

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 5, 2024



*"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.
Now remain in my love".*

John 15:9

The Divine Service

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

AS WE GATHER

A treasured children's song, "I Love to Tell the Story," has a refrain that follows each of the stanzas penned by poet Arabella Katherine Hankey, repeating the simple words: "I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory, To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love." The original Greek language in which John wrote his Gospel uses the word "love" either as a noun or a verb some nine times in the section of Jesus' words heard in the Gospel for today. Jesus wants His disciples and us to know the abiding power of His love. It is that love that compels us to love one another—and the "others" beyond our circles of family, friends, and other close relationships. We are blessed in hearing the "old, old story of Jesus and His love" anew today. May we be blessed in telling it out in love as well!

Prelude

Invocation

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

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

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession and Absolution

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

- P With Joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in name of the Father and of the T son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

Processional Hymn

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

LSB 493 sts. 1, 6

1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New
 Δ 6 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, All

hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,
 praise to You let earth ac - cord: Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
 al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less a - ges

trod, As - cends un - to the throne of
 run, With Fa - ther and with Spir - it

God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Kyrie

A *In peace, in peace...*

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

to Verses

mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the... Refrain*

A *For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the... Refrain*

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

Hymn of Praise

"Now the Feast"

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

to Refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *to Refrain*

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And Also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, while we were still in our sins You chose us, laid down Your life for us, and called us friends. By Your great love for us, inspire us to love one another that we may abide in Your grace and may bear fruit according to Your promise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The First Reading

Acts 10:34–48

³⁴Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality,
³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.
³⁶As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus
Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea,
beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸how God anointed
Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and
healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are
witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put
him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made
him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as
witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he
commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by
God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To him all the prophets bear witness that
everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." ⁴⁴While
Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵And
the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed,
because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they were
hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷"Can anyone
withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we
have?" ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they
asked him to remain for some days.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 John 5:1–8

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who
loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. ²By this we know that we love the
children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For this is the love of
God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.
⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory
that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the
one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is he who came by water and
blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit
is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify:
⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Processional



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

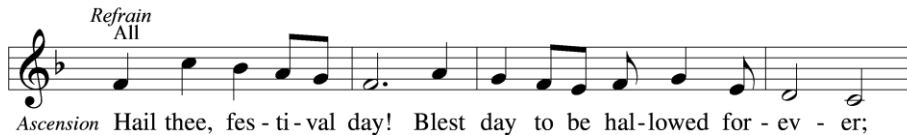
Holy Gospel

John 15:9–17

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹[Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. ¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**



Apostles’ Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

*Petitions end, “Lord, in your mercy...” Congregation responds, “**Hear our prayer**”*

Offering

“Refuge”

Choir, 8:30 a.m.

Offertory Prayer

P God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Receive now these gifts you have first given and fill us with good things at your table, that we might joyfully and generously share all you have given us, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

A word about Holy Communion

We are about to receive the Lord’s Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord’s Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

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 Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

The Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.**

Words of Institution

The Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord)

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you are the way of mer - cy and
world:
love. have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -
 4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
 help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
 strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
 love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
 Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
 Bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
 How I'll sing Thy won - drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
 strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
 feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
 tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
 res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
 an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

LSB 770



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

Closing of the Table

Post-communion Canticle



Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -
mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.
Praise to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Benediction

Recessional Hymn

“He Is Exalted”

Verse

He is exalted
The King is exalted on high
I will praise Him
He is exalted forever exalted
And I will praise His name

Chorus

He is the Lord
Forever His truth shall reign
Heaven and earth
Rejoice in His holy name
He is exalted
The King is exalted on high

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Dismissal

P Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

C **Disciples making disciples.**

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online giving

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