

Easter 6
9 May 2021 at 11:00 AM

Call to Worship

WELCOME

Presider Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!!**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us today, we pray you, such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Opening Hymn – Spirit of God, descend LEVAS #119 vv 1, 3-4

1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Draw it from earth; through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
And make me love thee as I ought to love.

3. Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check to rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

4. Teach me to love thee as thine angels love.
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The kindling of the heav'n-descended dove,
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

Presider On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. (*Psalm 118:24*)

Reader Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ
(*1 Corinthians 15:57*)

A Reading from Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's People. **Thanks be to God.**

A Reading from 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

Gospel Hymn - In Christ there is no East or West LEVAS #62 vv 1,3-4

1. In Christ there is no East or West, In him no South or North.
But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide Earth.
2. Join hands, disciples of the faith, Whate'r your race may be!
Who serves my Father as his child Is surely kin to me.
3. In Christ now meet both East and West, In him meet South and North,
All Christly souls are one in him, Throughout the whole wide Earth.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

Message - The Rev. Beth McKee-Huger

THE APOSTLES' 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 to 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 OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *(Silence)*

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Sam and Anne our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

Collect (Prayer) for Today

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors,
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.
Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I ask your prayers for the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *(Pause for prayers)*

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(Pause for prayers)*

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
(Pause for prayers)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
(1 John 1:8-9)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we boldly 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND BLESSING OUR LIVES

Birthday Prayer: O God, our times are in your hands. Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) _____, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Closing Hymn – Make me a blessing LEVAS #158 vv 1-3

1. Out on the highways and byways of life, many are weary and sad;
Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife, making the sorrowing glad.

MAKE ME A BLESSING, MAKE ME A BLESSING,
OUT OF MY LIFE, MAY JESUS SHINE;
MAKE ME A BLESSING, O SAVIOR, I PRAY,
MAKE ME A BLESSING TO SOMEONE TODAY.

2. Tell the sweet story of Christ and His love, tell of His power to forgive;
Others will trust Him if only you prove true, every moment you live.
3. Give as 'twas given to you in your need, love as the Master loved you;
Be to the helpless a helper indeed, unto your mission be true.

BLESSING

THE PEACE

Presider The Peace of our Risen Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth to the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
Our worship has ended, now our service begins.