

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

May 17, 2020 – 9 AM



**AS WE GATHER** During these great fifty days of Easter, we gather again to hear the risen Lord Jesus as He appears and speaks to us in no less a real way than when He appeared and spoke to the first disciples before His ascension into heaven. As Scripture says, “The LORD is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him” (Habakkuk 2:20). So we gather in reverent, holy anticipation as we hear the words of Jesus in John’s inspired account, recalling His promise given on Holy Thursday, His word concerning the promise that He would send “another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth” (John 14:16–17). The Holy Spirit is wherever He creates and sustains faith through God’s Word. However, our Easter celebration will break forth before the world on the Day of Pentecost.

Jesus says the world cannot receive, see, or know the Spirit. Paul found this to be true in Athens as he noticed an altar dedicated “To the unknown god.” Though many in our day certainly have heard about Jesus, they do not know Him apart from faith in His word. But you know Him! Baptized into Christ, His resurrection life has given us new life, which for now is but the beginning to be stretched out into life eternal.

† IN DOMINE JESU †  
(In the Name of Jesus)

**PRELUDE**

*Mui Cheng*

**WELCOME** “This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

*Psalms 118:24*

**OPENING HYMN**

**“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”**

*LSB 700 vs. 1-3*

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of  
2 Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; Let us  
4 Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and

heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us Thy  
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; Let us all in  
all Thy life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re -  
spot - less let us be; Let us see Thy

hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
Thee in - her - it; Let us find Thy prom - ised rest.  
turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.  
great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee,

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -  
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha  
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee  
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in

bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with  
 and O - me - ga be; End of faith, as  
 as Thy hosts a - bove, Pray and praise Thee  
 heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our

Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise!

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## INVOCATION

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

**C: Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: The three sad days have quickly sped, He rises glorious from the dead.

All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia! (LSB 464:3) Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: Even as we glory in the gift of eternal life, in that hope we spend our days in joyful repentance and faith. Let us confess our sin, the sin that still so easily besets us, and receive the full forgiveness our Lord daily provides for us.

**C: Lord God, though the strife is over, the battle done, and now is the victor's triumph won, sin still hangs on. We are Your baptized people. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us into our Easter joy.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

LSB 700 vs. 4

- 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!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. God our Father, You protect Your children from all that would harm our salvation. Give us the courage of faith and love toward You, that we have boldness to live for You and confess Your holy name before all; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## † THE LIVING WORD †

### FIRST READING

*Acts 17:16–31*

*(Paul in Athens)*

<sup>16</sup>Now 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 babbling 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."

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### EPISTLE

*1 Peter 3:13–22*

*(Suffering for Christ)*

<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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 14:15-21*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter. **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*(The promise of the Holy Spirit)*

<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."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**"The Lord, My God, Be Praised"**

*LSB 794*



1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heav - en;  
 2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heav - en,  
 3 The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heav - en,  
 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ev - er - liv - ing,



My mak - er, who to me Has soul and bod - y giv - en;  
 The Fa - ther's own dear Son, Whose life for me was giv - en,  
 The Spir - it, whom the Son In love to me has giv - en.  
 To whom the heav'n - ly host Their laud and praise are giv - ing.



My Fa - ther, who will shield And keep me day by day  
 Who for my sin a - toned With His most pre - cious blood  
 His grace re - vives my heart And gives my spir - it pow'r,  
 The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,



And make each mo-ment yield New bless-ings on my way.  
And gives to me by faith The high-est heav'n-ly good.  
Help, com-fort, and sup-port In sor-row's gloom-y hour.  
God Fa-ther, God the Son, And God the Ho-ly Ghost.

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**SERMON "No Longer Empty or Alone! Promised Filling with Christ's Spirit! He's Real!"**

John 14:15-21

**NICENE CREED**

**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 Spirit 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 sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in 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.**

## OFFERING SONG

### "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"

LSB 806

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give thanks to the  
Ho - ly One, Give thanks \_\_\_\_\_ be - cause He's giv - en\_\_ Je - sus  
Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give  
thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks \_\_\_\_\_ be - cause He's giv - en\_\_  
Je - sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am  
strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," \_\_\_\_\_ Be - cause of  
what the Lord has done for us. And now let the  
weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am  
rich," \_\_\_\_\_ Be - cause of what the Lord has done for us.  
Give thanks, \_\_\_\_\_ give thanks, \_\_\_\_\_

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## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(after the petitions, the Pastor prays "Lord in your mercy" please pray, "Hear our prayer")*

P: Lord in your mercy;

**C: Hear our pray.**

*(after all petitions, the prayers of the church conclude with these words and response)*

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9–13*

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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; 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 on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

**SENDING HYMN**

**“On What Has Now Been Sown”**

*LSB 921*

1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;  
 2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;  
 3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,

The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou  
 Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -  
 May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -

in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!  
 es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.  
 low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

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P: Go in Peace and Join Jesus on His Mission!

C: Amen! We will! Amen!

**POSTLUDE**

*Mui Cheng*

† SOLI DEO GLORIA †  
(To God be the Glory)

**SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE (9:00 am)**

Piano	Mui Cheng
Lector	Vivian Jobst
Power Point	Dorene Oak
Technology	Michael Hentges
Technology	Jason Eickhoff
Office Support	Meg Batchelder
Pastor	James (Jim) Jobst



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