



Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 12, 2024

St. James Lutheran Church

INTRODUCTION

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water is poured into the font as the Presiding minister gives thanks.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.



Satisfy the world's need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.
Where despair prevails, grant hope.
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.
We ask this through Christ,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN "Crown Him with Many Crowns" (LBW 170)

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.

KYRIE

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. . .

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

A This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and

strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

FIRST READING:

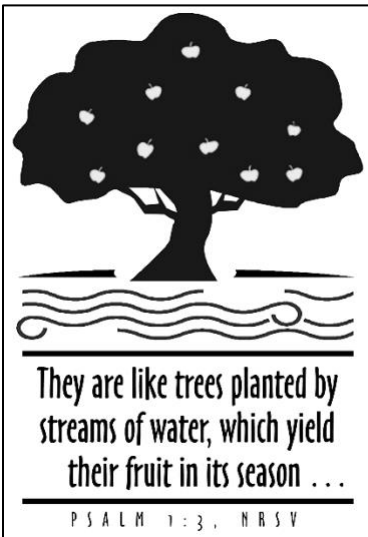
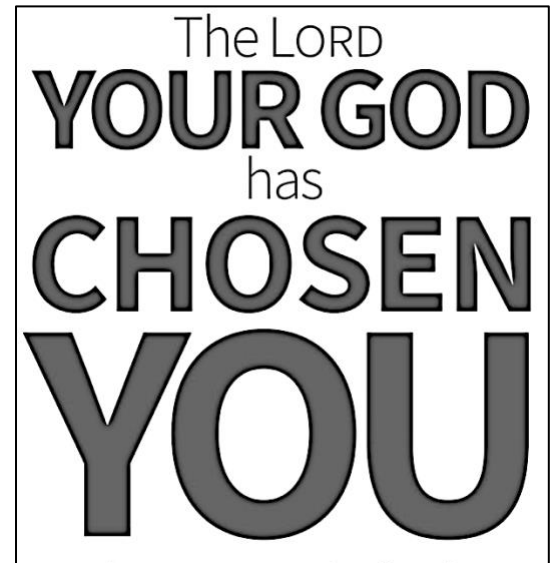
In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry."²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection."²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place."²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Here ends the reading.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM 1

- ¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel ¹ of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats ¹ of the scornful!
- ²**Their delight is in the law ¹ of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching ¹ day and night.**
- ³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that ¹ do not wither; everything they ¹ do shall prosper.
- ⁴**It is not so ¹ with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind ¹ blows away.**
- ⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when ¹ judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council ¹ of the righteous.
- ⁶**For the LORD knows the way ¹ of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall ¹ be destroyed.**

Second Reading:

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

1 John 5:9-13

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has



given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Here ends the reading.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL: John 17:6-19



In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

As you
SENT ME
into the world,
so I have
SENT THEM
into the world.
John 17:18, ESV

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not

belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON: Pastor Gordon Putnam

HYMN OF THE DAY “Lord, with Glowing Heart” (LBW 243)

APOSTLE’S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith by using the words of the Apostle’s 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 hell.

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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your saint's dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith. Inspire us by their witness. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. We especially pray for Norma, Cecilia, Jean, Betty, Inez, Zeby, Claire, Charles, Ellen, Jerry, Bill, Josh, Mike, Melvin, Joe, Charles and Peggy. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

(For whom else and what else shall we pray...)

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

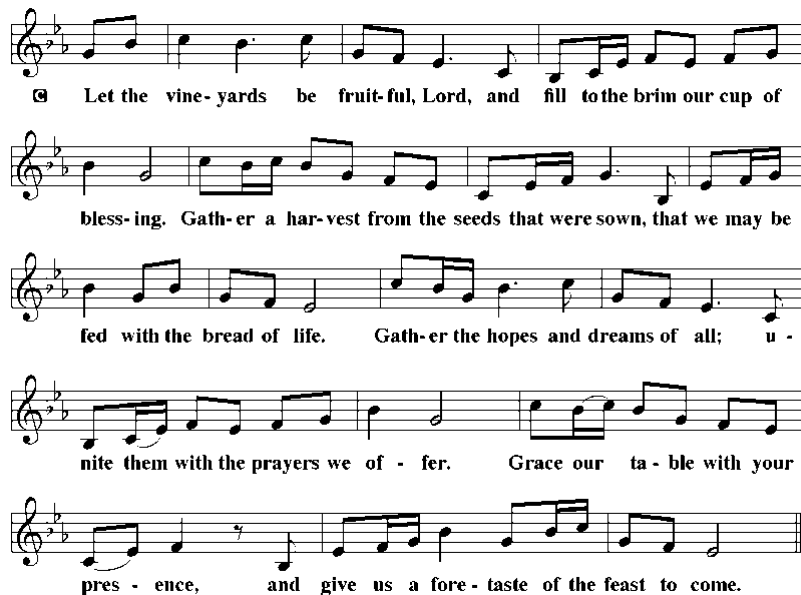
Amen.

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

(Greet each other in the peace of the Lord.)

Anthem: "Lord of The Dance" Words, music by Bruce Ballinger

OFFERING



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. . .

Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

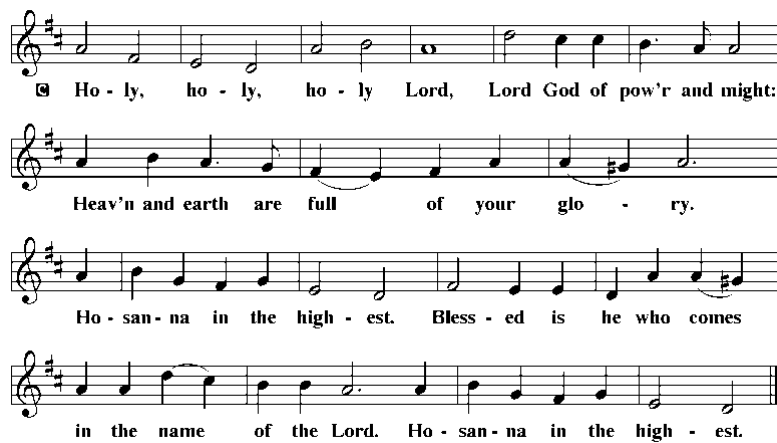
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.


PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



May
12th Debbie Snyder
19th Flora Williams
26th Tammy Jones

THANKSGIVING

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,**



MAY
BIRTHDAYS

13 th	Sherie Whiting-Rohal
14 th	Anne Putnam
15 th	Norma Turak
15 th	Luke Jordan
15 th	Russell Diehl
21 st	Ivan Diehl
25 th	Eleanor Sander
28 th	Kaleb Bartley
30 th	Paul Rohal

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. . .
Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" (WOV 723)

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Prayer Concerns

Ongoing Need for Prayer

Norma Turak, Cecilia Shott, Jean Geiser, Claire Viette, Ellen McDonald, Charles McDonald, Zeby (Ellen & Charles' grandson), Inez Johnson (Becky and Debbie's aunt), Jerry Hill and Bill Bayes (friends of Pastor Gordon and Anne), Josh Thornhill (Norma Turak's grandson-in-law), Mike Martin (friend of Phillip Snyder), and Melvin Glass (friend of Ivan).

Prayer Concerns

Joe McCune (friend of Ronnie), Charles Driver (Sam and Lynda's neighbor), Betty Diehl and Peggy Desimore (friend of Norma).

Community Conversations

- May flowers are given by Debbie Snyder and Becky Dick.
- May 12th Congregational Meeting today after worship for the election of two new Council members. The nominees are Debbie Snyder and Steve Straw.
- May 14th SVWO Bible Study at 10 am at Salem Lutheran Church.
- May 21st Quilt Group meets at 1 pm. Men's Group meets every Friday at 9:00 am.
- The choir will resume practice in the fall.
- The Back Packs Program will start up again in August.
- For prayer concerns, contact Pastor Gordon.
- Council Person of the Month
 - May—Gene Giltner
- Hannah will be gone for the summer. If you know anyone who would be interested in playing the keyboard for our outdoor service, please talk to Pastor Gordon or Flora.

Pastor Gordon Putnam
434-760-0263
Grputnam1949@gmail.com
Pastor Carl Trost
Hannah Pingel, Pianist
Sam Diehl and Bambi Straw,
Assisting Ministers

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