



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

You therefore  
must be **perfect**  
as your heavenly Father  
is perfect.

Matthew 5:48

## *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

*May 10, 2020*

*10:30 Worship*

We continue the Sermon on the Mount this week. We'll repeat what we covered last week and then continue on. Jesus goes into various parts of the religious law. We usually think of Jesus relaxing the law, but we'll see him take it to a level deeper than they ever have been before. We'll explore what is going on and what it means for our lives.

### *Welcome to worship today!*

This order of worship is designed to accompany what is happening live on Zoom. In order to make things work smoothly please keep your computer's microphone off unless you have a speaking part. It may be helpful to use a headset or earbuds to minimize feedback. You are welcome to use the chat feature to ask questions or provide feedback. Following worship we will have a time for those who would like to chat. That would also be a time to use the chat feature for side conversations.

# † OPENING †

## Welcome and Announcements

### Greeting

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

**C: And also with you.**

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

A: Joined in the waters of baptism,  
we are raised with him to new life.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism

*Water is poured into the baptismal font as the following is said:*

A: We praise you for your salvation through water,  
for the water in this font,  
and for all water everywhere.  
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## Opening Music

### Prayer of the Day

B: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

*Bible Reading* Matthew 28:16-20

D: When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

<sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

E: “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

F: “You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable

to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire.<sup>23</sup> So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you,<sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.<sup>25</sup> Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison.<sup>26</sup> Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

D: "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'<sup>28</sup> But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.<sup>29</sup> If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.<sup>30</sup> And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.<sup>31</sup> "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'<sup>32</sup> But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

E: "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.'<sup>34</sup> But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,<sup>35</sup> or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.<sup>36</sup> And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.<sup>37</sup> Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.<sup>38</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'<sup>39</sup> But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also;<sup>40</sup> and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well;<sup>41</sup> and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile.<sup>42</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

F: "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'<sup>44</sup> But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,<sup>45</sup> so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends

rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup>For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup>And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup>Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

#### Response to the Word

P: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

G: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: 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.**

G: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**C: pray in the Holy Spirit.** *(Jude 20)*

G: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** *(Jude 21)*

G: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;  
behold, everything has become new!**

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

## ✠ PRAYER ✠

### 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.

*The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. These three petitions will be read by people in the congregation:*

**B.** Give your presence to those who are feeling alone and isolated. Be with those who are stuck in abusive situations. Be with those who are suffering and dying. Let all people know your love. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**E.** Be with the missionaries we support: the Rev. Matthew Nickoloff in the South Wedge in Rochester; and the Rev. Deborah Troester in Zambia. Help them to see growth for their efforts. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**G:** Be a sense of value for all those who are deemed to be essential in our economy, yet who are almost considered expendable: agricultural workers, food processors, cleaners. Keep them safe as they work. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*You are invited to add you own petition. Please conclude with:*

Lord in your mercy,

*The congregation will respond:* **Hear our prayer.**

*The pastor concludes the prayer:*

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

**C: Amen.**

### Peace

**B:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**B:** We share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another with messages of Christ's peace.*

Special Music

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**

✠ ENDING ✠

Blessing

P: The blessing of the living God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
surround and sustain you,  
keep you from harm,  
and fill you with courage.

**C: Amen.**

Closing Music

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

**C: God's Work. Our Hands.**

# St. John's Lutheran Church

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