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MAY 12, 2024 • 8:30 AM

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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**Welcome!** We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened by His Word to be His witnesses.

**Families**, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; there is a cry room near the back of the sanctuary and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the elevator (to the left as you exit the sanctuary). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the Guest side of the Welcome Card found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering plates.

**As We Gather:** We practice soul care when we lay out our griefs and laments before the Lord and seek His healing and guidance on how to move forward. When we come to Him, we find rest and refreshment our souls are crying out for. He promises to comfort us in our sorrow, strengthen us in our weakness, and restore us to an unbroken relationship with Him!

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## VIDEO/ WELCOME

*"We Hear You, Mom," Skit Guys*

*Please Stand*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C Amen.

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## OPENING HYMN

*540 Christ, the Word of God Incarnate*

- 1 Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;  
Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I AM;  
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light and life You bring to all;  
Light our path with Your own presence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
- 2 Christ, the living bread from heaven, Food for body, food for soul;  
Christ, the manna daily given, Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.  
Feed us with the food of heaven, Foretaste of the feast to be;  
Quench our thirst with living water; Springing up eternally.
- 3 Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant; From the stump of Jesse's tree;  
Christ, true vine, You nurture branches; To bear fruit abundantly.  
Graft us into You, O Savior; Prune our hearts so we remain  
Fruitful branches in Your vineyard, Till eternal life we gain.

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## EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

John 16:20; Revelation 21:6

*[ A time of silence for personal confession and meditation.]*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P God's grace knows no bounds! Through the sacrifice of His Son, the Bridegroom of the Church, He makes us His holy bride. Anticipating the heavenly wedding feast, let us seek God's grace now and call on Him for forgiveness and mercy.

**C Almighty God, have mercy on us, for we cannot help ourselves. Forgive us all that we have done in the past, give us grace in this present time, and lead us to serve You and love one another in the future and on into the eternity You have promised.**

P Jesus promised the disciples, "Your sorrow will turn into joy," and He promises "the spring of the water of life without payment." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## EXCHANGING THE PEACE

*Be Seated*

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Be Thou My Vision*

*(Congregation sings verses 1-2, the chime choir then plays instrumentally.)*

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night; Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light
2. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and Thou only first in my heart; High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

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## SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus, Bridegroom of the Church, You have done everything needed for us to join You at the heavenly wedding feast that has no end. Guide us so that our thoughts, words, and deeds may testify that we are no longer wed to this world, but are Yours, now and always; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Be Seated*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**+ WORD +**

### FIRST READING

*Acts 1:12-26*

*(The Lord chooses Matthias to fill the empty spot among the Twelve created by Judas' death.)*

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. <sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of

## FIRST READING *(cont.)*

persons was in all about 120) and said, <sup>16</sup> "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. <sup>17</sup> For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>18</sup> (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. <sup>19</sup> And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) <sup>20</sup> "For it is written in the Book of Psalms, "'May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it'; and "'Let another take his office.'" <sup>21</sup> So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup> beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us— one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." <sup>23</sup> And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup> And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup> to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." <sup>26</sup> And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

*L This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 13*

*P* How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

**C How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

*P* Consider and answer me, O LORD my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death,

**C lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.**

*P* But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

**C I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me**

## HYMN

*Be Thou My Vision*

4. High King of heaven, my victory won; May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O ruler of all

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## EPISTLE

*1 John 5:9–15*

*("Whoever has the Son has life.")*

<sup>9</sup> If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. <sup>10</sup> Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup> And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup> Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup> I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. <sup>14</sup> And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

*L This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please Stand*

## VERSE

*Romans 6:9; John 14:18*

*P* Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

**C Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

John 16:12-24

*(Jesus prepares the Twelve for His absence for "a little while.")*

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

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

<sup>12</sup> "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup> When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup> All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>16</sup> "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." <sup>17</sup> So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" <sup>18</sup> So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." <sup>19</sup> Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? <sup>20</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. <sup>21</sup> When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. <sup>22</sup> So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. <sup>23</sup> In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. <sup>24</sup> Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be Seated – Children are dismissed for Children's Church (CC).*

## MESSAGE HYMN

524 *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In  
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And  
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My  
5 How weak the ef - fort of my heart, How  
6 Till then I would Thy love pro - claim With



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,  
calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the  
shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing  
cold my warm - est thought! But when I see Thee  
ev - 'ry fleet - ing breath; And may the mu - sic



heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.  
hun - gry soul And to the wea - ry, rest.  
treas - ury filled With bound - less stores of grace.  
as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ough.  
of Thy name Re - fresh my soul in death!

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## MESSAGE

*Please Stand*

## NICENE CREED

**C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

*Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.*

## NICENE CREED *(cont.)*

**C** 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 † of the world to come. Amen.

**OFFERING** *(Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God's mission here!)*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** *(Prayer response after each petition...)*

P Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9–13*

## BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24–26*

## CLOSING HYMN

*685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

1 Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,  
Through a world that would deceive us, And to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,  
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where You guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus, And with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;  
All discomforts that annoy, Shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.

4 Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead  
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, You are now our head.  
We are Your own living members; Where You live, there we shall be  
In Your presence constantly, Living there with You forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be, Life eternal grant to me.



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## DISMISSAL

*Into the world ever walking with Jesus...*

### **A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen (virtual and in-person) today...**

Pastor ..... Rev. Jason Hoerth

Reader ..... Todd Thorbahn

Children's Message ..... Chris Graves, DCE

Organist ..... Carol Trumbo

Elder ..... Robert Buckingham

Acolyte ..... Izzy Varney

#### **Acknowledgments**

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