

Seventh Sunday of Easter Death Swallowed in Life May 12, 2024

CHRIST THE VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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GATHERING The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Welcome

(+) Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

Risen Lord,

We confess to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we have caused harm by the things we have said and done, and by the things we have not said and not done. Take away our sins that we might fully embody your commandment to love you with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

In grace and mercy, God forgives all our sins, and with joy and expectation, calls us into new life for the sake of the world, through Jesus Christ our savior. **Amen**.

- (+) Gathering Song Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia ELW 364
- Christ has arisen, alleluia.
 Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
 For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy. Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

For three long days the grave did its worst until its strength by God was dispersed.
 He who gives life did death undergo, and in its conquest his might did show.

Refrain

The angel said to them, "Do not fear.
 You look for Jesus who is not here.
 See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
 Only the graveclothes are lying there." Refrain

4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.

He has arisen this world to save.

Jesus' redeeming labors are done.

Even the battle with sin is won." Refrain

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.

Alleluia, to him praises be.

Jesus is living! Let us all sing;

he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. Refrain

(+) Greeting

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

(+) This Is the Feast

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Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

- 1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*
- 2 Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. *Refrain*
- 3 Sing with all the people of God,
 and join in the hymn of all creation:
 Blessing, honor, glory, and might
 be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

 Refrain
- 4 For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

(+) Prayer of the Day
Lord of the resurrection,

you died and were raised so that ultimately death would not prevail. Remind us daily that sin, and even death, have no power over us. Amen.

WORD *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

1st Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57

15:1 Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 2 through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to vou—unless have to believe vou come in vain. ³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures 4 and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and vour faith is in vain. 15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in we are of all people most to be ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died., 21 For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human, 22 for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³ But each in its own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

15:51 Look, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When this perishable body puts on imperishability and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory."

⁵⁵ "Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

R: Word of God, Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

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Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 12:26-27a

P: The gospel according to Mark...

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

12:26 [Jesus said,] "And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? ²⁷ He is God not of the dead but of the living..."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song

Amazing Grace

ELW 779

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
- 4 The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Nicene Creed

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 Holy Spirit and 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,

Prayers of Intercession

Assisting Minister: God of new life,

C: Hear our prayer.

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Peace

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

We give thanks to God and to you for your gifts and offerings. Our offering plate is located near the baptismal font at the entrance of the church, and we invite you to place your offering in the plate as you enter worship or at any time.

Offering Prayer

Merciful God.

we offer ourselves, our time, and our resources to you, that you would use them to transform our world for the good of all people and all creation.

Accept these gifts as a sign of our faithfulness to you

Accept these gifts as a sign of our faithfulness to you and our commitment to the work of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

p. 144

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

p. 144

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving at the Table and Words of Institution

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth...

Through him all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

(+) 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.

Communion

We will receive communion at the altar railing. Please wait to come forward until directed by the usher. The wafer will be placed in your hand. Please take a prefilled cup from the communion tray and then place it in the empty tray as you leave the altar.

Prepackaged communion kits are also available near the entrance to the sanctuary if you would prefer to receive communion at your seat rather than coming forward.

Lamb of God p. 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God,

in the mystery of Christ's resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen**.

SENDING *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Announcements

(+) Blessing

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

(+) Sending Song

Abide with Me

ELW 629

- 1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.
- 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away; change and decay in all around I see; O thou who changest not, abide with me.
- 3 I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour; what by thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r? Who like thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.

4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if thou abide with me!

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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