

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY of EASTER

MAY 16, 2021

The 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, communal life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

The WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS– *Pastor Stuart Luce*

The PRELUDE – “Prelude on What A Friend” arr. James Conely

The PROCLAMATION –

P: You have turned our mourning into dancing! You have taken away our funeral clothes and re-clothed us in joy, so that our whole being—body, mind, and soul—might sing praise to you and not be silent.

C: O Lord, our Lord, we will give thanks to you forever!

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

P: Darkness has been vanquished!

C: THE BRILLIANT LIGHT OF HOPE HAS COME!

P: Come let us worship and celebrate the Good News!

C: ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! AMEN!!

- Adapted from Psalm 30

The ENTRANCE HYMN – *Beautiful Savior (ELW 838)*

- 1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee,
truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

The GREETING –

P: Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **And also with you.**

The KYRIE – (Sung)

**Lord, have mercy Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.**

From a New Song Liturgy

The CANTICLE OF PRAISE - (Sung)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

From ELW Holy Communion *Setting Four*

The PRAYER OF THE DAY –

P: 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 and use us for 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.

C: Amen.

The CHILDREN’S CHAT – (Pr. Stuart via zoom)

The FIRST READING – Acts 1:15-17-21-26

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.

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.

The SECOND READING – 1 John 5:9-13

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.

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.

The VERSE – (Sung)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

From ELW Holy Communion *Setting Four*

The 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

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the seventeenth chapter:

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The SERMON – “Saint Justus”

Pastor Stuart W. Luce

Bridge Pastor

The HYMN OF THE DAY – Christ, Be Our Light (ELW 715)

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

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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 OFFERING –

The PRAYERS –

P: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Each petition will end with, “Lord in your mercy...” followed by “Hear Our Prayer”

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we entrust all for whom we pray, confident in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

The LORD'S PRAYER –

C: **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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION -

P: 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The AGNUS DEI – *(Sung)*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you that away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

From ELW Holy Communion *Setting Four*

The DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT –

P: The Body of Christ is given to you.

P: The Blood of Christ is shed for you.



The EUCHARISTIC BLESSING –

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

The POST-COMMUNION PRAYER –

P: Wellspring of joy, 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.

C: Amen

The BENEDICTION –

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn – O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate *(ELW 722)*

1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.
Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God's vast domain.
The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme
to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time.

- 2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own.
- 3 O Christ, create new hearts in us
that beat in time with yours,
that, joined by faith with your great heart,
become love's open doors.
We are your body, risen Christ;
our hearts, our hands we yield
that through our life and ministry
your love may be revealed.
- 4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow's fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
embrace and bear us all:
come, make your church a servant church
that walks your servant ways,
whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

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THE DISMISSAL –

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

C: **Amen**

The POSTLUDE – “Postlude on Azmon” arr. Richard Williamson

Please join us via Zoom for Virtual Coffee Hour