

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

St. John American Lutheran Church + ELCA + Sioux Falls, SD + May 9, 2021

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

By the cradle, by the sandbox, by the kitchen table
stands a mother, giver of life, gift of God.

"Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother" (John 19.25).

GATHERING MUSIC

p.m.)

Jacob Huber (*Saturday, 5:30*)

a.m.)

Sarah Jo Jorgensen (*Sunday, 8:30*)

a.m.)

Jane Kurth (*Sunday, 10:30*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

L Great God on High who deigned to dwell in human flesh,

C We worship you and sing your praise.

L Almighty God who slept so sweetly in Mary's lap,

C All honor and glory be yours.

L Lord God of Hosts, whose mighty shield was a mother's loving arms,

C We bring our adoration.

L Great Savior of the world, son of Mary and Son of God,

C We praise your holy name.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

L Gracious God, tender and strong as a good Mom, warm and embracing as a steady Dad, you have given us such wonderful gifts: inquisitive minds, a thirst for justice, generous hands, compassionate hearts, souls as deep as the ocean. Yet, even in our families - under our very roofs! - we sometimes fail to see these gifts in others and so miss the opportunity you give to us to cherish and encourage them in those most dear to us - our children, our grandchildren, our parents, our siblings.

C Forgive us for missing the beauty of the gifts and underestimating the becoming of others, even those

most dear to us. Forgive us for hiding emotions that need to be known, for hurrying the slow one, for holding back the eager one, for failing to honor and affirm our children's aptitudes and imaginations. Restore within our homes a holy balance and an honest appreciation of our life together, that we might as families and individuals be blessings to the whole world. Amen.

A silence is kept for personal reflection and, wherever one's heart is particularly grieved, a moment of confession...

L In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins. As a servant of God's Word and partner with you in the life of Christ, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins; in the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN

verses

No. 419, 5

"For All the Faithful Women"

GREETING

L Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God, grace, mercy, and peace be with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray: Loving God, often our mothers have been mirrors of your love. They tie our shoes, drive us to ball games, put Band-Aids on our knees, braid our hair, bake us cookies, help us pick up our messes, write us letters, say prayers for us and with us, wait up for us, and laugh at our silly jokes. For the ordinary ways and countless days of care our mothers have given us, we give you thanks. For the worry we caused them, we ask forgiveness. For our place in this family of God, we rejoice. Through Jesus, whom Mary loved. Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

p.m.)

Jacob Huber (*Saturday, 5:30*)

a.m.)

Crystal McCormick & Sarah Jo Jorgensen (*Sunday, 8:30*)

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Jane Kurth (Sunday, 10:30

a.m.)

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYER CONCERNS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

After each Scripture, the lector will say, "Word of God, Word of Life."

Please respond: "Thanks be to God."

Acts 10.44-48 / Psalm 98 (4) / 1 John 5.1-6

HYMN OF THE WORD

884

No.

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

The congregation stands for the entrance of the Gospel.

GOSPEL

John 15.9-17

SERMON

Reid

Christopherson

HYMN OF THE DAY (Saturday & Sunday, 10:30 a.m.)

No. 656

"Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

MUSICAL OFFERING (Sunday, 8:30 a.m.)

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

Crystal McCormick & Sarah Jo Jorgensen

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A creed is a statement of faith; it states what we believe to be true about God. It is faith, not proof. It is spoken in the face of doubts. It is spoken of God who makes himself known to us as mercy, through Jesus Christ.

C At the center of our faith is Jesus. At the center of the Christian church there can be nothing, nothing but Christ. At the center of our worship: Jesus. At the center of our ability to maintain love by the healing of forgiveness: Jesus. At the center of our lives: Jesus. And for our lives everlasting: Jesus.

At the center of the fullness of divine revelation is Jesus. At the center of our right relationship with God is Jesus - the person and the work he's done. He!

If a church presents any other thing besides Jesus as its primary preachment, however noble, that church is no longer Christian.

The center of our every act; the motive and endurance of all our relationships; the delight with which we rise in the morning and the peace we enter every night; our going and our coming; our sitting down, our rising up, and our walking by the way: it is Jesus.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, the pastor will say, "Hear us, O God." Please respond: "Your mercy is great."

ANOTHER FORM FOR PRAYING THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Eternal God: Earth-Maker, Pain-Bearer, Life-Giver, Source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, star of heaven, the hallowing of your name echoes through the universe. The way of your justice be followed by all the peoples of the earth. Your heavenly will be done by all created beings. Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope, and break forth on earth. With the bread we need today, feed us. In the hurts we give to one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

L There are times when only a mother's love can understand our tears, can soothe our disappointments and calm all our fears. There are times when only a mother's love can share the joy we feel, when something we've dreamed about a good long while quite suddenly becomes real. There are times when only a mother's faith can help us on life's way and inspire in us the confidence we need from day-to-day. For a mother's heart and a mother's faith and a mother's steadfast love were fashioned by the angels and sent from God above. May God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, mother you all week long!

C All life long! Amen!

RECESSIONAL HYMN

543

No.

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

POSTLUDE

**THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING AT ST. JOHN THIS MORNING.
YOUR PRESENCE AND PRAYERS ARE A BLESSING TO ALL WHO
GATHER WITH YOU.**

**Offerings you may have brought to further the work of
Christ's Church through St. John may, upon your departure,
be left in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary.**

"FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL WOMEN"

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 power to save.

2.

We honor faithful Mary, fair maiden, full of grace. She bore the Christ, our brother, who saved our human race. May we, with her, surrender ourselves to your command and lay upon your altar our gifts of heart and hand.

3.

We sing of busy Martha, who toiled with pot and pan while Mary sat in silence to hear the Word again. Christ, keep our hearts attentive to truth that you declare, and strengthen us for service when work becomes our prayer.

4.

O God, for saints and servants, those named and those unknown, in whom through all the ages your light of glory shone, we offer glad thanksgiving and fervent prayer we raise that, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.

5.

All praise to God the Father! All praise to Christ the Son! All praise to God the Spirit, who binds the church as one! With saints who went before us, with saints who witness still, we sing glad alleluias and strive to do your will.

"For All the Faithful Women"

"BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS"

1.

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the unity of heart and mind is like to that above.

2.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

3.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear, and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

4.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free; and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

"GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING"

1.

"Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."

2.

"Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son's story, here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

3.

"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here my Spirit's power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you. Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

MOTHER'S DAY QUOTES

"She never quite leaves her children at home, even when she doesn't take them along." – Margaret Cushman Banning

"The prayer of a simple mother is as powerful as that of the Archbishop of Mainz." - Martin Luther

"An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy."
– Spanish Proverb

"You can fool some of the people some of the time but you can't fool mom." - Anonymous

It's not easy being a mother. If it were easy, father's would do it." - The Golden Girls

"All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel Mother." - Abraham Lincoln