



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

June 1, 2025

10:30 Holy Communion

In today's gospel we read that Jesus has begun his final journey towards Jerusalem. Some want to follow him, but they have other commitments that will cause them to delay. Jesus seems hard hearted as he rejects their requests. It is not so much that what they want is invalid, it is that now is the time to act. Jesus has a singular focus of being in Jerusalem for the Passover celebration. Nothing will delay or sidetrack him.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is available in the nursery.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory
(For music see Hymn 890 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are
stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;
his truth is marching on.**

Refrain **Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.**

**2. He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgement seat.
Oh be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. *Refrain***

**3. In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make men holy, let us die* to make men free,
while God is marching on. *Refrain***

* As originally written. Many modern hymnals substitute "live."
Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910. Music: North American, 19th century

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: In the name of the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the baptismal font or a bowl as we continue.

P: Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,
C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
C: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
C: make us one as you are one.

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise I Am the Resurrection and the Life

(For music turn to Hymn 16 in the Songbook binder)

Chorus

**I am the resurrection and the life
all who believe in Me will never die
I am the resurrection and the life
all who believe in Me will live a new life.**

**1. I have come to bring the truth
I have come to bring you life
if you believe then you shall live.** *Chorus*

**2. In My word all men will come to know
it is love which makes the spirit grow
if you believe then you shall live.** *Chorus*

**3. Keep in mind the things that I have said
remember Me in the breaking of the bread
if you believe then you shall live.** *Chorus*

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Jonah 3:10-4:12

B: ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how [the people of Nineveh] turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

⁴But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 19:8-15 (read responsively)

D: God's perfect law revives the soul.

God's stable rule guides the simple.

C: God's just demands delight the heart.

God's clear commands sharpen vision.

D: God's faultless decrees stand forever.

God's righteous judgments keep their truth.

C: Their worth is more than gold,

the purest gold;

their taste richer than honey,

sweet from the comb.

D: Keeping them makes me whole,

they bring me light;

C: yet fault hides within us,

forgive me mine.

D: Keep my pride in check, break its grip;

I shall be free of blame for deadly sin.

C: Keep me, thought and word,

in your good grace.

Lord, you are my savior,

you are my rock.

Second Reading Philippians 3:12-16

E: ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (2 Corinthians 4:1)

C: Alleluia. Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 9:46-62

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 9th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

⁴⁶An argument arose among them as to which one of them was the greatest. ⁴⁷But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side, ⁴⁸and said to them, “Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me; for the least among all of you is the greatest.” ⁴⁹John answered, “Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us.” ⁵⁰But Jesus said to him, “Do not stop him; for whoever is not against you is for you.”

⁵¹When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶²Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Take Up Your Cross

For music turn to Hymn 81 in the Songbook Binder

**1. In a world of many
voices calling at me,**

**it's hard to hear the one that's true.
Even when I hear it,
when my heart discerns it,
I lack the will to see it through.
Though I'm falling, falling,
the voice is always calling:
Take up your cross.
Take up your cross.
Take up your cross and follow me,
and follow me.**

- 2. The call is hard to swallow:
Take up your cross and follow.
The words reach deep inside of me.
I find myself so troubled,
to lose my life, be humble,
the sins within refuse to see,
Though I'm falling, falling,
the voice is always calling:
Take up your cross.
Take up your cross.
Take up your cross and follow me,
and follow me.**

Text and music: Dakota Road

Nicene Creed

P: Let us confirm our faith with the Nicene Creed

**C: 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 virgin Mary**

and became truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

Special Music and Gathering of Prayers and Offerings

You are invited to write a prayer concern on the small blank slip of paper in your worship bulletin. This slip will be collected by the ushers in the offering plates. The concerns raised will be prayed for later in the service.

‡ MEAL ‡

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord

For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

Grace our table with your presence, Lord,

and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Prayers of Intercession

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Issues raised by the congregation are prayed for.

The prayer concludes:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has embodied the promise of 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 all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Come, the Lord invites all people to the table.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. We use wheat bread and wine for communion. If you would prefer a gluten free wafer instead of bread please tell the communion assistant. Also, if you prefer grape juice to wine, it is available pre-filled in the individual glasses. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

502 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Red Hymnal)*

778 *O Christ the Same (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray:

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C: Amen.

† SENDING †

Blessing

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.

Sending Hymn Cry of My Heart
(For music turn to Hymn 10 in the Songbook binder)
Refrain (2x)

**It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow all of the days of my life.**

**1. Teach me Your holy ways O Lord,
so I can walk in Your truth.
Teach me Your holy ways O Lord
and make me wholly devoted to you.**

Refrain

**It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow all of the days of my life.**

**2. Open my eyes so I can see
the wonderful things that You do.
Open my heart up more and more,
and make it wholly devoted to You.**

Refrain (2x)

**It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow all of the days of my life.**

Text and music: Terry Butler; Copyright 1991 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing; CCLI# 844980

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Helen Crown
Acolyte Charlotte Stroup
Altar Care Mary Zuege
Communion Assistants Greg Zuege
Counters
Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, June 8

Greeters and Ushers Phyllis Henderson
Acolyte Elijah Young
Counters Linda Flood & (assistant)
Coffee Hour

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