

## God's Service Sunday, May 12, 2024

Seventh Sunday of Easter

ELW Holy Communion Setting Ten



### WELCOME

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from Jesus' prayer 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 Jesus desires we share is a 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! Come among us as we now prepare our hearts and minds for God's service.

### PRELUDE *O Wondrous Type* arr. by Slowins

#### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep  
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea  
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official  
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection

you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,  
giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**GATHERING SONG *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* (ELW 392)**

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
has redeemed us by his blood."
  
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us;  
faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received him  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise:  
"I am with you evermore"?
  
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,  
here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! here the sinful  
flee to you from day to day.  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's redeemer, hear our plea  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.
  
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal,  
Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.  
As within the veil you entered,

robed in flesh, our great high priest,  
here on earth both priest and victim  
in the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
has redeemed us by his blood."

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### **GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The joy and peace of our risen Lord and Savior be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **KYRIE (ELW p. 203)**

**Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.**

**We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.**

**Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.**

**Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!**

### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204)**

**Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne;  
ten thousand thousand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.**

**"Worthy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be exalted thus!"**

**"Worthy the Lamb," our lips reply, "for he was slain for us!"**

**Jesus is worthy to receive honor and pow'r divine;**

**and blessings, more than we can give, be, Lord, forever thine.**

**Let all creation join in one to bless the sacred name**

**of God who sits upon the throne, and to adore the Lamb.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 205)**

Let us pray.

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.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

#### **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.*

A reading from Acts.

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>"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—<sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning 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." <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM: Psalm 1**

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel <sup>1</sup> of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats <sup>1</sup> of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching <sup>1</sup> day and night. R**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that <sup>1</sup>  
do not wither;

everything they <sup>1</sup> do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so <sup>1</sup> with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind <sup>1</sup> blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when <sup>1</sup> judgment comes,

nor the sinner in the council<sup>1</sup> of the righteous.  
**<sup>6</sup>For the LORD knows the way<sup>1</sup> of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall<sup>1</sup> be destroyed. R**

## **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.*

A reading from 1 John.

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>Those 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. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.  
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.  
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

## **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.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus prayed:] <sup>6</sup>"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. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for 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. <sup>9</sup>I 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. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And 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. <sup>12</sup>While 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. <sup>13</sup>But 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. <sup>14</sup>I 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. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON (ELW p. 206)**

**HYMN OF THE DAY *Son of God, Eternal Savior* (ELW 655)**

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
hallows all our human race,  
you our head, who, throned in glory,  
for your own will ever plead:  
fill us with your love and pity,  
heal our wrong, and help our need.
  
- 2 As you, Lord, have lived for others,  
so may we for others live.  
Freely have your gifts been granted;  
freely may your servants give.  
Yours the gold and yours the silver,  
yours the wealth of land and sea;  
we but stewards of your bounty  
held in solemn trust will be.
  
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,  
King of love and Prince of peace;  
hush the storm of strife and passion,  
bid its cruel discords cease.  
By your patient years of toiling,  
by your silent hours of pain,  
quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,  
stem our selfish greed of gain.
  
- 4 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
hallows all our human race:  
by your praying, by your willing

that your people should be one,  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fruition:  
here on earth your will be done.

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## **A BLESSING OF GRADUATES**

Today we give thanks to God for all those who are graduating this year. We are especially grateful for those graduates who are a part of our faith community. If there are any here this morning I invite them and their families to come forward. Graduates we want you to know that wherever you go, you are still a part of this community of faith, Christ's church. A community that has both nurtured you and been blessed by your ministry in our midst. That the same Spirit who came to you at baptism is still with you to comfort you, lift you, lead you, stir you up and" intercede for you with signs too deep for words." And know that Jesus Christ, like this community, will continue to enfold you in his ever-loving arms refusing to ever let go of you.

*(So, if the graduates would please kneel where they are and family members gather round and place a hand on them.)*

In his letter to the Philippians St. Paul Writes:

*"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in everyone of my prayers for you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident in this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."*(Phil 1:3-6)

Let us pray,

Dear God whose love knows no ending, together we rejoice with our graduates today giving thanks to you for their lives among us. This life is both beautiful and difficult sometimes at the very same time. We ask that you support and protect them as they find their way. May they feel the strength and assurance of your ever-loving arms around them as you fill their wings that they may fly with you on this heart-thumping journey. Grant them ears to hear your words of grace and acceptance for them as well as for all others. Extend your arms to reach out that they might experience and share the abundant life you have for each of them. Bless them and those that surround them that together we will all know and share your abundant and life-giving love. Amen.

Congratulations and God Speed Graduates in your life ahead.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons especially Jim as he concludes

his time as bishop and Meghan as she begins hers, that they might continue to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction (especially Ralph, Shirley, Jim, Melissa, Heather, Lars, Anna, Gene, Chris, Susan, Cheryl, the Fauth & Gimple families, and these others we name now in our hearts and with our voices. (pause for names to be spoken) Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst and those who provide motherly care. Console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those, like Rolly, who have gone before us in faith. Inspire us by their witness. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 206)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANCE**

As a community that Jesus himself prays for, may the mutual love and oneness enabled by the Spirit transform our hearts that we share God's abundance with all those in any need. If you have abundance to share this morning please raise your hand and an usher will come by to collect it that it may further our ministry as his community and liberally scatter the seeds of Christ's love everywhere.



## **OFFERING MUSIC *Rejoice* arr. be Rutz**

### **SETTING OF THE TABLE *Be Not Afraid* (ELW 388)**

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!  
Christ is risen, alleluia!  
Be not afraid, sing out for joy!  
Christ is risen, alleluia!

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## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Risen One,  
you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.  
**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE (ELW p. 206)**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE (ELW p. 207)**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who, enthroned forever at your right hand,  
intercedes for us as our great high priest.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

O God triune, how majestic  
is your name in all the earth.  
Over the eons your merciful might  
evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.  
Here by your wisdom  
are both life and death,  
growth and decay,  
the nest and the hunt,  
sunshine and storm,  
darkness and light.  
Sustained by these wonders,  
we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:  
The earth is full of your glory.  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.  
In Christ you bring life from death;  
we remember his cross,  
we laud his resurrection.  
Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.  
Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.  
Receiving this mystery,  
we mortals sing our song:  
The earth is full of your glory.  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus,  
so filled with your love for this earth.

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.

Gathered around this table,  
we your children unite in this song:  
The earth is full of your glory.  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds,  
you uphold the living,  
you embrace the dead.  
Send forth your Spirit  
and renew the face of the earth.  
Strengthen us for our journey with this meal,  
the body and blood of Christ.  
Give us a future that trusts in you  
and cares for your earth.  
Empowered by your promises,  
we rise from our deaths  
to praise you again:  
The earth is full of your glory.  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

Amen, and amen.  
**Amen, and amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 208)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The risen Christ is made known to us  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table where all people are welcome.

### **COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)**

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
Amen.

### **COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 208)**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.  
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.  
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

### **TABLE BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our risen Lord grant you life and peace. **Amen**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.  
**Amen.**

### **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **SENDING OF COMMUNION (ELW p. 209)**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS (ELW p. 209)**

### **BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG *Crown Him with Many Crowns* (ELW 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.
- 2 Crown him the virgin's Son,  
the God incarnate born,  
whose arm those crimson trophies won  
which now his brow adorn;  
fruit of the mystic rose,  
yet of that rose the stem,  
the root whence mercy ever flows,  
the babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love--  
behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above,  
in beauty glorified.

No angels in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bend their burning eyes  
at mysteries so bright.

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.

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## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### Upcoming Commemorations

**Matthias, Apostle**

**Tuesday, May 14, 2024**

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot. He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry. Formerly commemorated on February 24, Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.

**Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, died 1160**

**Saturday, May 18, 2024**

Erik is considered the patron saint of Sweden. As king of that nation, he tried to bring peace in the region, and to spread Christianity in Scandinavia. He was also known for his attempts to make fair laws and to protect those who were poor or sick.

**GATHERING SONG** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* (ELW 392) Text & Music: Public Domain **HYMN OF THE DAY** *Son of God, Eternal Savior* (ELW 655) Text & Music: Public Domain **SETTING OF THE TABLE** *Be Not Afraid* (ELW 388) Text and music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. ONE LICENSE: #734503-A valid 4/17/2023-4/16/2024 **SENDING SONG** *Crown Him with Many Crowns* (ELW 855) Text & Music: Public Domain From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.