

May 14, 2023

*Sixth Sunday
of Easter*



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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Divine Service:
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am
Sundays

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am

Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist:
Patty Barnes

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14, 2023

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper...*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

PRELUDE

"God Is My Strong Salvation"

arr. G. Martin

"Thy Strong Word"

setting: R. Gieseke

WELCOME

Stand

HYMN

"Thy Strong Word"

LSB 578



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
night and deep as death, Broke the light of
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias,
 Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
 To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
 Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 Praise the holy Trinity!

INVOCATION

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

G Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

John 14:19b; Acts 17:28; Romans 6:3-4

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

G **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Jesus said, "Because I live, you also will live."

G **In Him we live and move and have our being.**

P Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

G **We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

G **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us confess our sins to God, our Father, seeking His forgiveness through our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

G **Heavenly Father, creator of all that was, is, and will ever be, we confess to You that we fall short of the calling that we have received from You, as Your dearly loved children. We have struggled to share the reason for the hope we have in You. We have not always responded to others with gentleness and respect. We have failed to live and share the love we have first received from You. Forgive our sins, for Jesus' sake, and lead us to live lives that reflect Your indwelling presence.**

P Our God hears our prayers and forgives our sins because of Jesus' perfect life, death, and resurrection. At the command of Christ and through the power of the cross and the empty tomb, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace!

G **Alleluia! Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

Psalm 119:89-93; antiphon: v. 105

C Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

P Forever, O LORD, Your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

C Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You have established the earth, and it stands fast.

P By Your appointment they stand this day, for all things are Your servants.

C If Your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

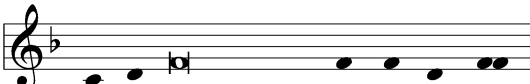
P I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have given me life.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

KYRIE

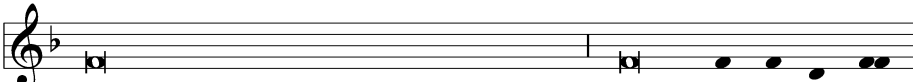
LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



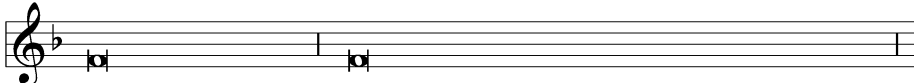
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



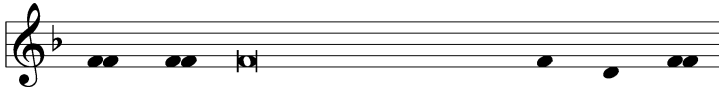
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

LSB 155



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, You are the Creator of all things in heaven and on earth, and You have claimed and cleansed us to be Your people through the waters of Baptism.

C **By Your Spirit, give us hearts and minds to hear Your Word.**

P Give us eyes and ears to see and listen to our world as You view and hear it.

C **Give us words and actions to share the hope we have in You;**

P through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord, who lives eternally with the Father and the Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING

Acts 17:16–31

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 66:8–20

P 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.

C For You, O God, have tested us; You have tried us as silver is tried.

P You brought us into the net; You laid a crushing burden on our backs; You let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet You have brought us out to a place of abundance.

C I will come into Your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to You, that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

P I will offer to You burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

C Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what He has done for my soul.

P I cried to Him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.

C If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

P But truly God has listened; He has attended to the voice of my prayer.

C Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me!

EPISTLE

1 Peter 3:13–22

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

VERSE

Romans 6:9; John 14:23

P Alleluia.

We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

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

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

The Gospel is read...

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

HYMN

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

LSB 821



1	Al - le - lu - ia!	Sing	to	Je - sus;	His	the
2	Al - le - lu - ia!	Not	as	or - phans	Are	we
3	Al - le - lu - ia!	Bread	of	heav - en,	Here	on
4	Al - le - lu - ia!	King	e - ter - nal,	Lord	om -	
5	Al - le - lu - ia!	Sing	to	Je - sus;	His	the



scep - ter,	His	the	throne;	Al - le - lu - ia!	His	the
left	in	sor - row	now;	Al - le - lu - ia!	He	is
earth	our	food,	our	stay;	Al - le - lu - ia!	Here
nip - o - tent	we	own;	Al - le - lu - ia!	Born	of	
scep - ter,	His	the	throne;	Al - le - lu - ia!	His	the



tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.
 near us; Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.
 sin - ful Flee to You from day to day.
 Mar - y, Earth Your foot - stool, heav'n Your throne.
 tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.



Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived Him When the
 In - ter - ces - sor, Friend of sin - ners, Earth's Re -
 As with - in the veil You en - tered, Robed in
 Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der



like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of
 for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for -
 deem - er, hear our plea Where the songs of
 flesh, our great High Priest, Here on earth both
 like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of



ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."
 get His prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 priest and vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."

SERMON

Stand

NICENE CREED

- ☩ I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.
 And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,**

**begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray with boldness and confidence because we know He hears our prayers because Christ is risen!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- A** Heavenly Father, we praise and thank You for sending Your Son to die and rise again for the sins of the world. We praise and thank You for sending the Holy Spirit, who calls us by the Gospel, gathers us around Your Word and Sacraments,

enlightens us with Your truth, and sanctifies and keeps us in the true faith. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Creator God, You have created this world and everything in it, as well as each person who lives in it. In You we live and move and have our being, and You continue to provide for our daily needs of body and life. Lead us as we steward the resources and relationships You generously give us. Guide us to see all people as Your masterpieces. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

A Lord God, You have placed us in a community where there are people who have never known You or who no longer are connected to Your Church. Guide us, as You guided Paul and others, to seize the opportunities to share the reason for the hope we have, doing this with gentleness and respect. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P O Jesus, You know intimately the challenges we face and the griefs we bear in this life. Hear us as we pray for those who are hurting and grieving, [especially . . .]. Give them strength and healing according to Your good and gracious will. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

A Almighty God, You are the King of all creation and the fount of all wisdom. We pray for all the world's leaders and ask that You guide them according to Your will and Your ways as they make decisions for the good of all. We especially pray for our president, vice president, governor, mayor, and all those who work in government. Watch over their lives, and guide them in the decisions they are called to make on our behalf. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Gracious God, we thank You for making us male and female and for creating families with a loving father and a mother. We grieve for those who do not experience life according to Your design and for those who experience abandonment, abuse, and neglect. We celebrate with those who experience Your love in their families. Today, we especially remember our mothers. We remember those in whose wombs you knit us together. We remember those You have worked through to provide us comfort, wise counsel, care, and discipline throughout the different stages of our lives. We ask Your blessing on all mothers,

that they experience Your love and are shaped by it in their parenting. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

A We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through 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.

C Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

"A Mother's Heart"

G. Peterson

Stand

OFFERTORY

LSB 159

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at every time in every place thank You, our God, who has created this world and everything in it, and, in Your mercy, has given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not be destroyed but have eternal life. We praise and thank You for saving us through the waters of Baptism and giving us a good conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through this Meal, empower us to love You and share the truth of hope we have in You, through the resurrection of Jesus, with those in our homes, workplaces, and throughout our community. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, we worship You as the One who has created this world and everything in it and still takes care of it. In Your great love for humanity, You sent Your Son, Jesus, to suffer once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to You, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison and who has gone into heaven and is at Your right hand, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him. As we come together at Jesus' Table, we prepare to celebrate the gift He gives us, the full forgiveness of our sins as we eat and drink His body and blood that come to us in bread and wine. Through this Meal, empower us by Your Spirit to love You by keeping Your commands; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.

G Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \dagger body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \dagger blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

G Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion,

Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight,
 You have brought us life and light.
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
 Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise,
 And Your saints in You shall
 rise. Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 Newborn souls in You to be.
 Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.
 Alleluia!

VOLUNTARY

"Glorified, Blessed and Worthy"

arr. L. Leatherman

Stand

THANK THE LORD

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. We thank You, our Maker, for creating us and for re-creating us through the cleansing waters of Baptism. We specifically thank You this day for serving us the body and blood of Jesus, in bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. Empower us to join You in the work You are doing in our world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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.

CLOSING HYMN

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

LSB 655



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
 Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
 u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
 we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 strife And lead us out of death to life.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Mighty Maker of All"

R. Sawyer

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.

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"God Is My Strong Salvation"- arr. G. Martin Tune: *Wedlock*, from the *Sacred Harp*(c. 2011 Lorenz Publishing Co.) "Thy Strong Word"- setting: R. Gieseke, tune: *Ebenezer*, T. Williams(c. 2013 Concordia Publishing House) "A Mother's Heart"- G. Peterson(c. 1997 Lorenz Publishing Co.) "Glorified, Blessed and Worthy"- arr. L. Leatherman; incorporating tunes: " Lord, Be Glorified"- B. Kilpatrick, " Bless the Lord, O My Soul"- Traditional, " Worthy is Christ"- Traditional(c. 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Ministries) "Mighty Maker of All"- R. Sawyer(c. 1997 Lorenz Publishing Co.)