St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Holstein, IA May 12, 2024 9:00 A.M.
The Seventh Sunday of Easter

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!

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We begin our worship in the name of God our Creator, Jesus our Savior, and the Holy Spirit, our Comforter.

Amen.

We gather in the presence of our God to celebrate the blessings of life.

We gather to respond to the call of God and share our common faith which binds us together as the body of Christ.

Let us worship and give praise to God who calls us to commitment.

God of love, we thank you for the gift of life and the beauty of creation. We worship you. We praise you. We give thanks to you!

Opening Hymn

A Hymn of Glory Let us Sing! st. 1, 2, 5

#393

Opening Prayer

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

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

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 Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1 (read responsively)

- ¹ 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!
- ² Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.
- ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;

everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ It is not so with the wicked;

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

- ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous
- ⁶ For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

1 John 5:9-13

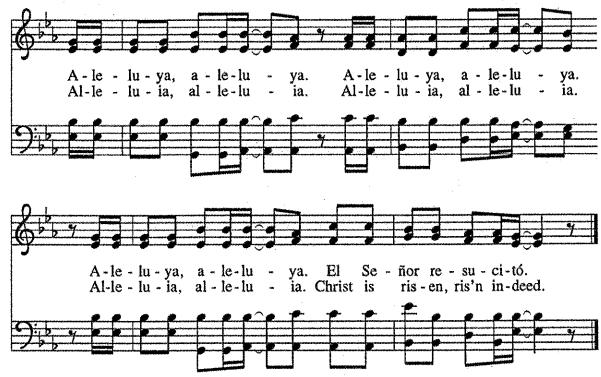
⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God 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 Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation



John 17:6-19

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 17th chapter. 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, 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Sarah Morphew

Hymn of the Day

Bind Us Together

Refrain: Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord;

Bind us together in love.

There is only one God. There is only one King.
There is only one Body; that is why we can sing: **Refrain**

You are the fam'ly of God. You are the promise divine. You are God's chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine. **Refrain**

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Statement of Faith

We believe God is the Creator of the universe and the source of all goodness and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who is both human and holy. He was crucified, died and was buried for our sin that we might be free and know the joy of life. He was raised on the third day and ascended to heaven. He will come again in power and glory to judge both the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the power of God at work inside of us. We believe the church of God is the people of faith throughout the world. We believe our sin is forgiven and we will live together with God for now and throughout eternity. Amen.

Plain Talk Before God: The Language of Worship © 1992 Prince of Peace Publishing, Inc./ Changing Church, Inc.

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. And also with you.

Children's Offering / Offering

Do, Lord, Remember Me

Do, Lord, oh do, Lord, oh do remember me. Do, Lord, oh do, Lord, oh do remember me. Do, Lord, oh do, Lord, oh do remember me, Do, Lord, remember me.

When I'm crossing Jordan, oh do remember me... Do, Lord, remember me.

When I've got no friends at all, oh do remember me... Do, Lord, remember me.

I've got a home in glory land that outshines the sun...
Way beyond the blue.

I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too... While He's calling you.

Do, Lord, oh do, Lord, oh do remember me... Do, Lord, remember me.

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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.

Prayers of the People

Response: We pray,

hear us, risen Lord.

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

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.

Closing Song

How Great is Our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty; Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice. He wraps himself in Light, and darkness tries to hide, And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice.

Chorus: How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God! And all will see how great, how great is our God!

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the end, Beginning and the end.
The Godhead, Three in One, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb. **Chorus**

Chorus

Tomlin, Reeves, Cash, © 2004 sixsteps Music/worshiptogether.com songs/Wondrously made Songs, CCLI #833795

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Blessing of the Bikes

In celebration of Mother's Day some of our wonderful WELCA ladies will be handing out carnations to all women! Please grab one on your way out today! Happy Mother's Day!



Worship Participants

Ministers: All the members Pulpit Supply: Sarah Morphew

DYME: Jim & Kris Kistenmacher

Organist: Sharen Borchers
Pianist: Kris Kistenmacher
Lector: Susan Endrulat

Deacons: Andrew Butcher and Braden Else Greeters: Larry Garland & Colleen Hare Layla Peterson and Wyatt Modrell

Special Music: Carson Schumacher, Tammy Schumacher, Dixie Brueck

Sound & Video: Doug Wessling and Tyler Gebers

Coffee Hosts: Jim and Jean Meier

Jerry & Kathy Sindt

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, May 12 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Worship / Blessing of the Bikes

10:00 AM Last day of Sunday School for the year

10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship

TUESDAY, May 14

9:00 AM Sewing Day

7:00 PM Trustees meeting

THURSDAY, May 16

7:00 PM Task Forces meet

8:00 PM Congregation Council meeting

SUNDAY, May 19 ~ Day of Pentecost

9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion

Senior Recognition Sunday

10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship