

Divine Service, Setting Three LSB p.184-202  
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
May 14, 2023 10:45 AM

PRELUDE "Praise the Lord, the Almighty"

Arr. Fred Bock

WELCOME AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN "Lord, This Day We've Come to Worship"

#911 LSB

Lord, this day we've come to worship;  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Grace us with Your blessed presence;  
Blessèd Savior, be our host.

*(Refrain)* Alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, praise the Lord!  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, praise the Lord!

In the pow'r of resurrection  
We have come to praise the Lord,  
Celebrate His blessed supper,  
And to learn His holy Word. *(Refrain)*

Celebrate the resurrection  
In the church and sing His praise,  
Till we come to true perfection:  
Serve the Lord through all our days. *(Refrain)*

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Jesus said, "Because I live, you also will live."

C: In Him we live and move and have our being.

P: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father, seeking His forgiveness through our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C: Heavenly Father, creator of all that was, is, and will ever be, we confess to You that we fall short of the calling that we have received from You, as Your dearly loved children. We have struggled to share the reason for the hope we have in You. We have not always responded to others with gentleness and respect. We have failed to live and share the love we have first received from You. Forgive our sins, for Jesus' sake, and lead us to live lives that reflect Your indwelling presence.**

P: Our God hears our prayers and forgives our sins because of Jesus' perfect life, death, and resurrection. At the command of Christ and through the power of the cross and the empty tomb, I declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Alleluia! Amen.**

### **PSALM (66) OF THE DAY**

P: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

**C: Who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.**

P: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

**C: You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs; you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.**

P: I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you, that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

**C: I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of the rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**

P: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.

**C: I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.**

P: If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

**C: But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!**

### **GLORIA PATRI** (*"Glory to the Father"*)

*(Sing)* **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. A-men.**

**KYRIE** (*“Lord, have mercy”*)

*(Sing)* **Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** (*“Glory to God in the Highest”*)

*P: (Sing)* Glory be to God on high.

**C: And on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heav’n-ly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.**

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
Art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.**

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** *(Sing)* **And with thy spirit.**

**P:** Let us pray. O God, You are the Creator of all things in heaven and on earth, and You have claimed and cleansed us to be Your people through the waters of Baptism.

**C: By Your Spirit, give us hearts and minds to hear Your Word.**

**P:** Give us eyes and ears to see and listen to our world as You view and hear it.

**C: Give us words and actions to share the hope we have in You;**

**P:** Through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord, who lives eternally with the Father and the Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**FIRST READING Acts 17:16 – 31** (*Paul preaches in Athens*)

<sup>16</sup>While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup>Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup>And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup>For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.”

<sup>21</sup>Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. <sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup>And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup>that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup>for “‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, “‘For we are indeed his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup>Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup>The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

**Reader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE 1 Peter 3: 13 – 22** (*Be prepared to give a defense for the hope in you*)

<sup>13</sup>Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

R: This is the word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC "Built On the Rock"**

**HOLY GOSPEL John 14: 15 – 21** (*Jesus promises the Holy Spirit*)

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**C: (Sing) Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup>even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: (Sing). Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## THE APOSTLES' 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 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 thence 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

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    “ Children of the Heavenly Father                      #725    LSB

Children of the heav'nly Father    Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven    Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish;    In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;    In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever    From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,    And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth or He taketh,    God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely    To preserve them pure and holy.

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**SERMON**    “Like A Mom: Be Alive! Be Prepared! Be Different!”    1 Peter 3:15-17  
*(Sermon outline is found on the back page of today's bulletin)*

**OFFERING**    *(As joyful givers, we clap for the offering)*

**OFFERTORY**    “Mother's Love”                      Adult Choir

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**BLESSING**

**CLOSING HYMN "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"**

**#655 LSB**

**Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;  
Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son  
And bring to naught all He has done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,  
For You are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend Your holy Church that we  
May sing Your praise eternally.**

**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.**

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**POSTLUDE "Postlude in C"**

by: J. Christian Heinrich Rinck