

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

*A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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## Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 29, 2022

### WELCOME

**PRELUDE**                      “Take Me to the Water” - David Cherwien

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more.

**Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

“Take Me to the Water”



1 Take me to the wa - ter, take me to the wa - ter,  
2 I . . . love . . Je - sus, I . . . love . . Je - sus,  
3 He's . . my . . Sav - ior, he's . . my . . Sav - ior,  
4 Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah. Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.



take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.  
I . . . love . . Je - sus, oh, yes, I do.  
he's . . my . . Sav - ior, oh, yes, he is.  
Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah to be bap - tized.

**GREETING**

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

**ELW S149**



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



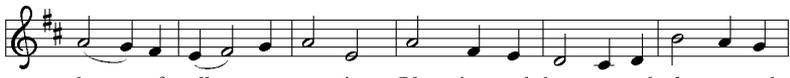
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. **Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## FIRST LESSON

## Acts 16:16-34

<sup>16</sup>One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup>While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.” <sup>18</sup>She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

<sup>19</sup>But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup>When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup>and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.” <sup>22</sup>The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup>After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup>Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

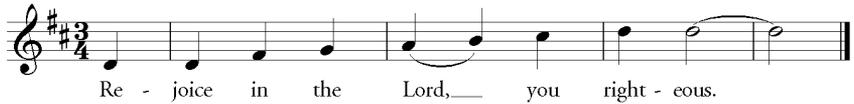
<sup>25</sup>About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup>When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was

about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” <sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” <sup>31</sup>They answered, “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” <sup>32</sup>They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup>At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup>He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 97

*Worshippers are invited to join the choir in singing the refrain as indicated below. The choir will chant the psalm text.*



*The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad. Clouds and darkness are round about him, righteousness and justice are the foundations of this throne. A fire goes before him and burns up his enemies on every side. His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees it and is afraid.*  
**REFRAIN.**

*The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory. Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Bow down before him all you gods. Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments O Lord.*  
**REFRAIN**

*For you are the Lord most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. The Lord loves those who hate evil; he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked. Light has sprung up for the righteous, and joyful gladness for those who are true-hearted. Rejoice in the*

*Lord you righteous, and give thanks to his holy Name. REFRAIN*

**SECOND LESSON**

**Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21**

<sup>12</sup>“See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. <sup>13</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

<sup>14</sup>Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

<sup>16</sup>“It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

<sup>17</sup>The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”

And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

<sup>20</sup>The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

<sup>21</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Worshippers are invited to sing the refrain as indicated below. The choir will chant the proper.*



*I will not leave you orphaned, says the Lord. I am coming to you.*

**GOSPEL**

**John 17:20-26**

The holy gospel, according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus prayed:] <sup>20</sup>“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup>that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup>The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, <sup>23</sup>I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. <sup>24</sup>Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup>“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup>I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” **ELW 392**

## **THE NICENE CREED**

Let us profess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. We pray especially for the people of Ukraine. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry (*especially*). Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymnwriters. Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

## **RECEIVING THE OFFERING**

**ANTHEM**                    "The Gift of Love"                    - Hal H. Hopson

*Please stand if you are able.*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. **Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

**ELW 855**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in love and peace to serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

“Duo du Troisième Ton”

- Jacques Boyvin

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## **The Glorious Beloved**

It can be difficult to have a benevolent view of humanity. News and social media feed us a steady diet of the wrongdoings of the world. Whether it be mass violence, corporate malfeasance, individual acts of hatred or hurt, or the horrible things we believe the other side is doing, we have no shortage of evidence of the brokenness of human beings.

We might even find biblical support for this low view of people as a whole. We can look back to the creation story in Genesis and God calling all that is created “good,” only to move to the eating of the fruit and the failure of those first two people in their obedience. We can then travel through the whole scriptural narrative and find that it is filled with all the same terrible things we see in our present day.

As Lutherans, we say of ourselves that we are both saint and sinner, but the volume of negative information we encounter about human experience can make it seem that sinfulness and brokenness are our only reality. Sometimes we need a reminder of our goodness and the power of even a little bit of God’s grace to work transformation in and among us.

Today’s gospel passage is one of those blessed reminders. As Jesus prays for his disciples, he notes that others will believe because of their word. He prays for their unity and belief, and that they may know the glory they have been given and the love God has for them. These are tremendous gifts of grace.

Our Easter proclamation demonstrates the power of their word. We are the heirs of their witness, unity, belief, and glory. Though there may be plenty of evidence that says otherwise, we are the glorious beloved through whom God is working to bring goodness and mercy into people’s lives today.