

# Sunday, May 17, 2020

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

*“Church is not a place; it is who we are. Once we realize this, we can be the church anywhere.”*

We gather to worship together, at this time, in different places. Bottom line, we are worshipping God, TOGETHER! This worship service has been pre-recorded. Worship materials have been published online at blcmalmo.org. If you are able, please watch the service via Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo’s youtube.com page, find the link on Facebook, or visit our website to find the link.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

God is in our midst, forming us to be God’s own people.  
**Though the way may be difficult, God will be with us.**

We need not fear.

**In the Lord we will take our refuge, for God is our strength.**

Come to the Lord who will surround you with God’s own righteousness.

**Lord, open our hearts and our spirits so that we may faithfully follow you.  
Amen!**

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**Amen**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

(Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.)

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross,

you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

We gather this day,

**O Lord, as people who seek your guiding love. Open our hearts and make us ready to stand firm in the faith that leads to loving service. Give us grace to love one another and follow in the way of Jesus' commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **SONG**

### **"Baptized in Water"**

**ELW #456**



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his  
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

## **SCRIPTURE**

### **First Reading: Acts 17:22-31**

<sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an 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, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is 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 too are his offspring.’ <sup>29</sup>Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, Word of Life.      **Thanks be to God**

### **Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, 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 made subject to him.

Word of God, Word of Life.      **Thanks be to God**

### **Gospel: John 14:15-21**

[Jesus said to the disciples:]<sup>15</sup> "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.<sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.<sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.<sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.<sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

### **MESSAGE**

**SONG      "Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty"      ELW #777 (v.1-3, 6)**

1 "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty;  
drink the water I will give.  
If you knew what gift I offer,  
you would come to me and live."

3 "Come to me, believers burdened;  
find refreshment in this place.  
Come, receive the gift I offer,  
turn to me and seek my face."

*Refrain*

#### *Refrain*

Jesus, ever flowing fountain,  
give us water from your well.  
In the gracious gift you offer  
there is joy no tongue can tell.

6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;  
lonely ways no longer roam.  
Come and take the gift I offer,  
let me make in you my home."

*Refrain*

2 "Come to me, all travelers weary;  
come that I may give you rest.  
Drink the cup of life I offer;  
at this table be my guest." *Refrain*

### **THE 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures (*local bodies of water may be named*). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us (*especially*). Unite us forever in your final victory over death. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Invitation to Communion:** Come to the banquet. Behold the risen Christ.

*You may now partake of the bread and wine in your own home. Speak the words*

*“The body of Christ, given for you” and “The blood of Christ, shed for you.”*

*You may then respond “Amen.”*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Life-giving God,

**in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

# BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SONG

## “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

ELW #631



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in 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!

## DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Response to God's Word Last Week

May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - Virtual Attendance\*: 69

*\*Virtual Attendance is based on the number of views within the first hour of youtube worship service online.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**You can submit your weekly offerings, online, from our Facebook page. Or, mail your offering to:  
21590 State Hwy 47, Isle, MN 56342**



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