

6th Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

Opening Hymn #500

May God Bestow on Us His Grace

1. May God bestow on us His grace,
With blessings rich provide us,
And may the brightness of His face
To life eternal guide us
That we His saving health may know,
His gracious will and pleasure,
And also to the heathen show
Christ's riches without measure
And unto God convert them.
2. Thine over all shall be the praise
And thanks of every nation,
And all the world with joy shall raise
The voice of exultation;
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord,
Nor suffer sin to flourish;
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word
Their souls to feed and nourish,
In righteous paths to keep them.
3. Oh, let the people praise Thy worth,
In all good works increasing;
The land shall plenteous fruit bring forth,
Thy Word is rich in blessing.

May God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit bless us!
Let all the world praise Him alone,
Let solemn awe possess us.

Invocation

*P: We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.*

C ♪: Amen.

Confession & Absolution

*P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and
confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C ♪: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.

**P & C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable
sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with
which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy
temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorrow
for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy
boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent,
bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

C ♪: Amen.

The Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C ♪: And with thy spirit.

The Collect for the Day

P: Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ♪: Amen.

The 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.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 98

- ¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
- ²The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- ³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
- ⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- ⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!
- ⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!
- ⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!
- ⁸Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together
- ⁹before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

The Second Reading – 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.⁴ For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?⁶ This 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.⁷ For there are three that testify:⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

Verse of the Day – Romans 6:9, John 16:33b

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.

The Gospel Reading – John 15:9-17

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.”

Confession of Faith
The Nicene Creed

P & C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day #387 (V. 1-4)
Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

1. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing,
And, with united heart and voice
And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God hath done,
How His right arm the victory won;

Right dearly it hath cost Him.
2. Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay,
Death brooded darkly o'er me,
Sin was my torment night and day,
In sin my mother bore me;
Yea, deep and deeper still I fell,
Life had become a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.

3. My own good works availed me naught,
No merit they attaining;
Free will against God's judgment fought,
Dead to all good remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair
Left naught but death to be my share;
The pangs of hell I suffered.

4. But God beheld my wretched state
Before the world's foundation,
And, mindful of His mercies great,
He planned my soul's salvation.
A father's heart He turned to me,
Sought my redemption fervently:
He gave His dearest Treasure.

Sermon Text – 1 John 5:1-8

Sermon

***The Lord Jesus Is with His Church in the
Apostolic Ministry of the Gospel***

Offertory

***C ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit
within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take***

not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

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

P: Heavenly Father, You invite us freely to come and hear Your Word. Bless and increase our faith, that we may rightly fear You and learn what You have done for our souls.

¹ Jesus, Thy boundless love to me

No thought can reach, no tongue declare;

P: Father of love, out of great love for You and for sinners, our Lord Jesus laid down His life for the world. Increase in us true love for one another, that like our Lord, we may also lay down our lives for our friends.

**Unite my thankful heart to Thee,
And reign without a rival there!**

P: Almighty Father, You rule this world by Your established authorities in ways that we do not always understand; yet in the name of Jesus, we may ask You anything freely as friends and sons. Bless our nation's leaders, and cause them to serve wisely for our good. Give earthly peace and justice that is in accord with Your commandments and the order You have revealed. Bring an end to injustice, violence and disdain for Your truth, and let us receive all good with thanksgiving.

Thine wholly, Thine alone I am;

Be Thou alone my constant flame.

P: Lord of all, You make known the good news of peace through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Bless and direct the work of our missionaries, that in every nation there would be people who fear

God, do what is right and, believing in Jesus, receive forgiveness of sins through His name.

**⁴ In suff'ring be Thy love my peace,
In weakness be Thy love my pow'r;**

P: Lord God, the Giver of all that is good, grant Your healing and support to all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity [*especially* _____]. Give them also the gift of Your grace to accept and bear their crosses with faith in You, that finally they would be prepared to depart this life and receive the gift of eternal life in Your kingdom.

**And when the storms of life shall cease,
O Jesus, in that final hour,**

P: Merciful God, at the death of Your Son, You gave the testimony of Your Spirit in the water and blood that poured from His wounded side. Grant that, having received this testimony in the water of Baptism, we may also receive it in the body and blood of Jesus in the Holy Supper and so overcome the world by our faith in Him.

**Be Thou my rod and staff and guide,
And draw me safely to Thy side!**

P: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together 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, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Communion Liturgy

P: The Lord be with you:

C ♪: And with Thy Spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts:

C ♪: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God:

C ♪: It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly, meet, right and salutary...Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Sanctus

C ♪: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

P: 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;

C ♪: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

P: The peace of the Lord be with you alway!

C ♪: Amen.

The Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,

Grant us Thy peace. A-men.

The Distribution

The Nunc Dimittis

**C ♪: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace,
According to Thy word.**

For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles

And the Glory of Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen.

The Thanksgiving

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good:

C ♪: And His mercy endureth forever.

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C ♪: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn #261

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word

1. Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word;
Curb those who fain by craft and sword
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son
And set at naught all He hath done.
2. Lord Jesus Christ, Thy power make known,
For Thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend Thy Christendom that we
May evermore sing praise to Thee.
3. O Comforter of priceless worth.
Send peace and unity on earth.
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

Silent Prayer

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