

Easter 6
ELW Service of the Word
Sunday, May 17, 2020
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

P: indicates Pastor

L: indicates Lay Reader/Leader

Bold indicates congregational response

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

RINGING OF THE BELLS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and
his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery
into freedom.

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

By water and your Word
you claim us as
daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your
promise and servants of
all.

We praise you for the gift
of water that sustains life,



and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit,

and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

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

Amen.

GATHERING MUSICAL REFLECTION

[Spaséñiye, sodélal \(Salvation is created\) by Pavel Tschesnokoff sung by VOCES8 in the Cathedral Basilica in St Louis, MO](#)

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

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

Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above,
and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy

receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through 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.

FIRST READING: Acts 17:32-31

L: A reading from Acts

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For 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. ²⁴The 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, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From 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, ²⁷so 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. ²⁸For ‘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.’ ²⁹Since 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. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because 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

[PSALM 66:8-20](#) ARRANGED AND SUNG BY JASON SILVER
(JASONSILVER.COM)

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

L: A reading from 1 Peter

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be

intimidated, ¹⁵but 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; ¹⁶yet 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. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For 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, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who 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. ²¹And 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, ²²who 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 ACCLAMATION (*congregation speaks*)

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.

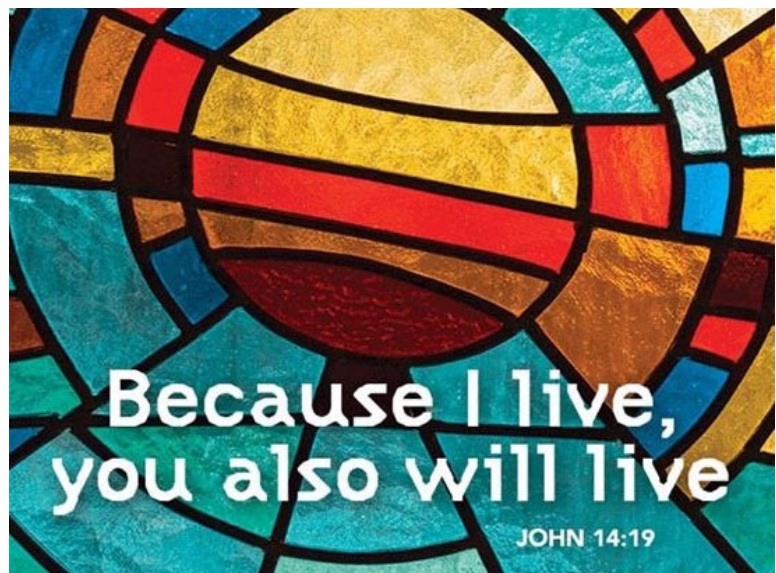
Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

P: The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This 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. ¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see



me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They 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.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

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 INTERCESSION

P: 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.

(observe a brief silence)

L: 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. Guide this congregation as we continue to show the way of Christ to our neighbor and share the love of Christ in our community. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

L: 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. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

L: 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.

L: 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.

L: You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way,

including those on our prayer list and those we now name or whose names we enter into the chat window (*pause*).

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

P: 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

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P: Let us pray.

P: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (provided by
St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Pompano Beach, FL)

P: Let us pray.

Jesus, we desire earnestly to experience your love as guests at the heavenly feast you have prepared for your children on earth in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar. As we are not able on this day to be gathered at your Table, may we receive you into our hearts by faith, trusting the word of your promise, that "those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." Strengthen our faith, increase our love and hope; and after this life grant us a place at your heavenly table, where we shall eat of the eternal manna, and drink of the river of your pleasure forevermore. Hear us for your own Name's sake. Amen

LORD'S PRAYER *(in whatever words you wish)*

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,	Our Father, and forgive us our sins, 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,	Amen, fore
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SENDING

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

BLESSING AND SENDING:

**THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU ARRANGEMENT BY
JOHN RUTTER, SUNG BY THE BATAVIA MADRIGAL SINGERS**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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