

Seventh Sunday of Easter



10:00

May 16, 2021

Zion Lutheran Church Camas,
Washington

Ministers: the entire congregation

Susan Dollinger, Associate Pastor

Pam Ensley, Youth Minister

Karen Rezabek, Praise Team

Patricia Hagensen, Administrative Assistant

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Hours: Mon 8-12:00, Tues-Fri 8-5:00

“As a welcoming Body of Christ, we celebrate and share God’s saving grace for all.”

Prelude

Gary Ritter

INTRODUCTION

In today’s readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

P: 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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Most merciful God,

C: ***we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have not done. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.***

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God,

C: ***your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

Gathering Hymn “Word of God, Come Down on Earth” Number 510

- 1 Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heav'n descending; touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending. Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
2. Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation, Word that came from heav'n to die, crucified for our salvation, saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love outpouring.
- 3 Word that speaks God's tender love, one with God beyond all telling, Word that sends us from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling, Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

WORD

Bible Reading

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me;⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

Responsive Reading

Psalms 47

L: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a joyful sound.

C: ***For the Lord Most High is to be feared: a great king over all the earth,***

L: who subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet;

C: ***who chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.***

L: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the ram's horn.

C: ***Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our king, sing praises.***

L: For God is king of all the earth; sing praises with a song.

C: ***God reigns over the nations; God is enthroned on high.***

L: The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham.

C: ***The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.***

Bible Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.¹⁷ I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him,¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.²⁰ God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C: ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."⁴⁵ Then he opened their

minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." ⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: ***Praise to you, O Christ!***

Children's Message Pam Ensley

Message Pr. Susan Dollinger

Hymn "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" v. 1, 3, 4 Number 389

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
3. In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.
4. Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence

You call the whole church on earth to worship and bless you. Empower your church to bear joyful witness to your love made known in Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have fashioned a habitat for all your creatures and you fill the earth with your glory. Mend what we have torn in the fabric of creation and replenish and nourish your world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the majesty of your love, you rule the world with justice and mercy. Give those in authority the spirit of your love, so that all who are hungry and poor receive food and resources, and all people flourish and live in peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You heal those who are sick and bind up the brokenhearted. Attend to the cares and needs of the hurting and hopeless in our congregation, community, workplaces, schools, and families, especially those we remember aloud or in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Help us love one another, be reconciled where we are divided, and share the riches of your grace with our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In raising Christ from the dead, you put your great power to work in the world. Raise us and all who have died in the faith with Christ. We remember saints in our lives. Thank you for their gifts among us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always.

C: ***And also with you.***

"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

v. 1, 2, 4 Number 763

- 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*

- 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*

Prayer of Preparation

P: God of love,

C: ***you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.
Receive our lives as a gift. Abide with us and send us in service to
a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.
Amen.***

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

***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.

Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in God's grace, now and always. ***Amen.***

Prayer after Communion

P: Wellspring of joy,

C: ***through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the
hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your
love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.***

Benediction

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and
to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, ☩ Son, and
Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. ***Amen.***

Sending Hymn *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"* v. 1, 4, 5 Number 855

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; hark
how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own. Awake,
my soul and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy
matchless king through all eternity.
4. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave and
rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save. His glories
now we sing, who died and rose on high, who died, eternal life to
bring, and lives that death may die.
5. Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time, creator of the
rolling spheres, Ineffably sublime. All hail, Redeemer, hail! For
thou hast died for me; thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

Postlude

SERVICE

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| Lector | Pam Ensley |
| Sound Tech | Reid Frank |
| Musicians | Pat Hagensen, Gary Ritter, Judy Swanson |
| Altar Guild | Marilyn Anderson, Amy McElhaney, Ursula Richards |

"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

Text: James Quinn, SJ; @James Quinn, SJ, Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER; Johann R. Ahle

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

Text: Brian A. Wren; @1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Co.

Music: TRURO; T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

Text: Robert Lowry; Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Text: Matthew Bridges, sts. 1-3, 5; Godfrey Thring, st. 4

Music: DIADEMATA; George J. Elvey