

May 9, 2021 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Amazing Love

AS WE GATHER

“In the sight of God” is a phrase used throughout Scripture. It reminds us of God’s unceasing care and concern for His creation. In Proverbs: “Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man” (Proverbs 3:3–4). All our life is in God’s amazingly loving sight as He watches over all His creation and especially over people. Out of love for Christ and one another, we can strive to see others around us in the same way that God sees them.

HYMN “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

LSB 469

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (10:30 a.m.) Edie Coupland Stuckwisch LSB pg. 268
Parents: David and Makenzi Stuckwisch, Sponsors: Kyle and Lauren Jones, Michael and Jenniffer Hintz

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 146:1–2, 5, 10

- P** Praise the LORD!
C Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- P** I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
C I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- P** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
C whose hope is in the LORD his God.
- P** The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.
C Praise the LORD!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** As penitent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy.
- P** Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.
C Gracious God, in heartfelt repentance we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are sin-stained people by nature. Each day we have sinned and done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as Your servants. We have not seen people in the loving way that You see them. We have not always been ready to care and quick to help. We do indeed deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by the power of

the Holy Spirit at work within our hearts and lives, lead us into ways that reflect Your goodness and love.

P God is loving and merciful. He sees us with loving eyes and graciously hears our supplications. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

† WORD †

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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. 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. This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

All: Christ has risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

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.” 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.



1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings
2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion



New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies
Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that



nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.
end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.

Refrain



Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,



Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We thank God for the Church and pray that God's people live confidently and joyfully share the message of salvation in word and deed. Gathered by the Holy Spirit, we pray that we be blessed with all grace and evidence the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. Lord, be with us and bless us.

HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God” LSB 895 v.1

- 1** Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers’ arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

PRAYER 2

- P** We pray for our families, especially for mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers on this special day. We ask the blessing of our bounteous God on all those who share in our Christian fellowship and join with us in worship and for all who are part of the household of faith. Also we pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized or shut-in, those who are grieving, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill and shut-in, and all those whose needs are known to us, [*especially . . .*]. Lord, grant that we bring Your blessing to situations of need in all places.

HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God” LSB 895 v.2

- 2** Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

PRAYER 3

- P** Most merciful God, we thank You for all those faithful people whose words and actions have guided us in the past, especially remembering those no longer with us on earth, who now share in Your eternal presence. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, direct us to walk Your servant way throughout our lives, seeing each person through Your loving eyes, until that day when we stand in Your glorious presence in heaven.
- C** Amen.

HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God” LSB 895 v.3

△ 3 All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav’n adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

† 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Send us Your Holy Spirit, the Spirit who brings to life the power of Jesus Christ. Strengthen us through Christ’s body and blood that we grow securely and confidently as people of faith, filled with Your amazing love and limitless peace as we live in the hope of an eternity gathered around Your heavenly Table. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.
- C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.

Our Communion Practices: Men and women serving as Worship Assistants do so under the oversight of the Pastors.
If these are your beliefs:
I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, Satan and death.
I believe that Christ is really present in the sacrament and that with the bread and wine I receive His true Body and Blood.
I resolve to dedicate my life to my Lord and Savior in His Body, the Church, by regular worship and devoted Christian service and living.....
please join us as we celebrate Holy Communion.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice”

LSB 556 vv. 6-9

“O Love, How Deep”

LSB 544

RECOGNITION OF MOTHERS

- P** Since 1870, the second Sunday in May has been designated as a time to honor mothers in the United States. In more recent times, expressions of appreciation and honor have been extended to grandmothers, great-grandmothers, and all women whose contributions to the well-being of children have enriched society. Through the ages, many women have been remembered and honored by the Church. The hymn “For All the Faithful Women” celebrates Christian women throughout the centuries, thanking God for them.

HYMN “For All the Faithful Women” LSB 855 v.1

- 1** For all the faithful women
Who served in days of old,
To You shall thanks be given;
To all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness
In tasks Your wisdom gave.
To You their lives bore witness,
Proclaimed Your pow’r to save.

- P** Several women commemorated in individual stanzas of “For All the Faithful Women” are honored for their examples of blessed motherhood. Among those are Hannah, from Old Testament times, and Eunice and Lois, mentioned in the New Testament writings of Paul. There is also a stanza for Mary, the mother of our Lord. Bringing the remembrance to present times, a new stanza honors mothers from all times and places as “gifts among us.”

HYMN “For All the Faithful Women” LSB 855 v.2

- 2 We thank You, Lord, for mothers
Who Your great kindness share
Through loving deeds for others
As emblems of Your care.
May we true honor show them
And joyfully express
That they are gifts among us
To cherish and to bless.

CONCLUSION

- ¶ The final stanza of “For All the Faithful Women” is a doxology, most appropriate this day to glorify God as we express our thanks for the faithful women in our lives and in the ongoing life of the Church.

HYMN “For All the Faithful Women” LSB 855 v.4

- △ 4 All praise to God the Father!
All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise the Holy Spirit,
Who binds the Church in one!
With saints who went before us,
With saints who witness still,
We sing glad Alleluias
And strive to do Your will.

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BENEDICTION

HYMN “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

LSB 660

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Preacher and Liturgist: Rev. Timothy Seabaugh
Worship Music led by: DPM Jacob Erdman

Thank you to all who helped with the service today, your help is always appreciated.