

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
16 May 2021

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!

✝ GATHERING ✝

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

P. We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C. **Amen.**

P. Rejoicing in the resurrection, let us seek God's forgiveness, that dying to sin, we may walk in newness of life.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P. Loving God,
C. we fear, we doubt, we do not trust You; we do not love our neighbors as ourselves; we have failed to recognize You in the poor and needy; we sin against You in thought, word, and deed. We pray for Your mercy, forgiveness, and grace. We hope in the gift of Your Spirit and we rejoice in the resurrection promise of Jesus Christ, our living Savior. Amen.

P. God, Who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. May you be strengthened daily with the power to walk in God's light and love.

C. **Amen.**

GREETING

P. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P. The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast of Victory for Our God

Pastor:



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

Congregation:



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



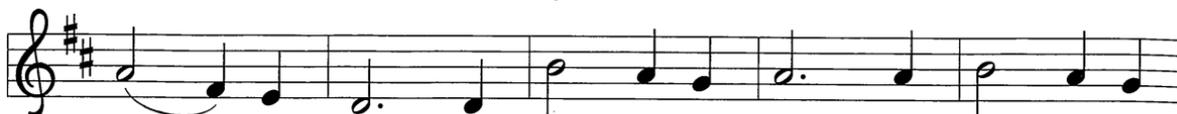
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



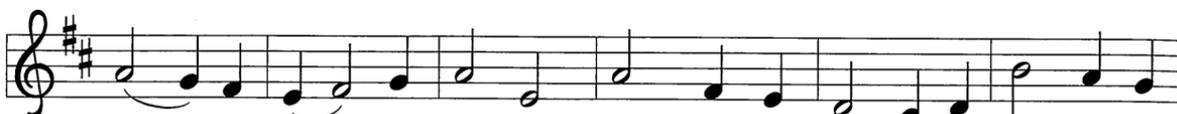
strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



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



2 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



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 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.

C. Amen

+ WORD +

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’ treachery and death.

In 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.

²¹“So 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 Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on His teaching day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,

with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

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.

If 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 Word of the Lord. C. Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: St. John 17:6–19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before His death. This gospel reports the words of Jesus' prayer, a prayer for His disciples and for all who would believe in Him through their words.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] "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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

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

his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to

vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of

Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: “Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o’er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth’s re - deem - er, hear our plea where the

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APOSTLES' 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.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Today we are recognizing and blessing Rachel Wollum as she graduates from High School.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

+ PRAYER +

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

He Is Arisen, Glorious Word

He is a - ris - en! Glo-rious Word! Now rec - on-ciled is God, my
 Lord; The gates of heav'n are o - pen. My Je - sus rose tri -

um-phantly, And Sa-tan's ar - rows bro-ken lie, De-stroyed hell's
fierc - est weap - on. Oh, hear, what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, Ris - ing
glo-rious, Life is giv - ing. He was dead, but now is liv - ing!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Blessed are You, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

C. Day by day You shower us with blessings. As You raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise You and to respond to those in need through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Sent to represent Christ in the world, let us pray for the church to be light in a world of darkness, hope in an age of despair. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

Sent to be fruitful in obeying God's word, let us pray for reforestation efforts that seek to reclaim desolate and barren lands. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

Sent to work for peace and justice for all people, let us pray for the leaders of nations that they work for the safety and well-being of all their people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

Sent to bring compassion and encouragement to all who are hurting, let us pray for those who are homeless, hungry, imprisoned, abandoned or sick. We pray especially for Emily, Angie, Shirlee, Bill and Karen Pohlen, Bill Ningen, Carol, Sylvia and Jim, Norma, and Muriel. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

Sent to reflect Your grace and love, let us pray for those completing their studies this academic year, especially Rachel, those who are able to travel, those who are gathered and those who are absent, that our joy may glorify Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

Sent to live a new life in Christ, let us pray for the dying and those who mourn, rejoicing that at the end we will be united with them and all the faithful in the great and heavenly feast. Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

In the hope of new life in Christ, O Lord, we raise our prayers to You, trusting in Your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

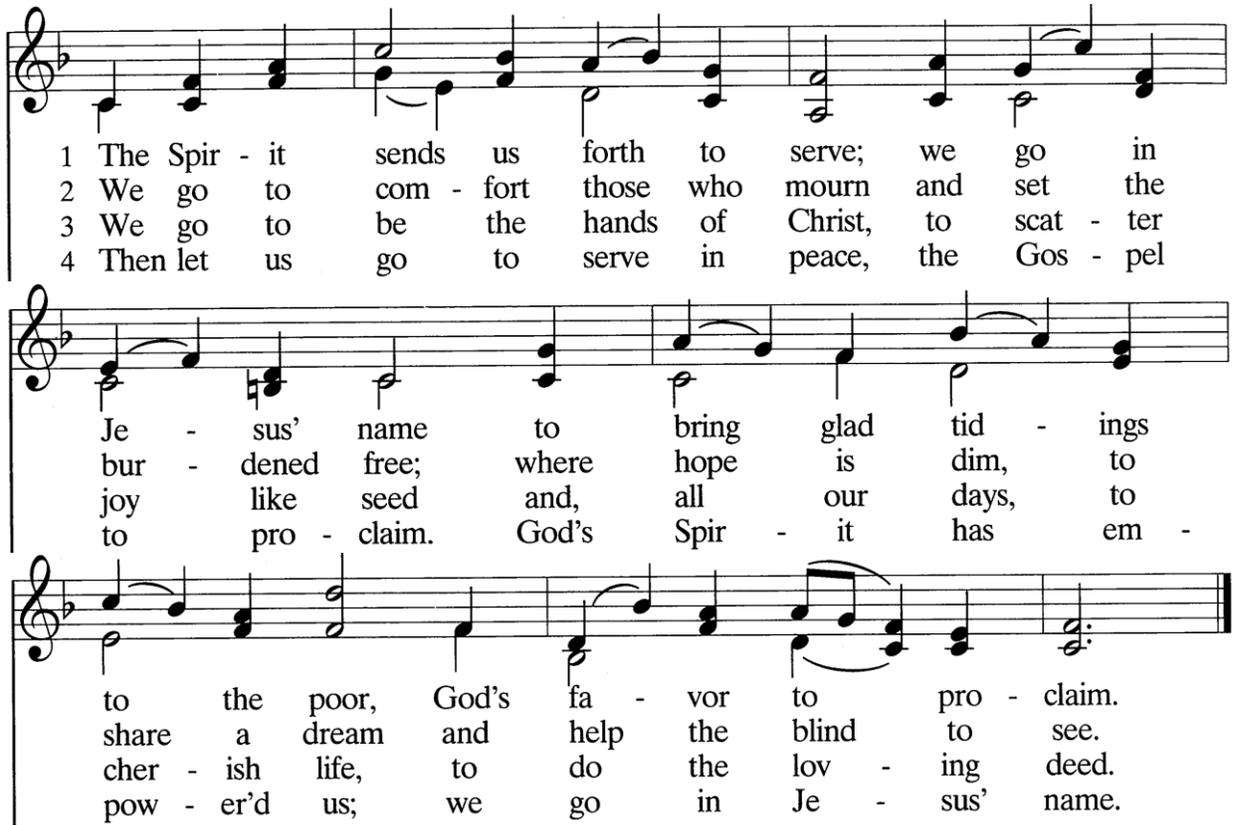
Our Father Who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

P. May the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord bring you all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
C. Amen

CLOSING HYMN *The Spirit Sends Us Forth To Serve*



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the Gos - pel

Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -

to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - er'd us; we go in Je - sus' name.

DISMISSAL

P. Christ is Risen!

C. He is Risen indeed!

P. Go in peace and share the good news.

C. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Those who Serve:

Ministers: All the People of God Presiding: Pastor Munter

Organist: Lou Knutson Reader: Sara Wollum

Camera: Josh Sumption Projection: James Kamrath/Kendon Knutson
& Lillie Wollum

Sound Room: Ken Jeremiason and Jerome Bruns

How to reach us:

Church Office: 507-296-4658

Pastor's House: 507-296-4558

Pastor's Cell: 507-828-1000 (call or text)

Pastor's email: pastormunter@gmail.com

Bethel email: bethel@bethelofporter.com

Bethel web page: www.bethelofporter.com



Emily Morton, Angie Denelsbeck Anderson
Shirlee Gabbert, Bill and Karen Pohlen
Bill Ningen, Carol Moon, Sylvia & Jim Pridal
Norma Dovre, & Muriel Wadsworth

Thanks to **Marlys Petersen** for planting flowers in the brick planter near the south door. Spring is truly here. Thanks Marlys.



May 9, 2021

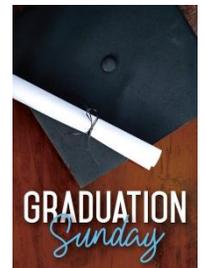
General: \$2,819.50 (\$1,279.50 received through eGiving)

Includes: \$1,000.00 from Hemnes Lutheran Church.

Savings: \$150.00

Includes: \$50.00 in memory of Bill Melby for Organ. \$100.00 for Online Worship Resources.

Congratulations to **Rachel Wollum** as she graduates from Canby High School. She has been an active member of the Board of Education and will be greatly missed. Blessings always.



Acknowledgements

From *Sundays and Seasons* © 2019 and © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" Text and Music in the common domain.

"He is Arisen Glorious Word" Text and Music in the common domain

"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" Text © 1993 Delores Duffner, OSB, admin. OCP Publications

Hymns reprinted using OneLicense #A-718771

Permission has been granted for churches to use liturgical and musical material without licensing during this time of pandemic.

Prayers of Intercession: *Sundays and Seasons*, lightly edited by Pastor Munter.