

May 12, 2024

THE SEVENTH
SUNDAY OF
EASTER



***Welcome to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor***

JOHN 17
The Prayer

WELCOME
WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US

St. Paul
Lutheran



Taylor, TX
LCMC

***Welcome to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School***
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor



HAPPY
Mother's
Day!

She is clothed with strength and dignity,
and she laughs without fear of the future.

PROVERBS 31:25

INTRODUCTION

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Holy One,

**we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**

Have mercy on us!

Forgive us and turn us again to you.

**Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.
In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in
love.

Amen.

Gathering Song

“God Is Here!”

Hymn # 526

**1 God is here! As we your
people
meet to offer praise and
prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.**

Hymn # 526

**Here, as in the world around
us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.**

Hymn # 526

**² Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.**

Hymn # 526

**Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.**

Hymn # 526

**3 Here our children find a
welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are
taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.**

Hymn # 526

**Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.**

Hymn # 526

**Final Lord of all, of church and
kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.**

Hymn # 526

**Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without
you,
we adore you! We believe!**

Hymn # 526

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.

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Glory To God

*Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest,
glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on
earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you
thanks, we praise you for your
glory.*

[Refrain]

[Refrain]

*Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest,
glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on
earth.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the
Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated
at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.*

[Refrain]

[Refrain]

*Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest,
glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on
earth.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord
you alone are the Most High, Jesus
Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the
glory of God the Father. Amen.*

[Refrain]

[Refrain]

*Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest,
glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on
earth, and peace to God's people
on earth.*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry."
²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must

become a witness with us to his resurrection." ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place."
²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 1

The LORD knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)

- ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- ² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:9-13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

⁹ If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰ Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not

believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

***Alleluia. Lord, to
who shall we go?***

***Alleluia. You have the words
of eternal Life.***

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John 17:6-19

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 17:6-19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to

me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.

"Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the

evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley



THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 17:6-19

Jesus Praying in the Garden
artist unknown

Hymn of the Day

“Son of God, Eternal Savior”

Hymn # 655

**¹ Son of God, eternal Savior,
source of life and truth and
grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth
among us
hallows all our human race,**

Hymn # 655

**you our head, who, throned in
glory,
for your own will ever plead:
fill us with your love and pity,
heal our wrong, and help our
need.**

Hymn # 655

**² As you, Lord, have lived for
others,
so may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been
granted;
freely may your servants give.**

Hymn # 655

**Yours the gold and yours the
silver,
yours the wealth of land and
sea;
we but stewards of your bounty
held in solemn trust will be.**

Hymn # 655

**3 Come, O Christ, and reign
among us,
King of Love, and Prince of
peace;
hush the storm of strife and
passion, bid its cruel discords
cease.**

Hymn # 655

**By your patient years of
toiling,
by your silent hours of pain,
quench our fevered thirst of
pleasure,
stem our selfish greed of gain.**

Hymn # 655

**Final Son of God, eternal Savior,
source of life and truth and
grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth
among us
hallows all our human race:**

Hymn # 655

**by your praying, by your willing
that your people should be
one,
grant, oh, grant our hope's
fruition:
here on earth your will be done.**

Hymn # 655

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

CREED

The 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, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all church leaders, pastors, and deacons to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction and all who are ill (especially). Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionaries: for Cheryl Kruckemeyer our missionary in Tanzania, for Kyle and Lois in the Democratic Republic of Congo, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Abiding Savior Lutheran in Cameron Texas and Clay Memorial Lutheran Church in Mansfield, Ohio. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Merciful Father, you have abundantly gifted your mercy and grace to all who call on your name. Help us to be ambassadors of your Kingdom as we share your mercy and grace with others. We thank you for the leadership and ministry of the LCMC Board of Trustees, Ministry Board and support staff as they serve the churches of our association. Thank you for our fellowship of congregations. Especially today we celebrate and lift before you the ministry of Emmanuel in Knippa, Texas and their pastor, Nathan LaFrenz. May your grace flow through them as they share your Good News. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith (especially). Inspire us by their witness. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you. Amen.

Canticle of Thanksgiving

Refrain ***Salvation belongs to our God
and to Christ the Lamb for ever and
ever.***

¹ Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations.

Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name?

Refrain **Salvation belongs to our God
and to Christ the Lamb forever and
ever.**

***2 For you alone are the Holy One,
and blessed is the one whose
name is the Word of God.
All praise and thanks to you, holy
God!***

Refrain **Salvation belongs to our God
and to Christ the Lamb forever and
ever.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
+ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Song

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Hymn # 855

**1 Crown him with many
crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem
drowns
all music but its own.**

Hymn # 855

**Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless
king
through all eternity.**

Hymn # 855

**2 Crown him the virgin's Son,
the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson
trophies won
which now his brow adorn;**

Hymn # 855

**fruit of the mystic rose,
yet of that rose the stem,
the root whence mercy ever
flows,
the babe of Bethlehem.**

Hymn # 855

**3 Crown him the Lord of love –
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.**

Hymn # 855

**No angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their
burning eyes
at mysteries so bright.**

Hymn # 855

**4 Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.**

Hymn # 855

**His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.**

Hymn # 855

**Final Crown him the Lord of
years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.**

Hymn # 855

**All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not
fail throughout eternity.**

Hymn # 855

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress; Procession with Palms from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, copyright 2006. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Songs Used by Permission. CCLI License #11135365

CELEBRATING

Mother's Day

THANK YOU MOM!

