voice from heaven's throne  
 Shall call Your children home at last  
 To know as we are known.

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## THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

### INVOCATION

- P** In the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the Name of the Lord.
- C** **Who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
- C** **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**
- C** **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor,**

**sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

**C** **Amen.**

### **THE INTROIT**

**P** Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what He has done for my soul. Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His Name; give to Him glorious praise! Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard, Who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip. Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me!

### **GLORIA PATRI**

**C** **Glory to be 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.**

### **THE KYRIE**

**C** **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### **THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**C** **Glory be to God on high: And on earth, peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord God, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### **SALUTATION**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

## COLLECT

**P** 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.

## LESSONS

### OLD TESTAMENT

#### *Acts 10:34–48*

Then Peter opened his mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all—that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.” While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

### EPISTLE

#### *1 John 5:1–8*

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His

commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

**L** Here ends the Epistle.

**C** **Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

### **HOLY GOSPEL**

**P** The Holy Gospel is written in the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter of St. John, beginning at the 9<sup>th</sup> verse.

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**

#### ***John 15:9–17***

“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. These things I command you, that you love one another.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!**

#### **APOSTLES’ CREED** (*In Unison*)

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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the



That they were won by Christ  
And cling to His strong name.

4 The gifts are there each day  
The holy Word is read;  
God's children listen, hear,  
Receive, and they are fed.  
Christ fills them with Himself,  
Blest words that give them life,  
Restoring and refreshing  
Them for this world's strife.

6 All glory to the One  
Who lavishes such love;  
The triune God in love  
Assures our life above.  
His means of grace for us  
Are gifts He loves to give;  
All thanks and praise for His  
Great love by which we live!

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## THE NUNC DIMITTIS

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. 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.

## FIRST ANTIPHON AND COLLECT

**P** Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

**C** And His mercy endureth forever.

**P** We give thanks to Thee, Almighty God, that Thou hast refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech Thee that of Thy mercy Thou wouldst strengthen us through the same in faith toward Thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

**C** Amen.

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

- 1**      What a Friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,  
Oh, what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
- 2**      Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a Friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3**      Are we weak and heavy laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our Refuge--  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.

**BENEDICTION**

**C Amen, Amen, Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYER****RECESSIONAL****POSTLUDE**

Officiant: Pastor Randy Boelter

Lector: Jean Azar

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