

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

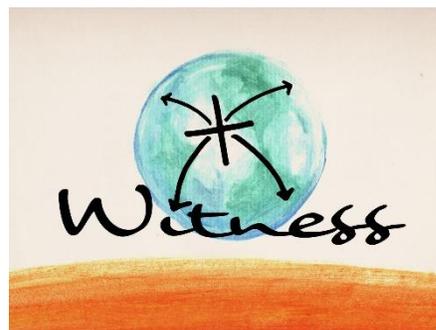
INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUR ONLINE IN-HOME WORSHIP SERVICE

Thank you for joining us today in our online in-home worship service! This service is designed to be used with just one person or with your family and friends who have gathered to thank and praise Jesus for his continued goodness to us. Print as many copies of this bulletin as you wish or follow along looking at this file on any computer, tablet, or phone.

Before watching, it may be helpful to remove distractions from the room such as pets, loud toys, etc. Parents might explain to children that we will be worshiping Jesus while the video is playing, listening and responding just like we usually do at church. It might feel a little odd at first to worship this way, but if you explain the situation beforehand, you can expect better participation in your home.

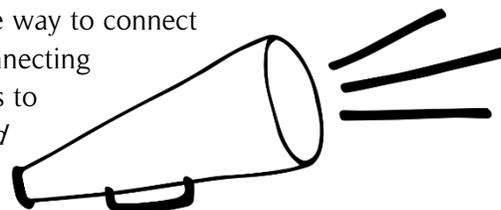
SEASON OF EASTER 2020

Our worship series during the season of Easter is called “Witness.” We will follow the appointed lectionary readings from the book of Acts and see how the disciples carried out the instructions Jesus gave them to be his witnesses, through the power of the Holy Spirit. They were eyewitnesses of the resurrection. Not even the threat of death could stop them from faithfully witnessing to others. Our prayer is that through this worship series, we will be encouraged and empowered to witness to the people around us, starting right here where we live, and reaching out to the ends of the earth. We’ll see where our witnessing power comes from, get practical advice on how to share Christ, and get an idea of what to expect when we proclaim the wonderful Easter message of the risen Savior. God bless you as you witness!



TODAY’S FOCUS

The hymn writer Arabella Hankey sets the tone for our service today with her words: *“I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.”* Paul walked around the city of Athens with this love of telling the story of Jesus and found a unique way to connect to those people. Even though we have lost some normal ways of connecting with people face-to-face, it is our prayer that the Holy Spirit guide us to find unique ways to connect with people in order *“to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.”*



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Bless us, O Lord, as we prepare to worship you today. Help us to concentrate on your life-saving gospel which reminds us that heaven is ours. Help us take this to heart. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Christian Worship #169



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the scep - ter,
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on earth our
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we left in



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph,
food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful
sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us;



His the vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace -
Flee to you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, Friend
Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight



ful Zi - on Thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
of sin - ners, Earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea Where the
re - ceived him When the for - ty days were o'er, Shall our



out of ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by his blood."
songs of all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?"

INVOCATION

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:
I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 Peter 3:15-22

The Christian can offer willing obedience to the resurrected Jesus in the face of suffering because Christ rules, and Holy Baptism guarantees our connection to him.

¹⁵ But regard the Lord, the Christ, as holy in your hearts. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you. ¹⁶ But speak with gentleness and respect, while maintaining a clear conscience, so that those who attack your good way of life in Christ may be put to shame because they slandered you as evildoers.

¹⁷ Indeed, it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil, ¹⁸ because Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive in spirit, ¹⁹ in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. ²⁰ These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God's patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. ²¹ And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. ²² He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

Jesus is life. Man had lost that life in Adam's fall, and sin and death rushed into the vacuum left behind. The Son of God, the Life, came to bring it back. Because he is alive, we, too, will live in blessedness and holiness forever.

¹⁵ "If you love me, hold on to my commands. ¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. ¹⁷ He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see him or know him. You know him because he stays with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ The one who has my commands and holds on to them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and show myself to him."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Hands2Grow



1 I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a -
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it



bove, Of Je - sus and his glo - ry, Of
 best Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing To



Je - sus and his love. I love to tell the
 hear it like the rest. And when in scenes of



sto - ry Be - cause I know it's true; It
 glo - ry I sing the new, new song, 'Twill



sat - is - fies my long - ings As noth - ing else can do.
 be the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'Twill be my



theme in glo - ry To tell the old, old



sto - ry Of Je - sus and his love.

²²Then Paul stood up in front of the council of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. ²³For as I was walking around and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, ‘To an unknown god.’ Now what you worship as unknown—this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made with hands. ²⁵Neither is he served by human hands, as if he needed anything, since he himself gives all people life and breath and everything they have. ²⁶From one man, he made every nation of mankind to live over the entire face of the earth. He determined the appointed times and the boundaries where they would live. ²⁷He did this so they would seek God and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘Indeed, we are also his offspring.’

²⁹“Therefore, since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by human skill and planning. ³⁰Although God overlooked the times of ignorance, he is now commanding all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has set a day on which he is going to judge the world in righteousness by the man he appointed. He provided proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Listen to Paul’s Message from Mars Hill!

1. God is near you.
2. God reveals himself through you.

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERINGS

The members of this congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Thank you for your joyful generosity! *Please see our Love Notes for more information on ways to give your offerings.*



1 Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing,
 2 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en,
 3 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished,
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you



Nev - er a - lone. Wak - ing, sleep - ing,
 At peace and pure. Here you learned how
 Clos - er to me; Grow in love and
 And give you peace; I the Lord will



I am with you; You are my own.
 much I love you, What I can cure.
 love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free.
 smile up - on you And give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; Here you
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here his
 I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior,



made you mine for - ev - er. Go, my chil - dren,
 touched him, saw his glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren,
 ten - der com - fort stilled you. Go, my chil - dren,
 Com - fort - er, and Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren;



with my bless - ing— You are my own.
 sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
 fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.
 I will keep you And give you peace.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH AND LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Dave Pries
Scripture Reader: Ben Rusch
Accompanist: Susan Balza
Hymn Singers: Dave & Louise Scheelk
Jason & Bethany Kempfert
Amy Monigal

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, abr. Alt. Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, alt. HYMN TO JOY. Text, tune, & setting: public domain.

I Love to Tell the Story

Text: Arabella C. Hankey, 1834-1911, abr. Tune: William G. Fischer, 1835-1912 HANKEY. Text, tune, & setting: public domain.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919 © 1983 Concordia Publishing House; Setting reprinted by permission by Oxford. Tune: Welsh melody, 18th century. AR JYD Y NOS. All rights reserved. Used by permission. One License #A-703840

Holy Bible

The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2019 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.
www.wartburgproject.org

CONTACT US

Dave Pries, Pastor
920.285.1068
Pastor.Pries@eternal-love.org

Dave Backus, Pastor
920.716.7987
Pastor.Backus@eternal-love.org

Kara Krull, Wee Love Director & Teacher
920.858.3933
Kara.Krull@eternal-love.org

Rebecca Fleming, Office Manager
920.749.9744
Office.Manager@eternal-love.org



ETERNAL-LOVE.ORG



WEE-LOVE.ORG