

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

May 22, 2022

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honour and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day that the Lord has made; **we will rejoice and be glad in it!**

The Lord is my strength and my song. **The Lord has become my salvation.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them and praise the Lord.

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it! (Psalm 118:14, 17, 19, 24)

OPENING HYMN

EvLW # 631 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.
2. Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
4. Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

GREETING

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit, we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 16: 9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 67

May God be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth her increase; may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

May God give us his blessing and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21: 10-22.5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day - and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

John 14: 23-29

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

EvLW # 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine*

1. Come down, O Love divine; seek thou this soul of mine
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near;
within my heart appear and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
2. Oh, let it freely burn, till worldly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
3. Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing - true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part, and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
4. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling; no soul can guess Love's grace
till it become the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

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.

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, labourers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, especially those inflicting war in Ukraine, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace especially Deb, Lloyd, Josh, Jordan, Ferolyn, Elethia, Daryl, and Carol. Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people. Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died when we meet together at your river of life. 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 Saviour. Amen.

HYMN EvLW # 785 When Peace like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)

1. When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll,
 whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,) it is well, it is well with my soul.

2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
 that Christ has regarded my helpless estate and has shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

3. He lives - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought; my sin, not in part, but the whole,
 is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain

4. Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
 the trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

Go out into the world in peace; Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind; and love your neighbour as yourself.

BENEDICTION

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 favour and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

EvLW # 763 *My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

1. My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

2. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*
3. What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Saviour liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. *Refrain*
4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon	May 23	1 Chronicles 12:16-22	Revelation 21:5-14	Psalm 93
Tue	May 24	2 Chronicles 15:1-15	Revelation 21:15-22	Psalm 93
Wed	May 25	2 Chronicles 34:20-33	Luke 2:25-38	Psalm 93
Thurs	May 26	Acts 1:1-11	Luke 24:44-53	Psalm 47
Fri	May 27	Exodus 33:12-17	Revelation 22:6-9	Psalm 97
Sat	May 28	Exodus 33:18-23	John 1:14-18	Psalm 97
Sun	May 29	Acts 16:16-34	John 17:20-26	Psalm 97

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