

**May 15, 2022**

## **As We Gather**

Now we know the end of the story. In John's vision in the Epistle, heaven will be like an eternal wedding feast. All of us in the Church have been made presentable by Christ, the Bridegroom. Unlike the disciples, who in today's Gospel still had to experience their Lord's absence from Good Friday through Easter morning, we can be confident that no one can take our joy from us. Now we know that because He has paid the price on the cross, the Bridegroom will freely make all things new. In place of torrents of tears will be the spring of the water of life. When we receive His body and blood in the Sacrament, it is a foretaste of the feast to come, and we cannot wait to enjoy the rest of the eternal celebration!

## **OPENING MEDLEY**

### **"Seek Ye First"**

#### **Verse 1**

Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness  
And all these things  
Shall be added unto you  
Allelu alleluia

#### **Verse 2**

Ask and it shall be given unto you  
Seek and ye shall find  
Knock and the door  
Shall be opened unto you  
Allelu alleluia

#### **Verse 3**

Man does not live by bread alone  
But by ev'ry word  
That proceeds  
From the mouth of the Lord  
Allelu alleluia

"Seek Ye First" words and music by Karen Lafferty  
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### **"We Believe"**

#### **Verse 1**

In this time of desperation  
When all we know is doubt and fear  
There is only one foundation  
We believe we believe

In this broken generation  
When all is dark You help us see  
There is only one salvation  
We believe we believe

#### **Chorus**

We believe in God the Father  
We believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit  
And He's given us new life

We believe in the crucifixion  
We believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection  
And He's coming back again  
We believe

## Verse 2

So let our faith be more than anthems  
Greater than the songs we sing  
In our weakness and temptations  
We believe we believe (**Chorus**)

"We Believe" words and music by Matthew Hooper, Richie Fike, and Travis Ryan  
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## Invocation

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

## Easter Acclamation

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## Confession and Absolution

*John 16:20; Revelation 21:6*

**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.

# WORD

## Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray.  
O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will.  
**C** Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;

**P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Children's message

### First Reading

*Acts 11:1–18*

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, <sup>3</sup>“You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” <sup>4</sup>But Peter began and explained it to them in order: <sup>5</sup>“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. <sup>6</sup>Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup>But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup>But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ <sup>10</sup>This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. <sup>11</sup>And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup>And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ <sup>15</sup>As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup>If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” <sup>18</sup>When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Epistle

*Revelation 21:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup>The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Verse

*Romans 6:9; John 14:23*

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

**C** If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Alleluia.

### Holy Gospel

*John 16:12–22*

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

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

<sup>12</sup>[Jesus said:] “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."

**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  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.

### SERMON SONG "Shout to the Lord"

#### Verse

My Jesus my Savior  
Lord there is none like You  
All of my days I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort my shelter  
Tower of refuge and strength  
Let every breath all that I am  
Never cease to worship You

#### Chorus (x2)

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing  
Power and majesty praise to the King  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands  
Forever I'll love You forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

Sermon: "I will see you again"

Text: John 16:12-22

Offering "Thy Word"

**Chorus**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path

**Verse 1**

When I feel afraid  
Think I've lost my way  
Still You're there right beside me  
And nothing will I fear  
As long as You are near  
Please be near me to the end **(Chorus)**

**Verse 2**

I will not forget  
Your love for me, and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide  
And hold me to Your side  
And I will love You to the end **(Chorus)**

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**Prayer of the Church**

- P** Bridegroom of the Church, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

**\*Installation of Officers**

## 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, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

**The Words of Our Lord**

**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

### † DISTRIBUTION SONGS †

### “Cornerstone”

#### **Verse 1**

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name **(Repeat)**

#### **Chorus**

Christ alone cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm He is Lord  
Lord of all

#### **Verse 2**

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil **(Chorus)**

#### **Verse 3**

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless stand before the throne **(Chorus)**

“Cornerstone” words and music by Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan and William Batchelder Bradbury  
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### “Be Unto Your Name”

#### **Verse 1**

We are a moment You are forever  
Lord of the ages God before time  
We are a vapor You are eternal  
Love everlasting reigning on high

### **Chorus**

Holy holy Lord God Almighty  
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain  
Highest praises honor and glory  
Be unto Your name  
Be unto Your name

### **Verse 2**

We are the broken You are the healer  
Jesus Redeemer mighty to save  
You are the love song we'll sing forever  
Bowing before You blessing Your name **(Chorus)**

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### **Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

- P** Let us pray.  
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood.
- C** **Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

### **Benediction**

### **CLOSING SONG** "Everlasting God"

#### **Verse**

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord

Our God You reign forever  
Our Hope our strong Deliv'rer

#### **Chorus**

You are the everlasting God  
The everlasting God  
You do not faint  
You won't grow weary  
You're the defender of the weak  
You comfort those in need  
You lift us up on wings like eagles **(Repeat all)**

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