

5th Sunday of Easter
May 18, 2025

Opening Hymn #57 (v. 1-4)
O Bride of Christ, Rejoice

1. O bride of Christ, rejoice;
Exultant raise thy voice
To hail the day of glory
Foretold in sacred story.
Hosanna, praise, and glory!
Our King, we bow before Thee.
2. Let shouts of gladness rise
Triumphant to the skies.
Now comes the King most glorious
To reign o'er all victorious:
Hosanna, praise, and glory!
Our King, we bow before Thee.
3. He wears no kingly crown,
Yet as a King is known;
Though not arrayed in splendor,
Hosanna, praise, and glory!
Our King, we bow before Thee.
4. The weak and timid find
How meek He is and kind;
To them He gives a treasure
Of bliss beyond all measure.

Hosanna, praise, and glory!
Our King, we bow before Thee.

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 Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners
confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean
and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and
deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy,
seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Je-
sus Christ.

P & C **O most merciful God, who has given Thine only-be-
gotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His
sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy
Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy
will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by**

Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪Amen.

Gloria Patri

C ♪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 Kyrie

C ♪Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis – (Hymn #238 v.1)

All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the Highest One,
Who doth our sinful race befriend,
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among mankind may His good will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

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 Lesson – Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, ³“You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” ⁴But Peter began and explained it to them in order: ⁵“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. ⁶Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. ⁷And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ ¹⁰This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. ¹²And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³And 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; ¹⁴he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ ¹⁵As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the begin-

ning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If 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?" ¹⁸When 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."

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 148

Antiphon – At the works of Your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

- 1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the | heavens;*
praise him | in the heights!
- 2 Praise him, all his | angels;*
praise him, | all his hosts!
- 3 Praise him, | sun and moon,*
praise him, all you | shining stars!
- 4 Praise him, you highest | heavens,*
and you waters above the | heavens!
- 5 Let them praise the name | of the LORD!*
For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.
- 6 And he established them forever and | ever;*
he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.
- 7 Praise the LORD | from the earth,*
you great sea creatures and | all deeps,
- 8 fire and hail, | snow and mist,*
stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!
- 9 Mountains and | all hills,*

fruit trees and all | cedars!

10 Beasts and all | livestock,*

creeping things and | flying birds!

11 Kings of the earth and all | peoples,*

princes and all rulers | of the earth!

12 Young men and maidens to- | gether,*

old men and | children!

13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone
is ex- | alted;*

his majesty is above earth and | heaven.

14 He has raised up a horn for his people, praise

for | all his saints,*

**for the people of Israel who are near to him. | Praise
the LORD!**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*Antiphon – At the works of Your hands, O Lord, I lift up my
voice in song; I sing for joy.*

The Second Lesson – Revelation 21:1-7

¹Then 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. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And 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. ⁴He 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.” ⁵And 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.” ⁶And 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. ⁷The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

Verse of the Day – Romans 6:9, John 14:23

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

The Gospel – John 16:12-22

¹²[Jesus said:] “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When 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. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁶“A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” ¹⁷So 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'?" ¹⁸So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." ¹⁹Jesus 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'? ²⁰Truly, 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. ²¹When 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. ²²So 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."

Confession of Faith

Apostle's Creed

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 Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints The forgiveness of sins;

**The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Hymn of the Day #736 WS
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side.
Alleluia!

2. Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie.
You have conquered in the fight;
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

3. Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

4. Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

5. Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days,
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Sermon Text – Acts 11:1-18

Sermon

Jesus Turns Sorrow into Joy

Offertory

♪ 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.

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: Almighty God, You hold all people accountable for the responsibilities You have given them. Bless our president, our governor, the Congress and legislature, and all judges and magistrates. Guide them to serve according to Your will and for the common good of all. Raise up those with heroic virtue who will defend our liberty. Protect those who defend us in the armed forces, even as You give peace to the nations.

**1. Water, blood, and Spirit crying,
By their witness testifying
To the One whose death-defying
Life has come, with life for all.**

P: Lord of heaven and earth, in the glorious resurrection of Your Son, You have given the promise of our own resurrection. As we await the Last Day, calm our hearts and strengthen our faith through our sorrows.

**2. In a wat'ry grave are buried
All our sins that Jesus carried;
Christ, the Ark of Life, has ferried
Us across death's raging flood.**

P: Heavenly Father, You bless the anguish of childbirth with new life according to Your good and gracious will. Sustain all mothers with child and those with young children. Bless Your Church, the mother of all Your faithful children.

**3. Dark the way, yet Christ precedes us.
Past the scowl of death He leads us;
Spreads a table where He feeds us
With His body and His blood.**

P: O Lord, You have promised us the gift of the Holy Spirit who makes known to us all truth and keeps us in Your Word. Grant to us, O Lord, faithful pastors who will teach us Your Word and devoted church workers who will serve us in Your name. Bless those preparing for church work vocations, and inspire many to follow Your call.

**4. Though around us death is seething,
God, His two-edged sword unsheathing,
By His Spirit life is breathing
Through the living, active Word.**

P: O Alpha and Omega, You pledge to bring all things to their perfect consummation. You will bring heaven to earth and banish sorrow, sin and death. Sustain [_____ and all] those now in tribulation. By the comfort of Your Holy Word, increase their faith and see them through their trials.

**5. Spirit, water, blood entreating,
Working faith and its completing
In the One whose death-defeating**

Life has come, with life for all.

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 the sake of ***please stand*** Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you,

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C ♪ Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn #761 WS

In You Is Gladness

1. In You is gladness
Amid all sadness,
Jesus, Sunshine of my heart.
By You are given
The gifts of heaven;
You the true Redeemer are.
Our souls are waking;
Our bonds are breaking.
Who trusts You surely
Has built securely
And stands forever. Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining
To see Your shining,
Dying or living
To You are cleaving
Now and forever. Alleluia!

2. If He is ours,
We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin or death.
He sees and blesses
In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath.

Wherefore the story
Tell of His glory
With hearts and voices;
All heav'n rejoices
In Him forever. Alleluia!
We shout for gladness,
Win over sadness,
Love Him and praise Him
And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever. Alleluia!

Silent Prayer

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Portions of the Liturgy from the Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book.

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