

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Order of Worship – 7:45 AM & 10:15 AM

AS WE GATHER – *The Roman world worshiped many gods and had numerous official religions.*

By proclaiming Jesus as the only way, truth, and life, the Church set itself apart from all others. It took Jesus' personal revelation to the disciples to get them to see who He was. After Easter, then, Stephen and those who would follow him witnessed to our Lord not only with their words, but with their very lives. By the grace of God, they were able to see how He had been prophesied about throughout Scripture, as Peter writes in the Epistle. And now, like the arrows on a one-way street, we witness to Jesus, the only way to the Father.

PRESERVICE MUSIC “Christ Be My Leader”

by Paul Manz

WELCOME [Please fill out prayer request cards.]

[♫] Means please stand; [♫] Means please be seated]

♫ OPENING HYMN

The Day of Resurrection



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, All praise to God the Son,



The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.
The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light
Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.
All praise to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,
And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the throne

(continued)



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!
And hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry As - cribe to God a - lone!

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INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Psalms 146:1-2, 5

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

C **Amen.**

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.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Psalms 124:8; 130:3-4

P *Our help is in the name of the Lord,*

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P *If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?*

C **But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

P *Let us confess our sins, confident of God's grace, mercy, and forgiveness.*

[Silence for reflection on the Word of God and for self-examination.]

P *We give thanks, Lord Jesus, for apostles and martyrs who have gone before us.*

C **We confess that we have not always made a clear witness to the salvation You won for us in Your death and resurrection. Forgive us, and give us opportunities to witness to You, the way, the truth, and the life.**

P *We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You graciously call us Your holy nation, Your royal priesthood.*

C **We confess that in our life and conduct we have too often reflected the world around us rather than our membership in the Body of Christ. Forgive us, and strengthen us to walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.**

P *We give thanks, O Holy Spirit, that You have worked faith in our hearts so that we may approach the throne of grace with every petition.*

C **We confess that too often we seek to bend Your will to ours, failing to trust You not only for the place You have prepared for us in eternity, but also for that which is best for us today. Forgive us, and open our hearts to receive Your answers, which are always better than our prayers.**

P *God has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. You are His own people, thanks to the grace and mercy that is ours through our Lord Jesus Christ. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen.**

INTROIT

Psalm 30:1-5; adapted

P *I will extol You, O Lord, for You have drawn me up*

C **and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**

P *O Lord my God, I cried to You for help,*

C **and You have healed me.**

P *O Lord, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;*

C **You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

P *Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints,*

C **and give thanks to His holy name.**

P *For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.*

C **Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

O Sing to the Lord

1 O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song. O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song. O sing to the Lord, O Lord! And God has done wonders. For God is the Lord, O Lord! And God has done wonders. For God is the Lord! And sing God a new song. O sing to our God, O sing to our God. God has done wonders. O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

3. **So dance for our God
And blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God
And blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God
And blow all the trumpets.
And sing to our God,
And sing to our God.**

4. **O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.**

5. **For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray.*

All: Heavenly Father, Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, revealed Your eternal love for all people. Grant that we may confidently ask whatever we need in His name and also proclaim Him as the way, the truth, and the life; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us share this peace with one another.*

(People greet one another saying: "Peace be with you. And also with you.")

🔔 FIRST LESSON

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

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

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 2:2–10

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

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

C **Thanks be to God.**

🔔 ALLELUIA VERSE

Romans 6:9

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

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1–14

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

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

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

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

🔔 CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

[Prayer requests will be collected at this time.]

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are the Way; Through You Alone



1 You are the way; through You a - lone Can
2 You are the truth; Your Word a - lone True
3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb Pro -
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant

(continued)



we the Fa - ther find; In You, O Christ, has
wis - dom can im - part; You on - ly can in -
claims Your con - qu'ring arm, And those who put their
us that way to know, That truth to keep, that
God re - vealed His heart and will and mind.
form the mind And pu - ri - fy the heart.
trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.
life to win Whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

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SERMON "OUR IDENTITY AS HOLY PRIESTS"

1 Peter 2:2-10

- I. It's pretty common to have an "identity crisis."
- II. Today, God gives us our identity as a "holy priesthood."

APOSTLE'S 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 there 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.

OFFERING

"You Are the Way"

by Rolf Unkel

OFFERTORY

Create in Me



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P *Jesus promised, “If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it” (John 14:14). Let us then confidently pray for all people in their various needs, the Church around the world, and ourselves in our community and congregation. When we read about the needs of people in Jerusalem, we are reminded of the plight of so many people around the world today. Provide them, heavenly Father, with the leaders, economic conditions, and fruitful crops they need. In Your mercy, give them food, clothing, shelter, and community. We remember before You those known to us who call out to You in distress of any sort, [including . . .]. Give them healing, relief, and comfort as fits Your gracious plans. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *When we understand that the Early Church needed both lay and clergy leaders to faithfully serve You, O Lord, and the people around them, we consider the many gifts the Holy Spirit has placed within us. Open our eyes that we may use all those resources to preach the Word, offer counsel and aid, and announce the Gospel to our friends and neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *When we see Stephen’s bold witness even to death, gracious God, we recognize that the Church is facing opposition and persecution in many places around the world. Protect and guide Your people wherever the Gospel is proclaimed so that they may nevertheless announce Jesus as the only way, truth, and life. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *When we hear Your promise, Lord Jesus, that Your followers will do great things, we know that we need Your strength and guidance so that we may do Your will in our various callings. Protect the armed forces of our country as they seek to protect us; guide emergency and medical personnel as they bring about healing and relief; bless farmers and merchants, musicians and artists, and elected and volunteer leaders in our communities. May they enable us all to rejoice and give thanks for each day You give us. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

C **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

P *O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.**

BENEDICTION

P *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you His peace.*

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P *Go in peace as you serve our risen Lord.*
C **Thanks be to God!**

CLOSING HYMN

Christ Be My Leader



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion; with Je - sus I reign.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Birthdays: Muzo Bere]

POSTLUDE

“The Church’s One Foundation”

by Robert J. Hughes

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THE LUTHERAN HOUR MESSAGE **KOA 850 AM: Sunday @ 6:00 AM**

May 21: ***“Comfort in the Spirit for Our Spirits”***; Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, LH Speaker
To be the people God created us to be, we must be connected to His power, to His Word, by His Spirit. (John 14:15-21).