



JESUS, OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Kearney, Nebraska*

Sunday, May 8, 2016

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

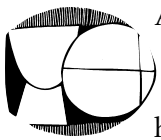
We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

For your convenience, **Listening Devices** are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A **Nursery** is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

SERVICE NOTES FOR THE 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Season of Easter draws to a close with a look at Jesus' High Priestly prayer. Now as then, our risen and ascended Lord Jesus prays for Spirit-inspired unity between the Father and his church. With much anticipation, we look for the coming of the Holy Spirit, confidently living a new life of faith in our ascended Lord.

HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY



As Christians who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and that every word written in it is God's holy word, we believe that we receive the body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. While this is something that goes beyond our human understanding, our faith allows us to accept this as true. God warns us in the

Bible that anyone who doesn't understand this teaching or who denies this real presence of Christ's body and blood will do damage to his or her soul if not properly taught first (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).

As a congregation we care about people and about the spiritual well-being of individuals, especially those attending the Lord's Table today. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are not under church discipline in another congregation, and are members of our congregation, one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], or a member of our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS].

SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Preaching & Presiding MinisterPr. Nathanael P. Seelow
KeyboardistMichelle Reinsch
GreetersLes & Jackie Adelung and Family
UshersRandy Kahle and Jim Cantrell
Sound TechnicianJamie Scott

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

The Common Service — Christian Worship, pg. 15



During the time of Luther, the organ would usually not play along with people singing. The organ would introduce a hymn, and then people would sing it a capella, without accompaniment. Occasionally, the organ would play in between stanzas of a hymn.

“When you feel in your conscience that you are guilty, be very, very careful not to contend with either God or men in an effort to defend or excuse your sin. Rather, do this: When God points his spear at you, do not flee from him; on the contrary, flee to him with a humble confession of guilt and a plea for pardon.”

— Martin Luther

OPENING HYMN

Just As I Am, without One Plea | CW 397

INVOCATION

Please stand.

[M] In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.



CONFESSION OF SINS

[M] Our help is in the name of the LORD.

Psalm 124:8

[C] Who made heaven and earth.

[M] I said, I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.

Psalm 32:5

[C] And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

[M] Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Silence for meditation on God's Word and for self-examination as you consider your thoughts, words, and actions according to the Ten Commandments.

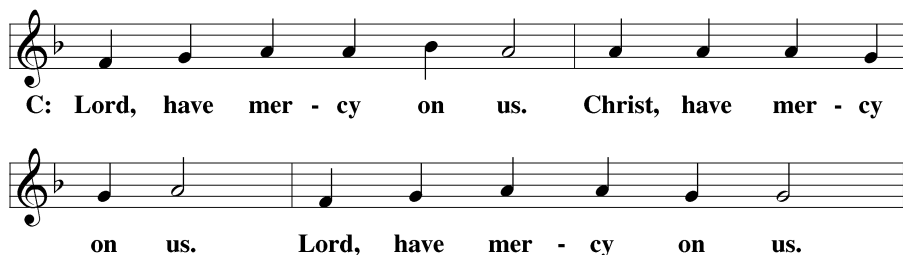
[M] Holy and merciful Father,

[C] I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in

eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — *Kyrie*

The **Kyrie** is a liturgical song of the Ordinary, or a component of the liturgy that occurs in every Divine Service. The word “kyrie” is the Greek word for “Lord.” The expression, “Lord, have mercy,” is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian Church.



ABSOLUTION

- [M] God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.



- [M] In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

GLORY BE TO GOD — *Gloria in Excelsis*

The canticle, **Gloria in Excelsis**, which is Latin for, “Glory in the highest,” is a song in which Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. “Glory to God in the highest” has been a Christian song of praise since the 4th century.





God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the

sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of

God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Service of the Word



This greeting, known as the "Salutation," has deep roots in Christian worship and marks the beginning of the Word section and the Sacrament section (p. 13) of the service.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[M] The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 16:6-10

⁶ And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷ And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. ⁸ So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. ⁹ And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

How richly the Lord blessed the proclamation of his Gospel in the provinces of Asia Minor. Yet, in keeping with divine will, Paul is directed by the Spirit of Jesus to take the Word of Life to the continent of Europe. With Spirit-inspired zeal Paul and companions immediately prepare to depart, eager to take the Good News to Macedonia. This is the very advancement of the Gospel for which Jesus prays in his High Priestly.

The LORD alone is,
always has been, and
always will be the one
who exists and, by
extension, is always
present to act on
behalf of humankind
for our salvation. For
this, we praise his
name!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 8 | CW p. 67

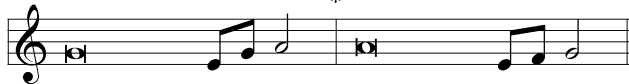
Pastor will sing the first line of each verse. The congregation is invited to sing the second line. All are invited to join in the Gloria and the Refrain.

Refrain



I will praise your name for - ev-er, my King and my God.

Psalm tone



Refrain

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in | all the earth!*

You have set your glory above the | heavens.

When I consider your | heavens,*

the work of your | fingers,

what is man that you are mind- | ful of him,*

the Son of Man that you | care for him?

Refrain

You made him a little lower than the heavenly | beings*

and crowned him with glory and | honor.

You made him ruler over the works | of your hands;*

you put everything un- | der his feet.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit,

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 22:12-17, 20

¹² “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁵ Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

¹⁶ “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

¹⁷ The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

A final revelation of encouragement promises that the High Priest who now prays for us will come again, and soon! He will come with reward in hand to invite the faithful into the eternal city. Beyond the treacherous reach of rampant evil, there is eternal safety and providence for the redeemed, for all those who thirst. Come to the eternal waters of life. Come, Lord Jesus.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

John 14:18

M Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Alleluia.



Our High priest has ascended his throne to sit at the right hand of the Father and intercede for his Church. In his High Priestly Prayer Jesus prays for the future Church, for us. In everything, our High Priest prays that we might enjoy the same relationship that Father and Son have enjoyed from eternity. The redemptive work complete, the connection through water and the Word established, our High Priest seeks for us unity, knowledge and eternal glory.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 17:20-26

Please stand.

[M] The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter seventeen.



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

20 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. 26 I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

[M] This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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.

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, My Great High Priest | CW 359

SERMON

Revelation 22:12-17, 20

¹² “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁵ Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

*Public confession is
faith's response to
God's saving Word.
The Apostles' Creed
has been in use in the
Christian Church for
nearly 2,000 years.*

¹⁶ “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

¹⁷ The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Come!

OFFERTORY

Please stand.

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

Be seated.

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, by our Offering we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

This morning each petition of the prayer will be prayed and then concluded in this way:

[M] ...Lord, in your mercy,

[C] **Hear our prayer.**

The final petition of the prayer will be concluded in this way:

[M] ...who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

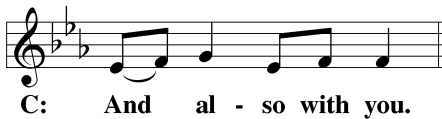
[C] **Amen.**

The Service of the Sacrament



SALUTATION

[M] The Lord be with you.



PREFACE

[M] Lift up your hearts.



[M] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



*In the era of the Reformation, announcements about births, deaths, and marriages were made after the sermon. Then prayers were offered. This is why the **Prayer of the Church** is often placed in this position in the Divine Service.*

"Because it has been accepted as a practice in the Christian church, that in the public assemblies of the church after the preaching and hearing of the Word, this Sacrament is celebrated, therefore this custom must not be departed from without urgent necessity. It is...clear from Acts 20:7 and 1 Cor. 11:20,33 that whenever the [early] Christians did gather at one place, they were accustomed to celebrate the Eucharist."

— Johann Gerhard

The words of the **Proper Preface** are a part of the Proper, or a component of the liturgy that is specific to a particular day of the Church Year. This particular Preface is appropriate (or "Proper") during the season of Easter.

[M] It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – *Sanctus*

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

[M] Blessed are you, O God Almighty, who through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, created all things and made mankind in your own image.

Blessed are you, O merciful Father, for when Adam sinned and lost your image, you did not forsake the people you had created. You sent your only begotten Son to take on human flesh through the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary. As our substitute, he fulfilled all of your laws in our place and died the death we deserve because of our sin.

For all of your undeserved love toward us, we give thanks and praise to your living and life-giving name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured

Medieval monks are credited with the custom of ringing a bell three times during the Lord's Prayer. The idea was to alert people in the area surrounding the monastery or church that the Lord's Prayer was being spoken in those buildings and they could join in from a distance. The bell peal at the beginning, middle and end of the Lord's Prayer helped those distant prayers keep pace with those who were praying the prayer inside the buildings.

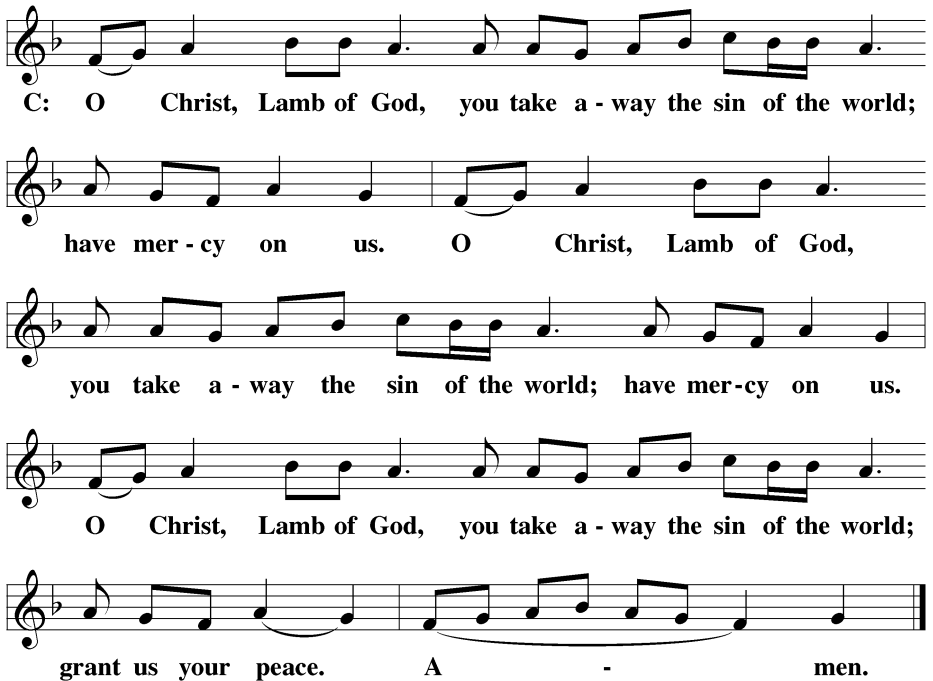
out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Even in the Easter season—and especially today as we recognize Jesus as our High Priest—through this canticle we are reminded of Good Friday: that Jesus is God’s Lamb, who was offered as a sacrifice for sin, once for all.

LAMB OF GOD — *Agnus Dei*



Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion today may wish to read **Personal Preparation for Holy Communion**, found on page 156 in the front section of the hymnal. This page helps us put into practice what the Bible encourages: “Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.” (1 Corinthians 11:28)

*Good Shepherd confesses and practices the Biblical teaching of a **Closed Communion**. We ask that only members of the Wisconsin Synod [WELS] or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS] join us at the Lord’s Table. If you have questions concerning our communion practice, or would like to inquire about how you, too, can commune with us, please speak with the Pastor following the service.*

Prayer suggestions for before and after receiving the Lord's Supper can be found in the hymnal on pages 10-11 and 134-139.

In dismissing the communicants, the minister says:

- [M] Now, may this true body and blood strengthen and keep you in the true faith to life everlasting. Your sins ✠ are forgiven. Go in peace. Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON — *Nunc Dimittis*

Please stand.

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

- [M] O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

- [M] O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

This prayer, which we often pray, was included in a version of the Divine Service written by Martin Luther in 1526. We ask God to work powerfully in our lives through what he has just given to us.

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

*The **blessing** of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them." (cf. Numbers 6:27)*

BLESSING

- ☒ 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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

How Great Thou Art | CW 256



Announcements

BIBLE CLASS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY! Following the service today, Sunday School and Bible Class will meet. Sunday School will begin at 10:45 at the front of the church. Bible Class will begin at 10:55 in the Multipurpose Room. We will be continuing our look at Paul’s letter to the Romans, chapters 1-8.

CONGREGATIONAL OPEN FORUM & VOTERS’ MEETING Next Sunday, May 15, the annual Spring Voters’ Meeting will be held in lieu of Bible Class. Copies of the agenda were emailed and are also available on the table in the entry way. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER A copy of the newest “A Congregation at Prayer” is available on the table in the entryway. This packet is not only a good outline for personal and family devotions, but it also includes an up-to-date prayer list for those in (and outside) our congregation.

This Week’s Calendar

Wednesday, May 11.....7p — *Connection Sinai to Calvary* Bible Class

Sunday, May 15.....9:30a — Festival of Pentecost Service with Lord’s Supper
10:45 — Sunday School
10:55 — *Spring Voters’ Meeting*

Ushers: Phil Brei & Matthew Brei

Greeter: R. Adelung Family

Sound Tech: Jamie Scott

.....
Cleaning (5/8-5/14)*Church*—Harp; *Fellowship*—Powers; *Ed. Bldg.*—Reinsch
Mowing.....Webb
.....



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