

JESUS PROMISES TO SEND HIS HOLY SPIRIT, THE HELPER

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Cantate

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN | Kearney, NE

A member congregation of:

WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Sunday, April 29, 2018

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 **Large-Print Service Folder** is also available if you are in need of it. 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 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Cantate means "sing." This is the first word of Psalm 98, appointed for this day. Psalm 98 is a joyous psalm that ascribes glory and praise to God for His great redemptive work—giving His only-begotten Son Jesus Christ to die for the sins of the world, and then to rise to new life on the first Easter morning. Christ is the Right Hand and Holy Arm of God, God in the flesh. Christ is the Righteousness revealed to the nations. Christ is our salvation, "the salvation of our God." By God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ, we, like all Christians of all time, are saved. Those who follow the propers carefully will note that the Gospel readings appointed for *Jubilate* (last week), Cantate (this week), and Rogate (next week) are all from the sixteenth chapter of St. John.

Today we get to sing to the Lord the "new song" born from the marvelous things and the salvation Our Lord openly shows (*Psalm of the Day*). This salvation is the Holy Spirit who is the "good and perfect gift from above" (*Second Lesson*). The Spirit's salvation is to guide us into all truth (*Gospel*). And by the Spirit we pray the Father that we may "love what you command and desire what you promise" (*Collect*).

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

Presiding Minister	Pr. Nathanael Seelow
Preaching Minister	Pr. Jesse Stern
Keyboardist	
Greeter	
Ushers	Randy Webb & Tony Wenz

THE DIVINE SERVICE

The Service of Word & Sacrament — Christian Worship, pg. 26



OPENING HYMN

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain | CW 142

INVOCATION

2 Corinthians 13:14

Please stand.

- M The grace of our Lord ❖ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellow-ship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- M If we say we have fellowship with him but still walk in darkness,
- we are lying and do not put the truth into practice.
- M But if we walk in the light, just as he is in the light,
- we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus 1 John 1:6,7 Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

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

We confess: Holy and merciful Father, 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

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, employer, or employee? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you hurt anyone by word or deed? Have you been dishonest, careless, wasteful, or done other wrong?

> — Small Catechism

M

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

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.
- C Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — Kyrie

Matthew 20:30; Mark 10:47; Psalm 6:2

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



Kyrie eleison [kir-ē-ā ə-lā-ə-sān] is a Greek phrase meaning "Lord, have mercy." We have already received the mercy of God for forgiveness in Holy Absolution. Now we ask his mercy for all other things we need for a God-pleasing spiritual life.

Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



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



CW 265

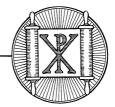




Dignus est Agnus, Latin for "Worthy is the Lamb," is an exclusively Lutheran canticle of the liturgy. It is sung in place of the Gloria in Excelsis during the season of Easter and on the last Sunday of the Church year-Christ the King. It is most certainly an appropriate song to sing as the Church has always had at the center of its theology the Lamb of God who shed his blood upon the Cross to save a fallen race.



The Service of the Word



PRAYER OF THE DAY — Collect



Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be seated.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 12:1-6

N THAT DAY YOU WILL SAY, "I will give thanks to you, LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger has turned away, and you comfort me. ² Surely God is my salvation. I will trust and will not be afraid; for the LORD Yahweh is my strength and song, and he has become my salvation." ³ Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

⁴ In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the LORD! Proclaim his name. Declare his deeds among the peoples. Proclaim that his name is exalted! ⁵ Sing to the LORD, for he has done amazing things! Let this be known in all the earth! ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, daughter of Zion, for the Holy One of Israel is great among you!"

The Collect serves to prepare the congregation for the reception of the special Word of the Day, now about to be read. In it pastor and people pray for the particular grace which that Word offers and conveys.

Confident of our resurrection with Christ we confess, "Surely God is my salvation. I will trust and will not be afraid."

- M The Word of the Lord.
- C Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 98 | CW p. 103





Refrain

Sing to the LORD a | new song, for he has done mar- | velous things.

The LORD has made his sal- | vation known and revealed his righteousness to the | nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of | Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

Refrain

Shout for joy to the LORD, | all the earth, burst into jubilant song with | music; make music to the LORD | with the harp, with the harp and the sound of | singing.

The "old song" was one of despair sung on the way out of the Garden of Eden. The "new song" is based not on our creativity, but on the salvation and mercy of our Lord toward the whole earth (v 1-3). Everything in creation joins in this song (v 4-8). It reaches its climax until the Lord comes (v 9). Yet the Lord's coming will not produce another song of fear, but will continue the song of joy. For the Lord's judgment means the end of death and the beginning of new life!



Shout for joy before the | LORD, the King. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with | equity.

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

James 1:16-21

O NOT BE DECEIVED, my dear brothers. ¹⁷ Every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, who does not change or shift like a shadow. ¹⁸ Just as he planned, he gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of his creations.

¹⁹ Remember this, my dear brothers: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry. ²⁰ Certainly, a man's anger does not bring about what is right before God. ²¹ So after getting rid of all moral filthiness and overflowing wickedness, receive with humility the word planted in you. It is able to save your souls.

- M The Word of the Lord.
- Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand.



"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights" through Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit helps us by taking what is Christ's and declaring it to us. In the Word of truth, the Spirit works repentance and delivers to us the forgiveness of sins, the righteousness of Christ, and victory over the devil. For the ruler of this world is judged and defeated by the cross.



HOLY GOSPEL

Iohn 16:5-15

The Holy Gospel appointed for the Fifth Sunday of Easter according to St. M John, chapter sixteen.

UT NOW I AM GOING AWAY to him who sent me, and not one of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' 6 Yet because I have told you these things, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth: It is good for you that I go away. For if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment: 9 about sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me; 11 about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

12 "I still have many things to tell you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. For he will not speak on his own, but whatever he hears he will speak. He will also declare to you what is to come. 14 He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. 15 Everything the Father has is mine. This is why I said that he takes from what is mine and will declare it to you."

Though Jesus has departed from us visibly to the right hand of the Father who sent Him, yet this is to our advantage. For Jesus -who is Lord over all creation, who intercedes for us before the Father, who is preparing a place for us in heaven—has sent the Helper, the Spirit of Truth.

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice | CW 377 (1, 8-10)

SERMON

Loving Laundry | Acts 9:36-42

N JOPPA THERE WAS A DISCIPLE named Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was always doing good deeds and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became sick and died. After they had washed her, they laid her in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Since Lydda is near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, who urged him, "Come to us without delay!"

³⁹ Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, they led him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing him the robes and clothing that Dorcas made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰ After Peter sent them all outside, he got down on his knees and prayed. Then he turned toward the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her stand up. After he called the saints and the widows, he presented her to them alive.

⁴² This became known all over Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

NICENE CREED

Please stand.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. Jn. 14:1; Dt. 6:4 2 Pet. 1:17; Rev. 4:8 Is. 54:5; Gen. 1:1,8; Jer. 51:15 Gen. 1:31; Col. 1:16 The Nicene Creed is the great Confession of the Christian faith professed by all Christian denominations. In the Lutheran Church, we hold the Nicene Creed as the second Confession or Symbol of our faith in the Book of Concord. The Creed originated at the First Council of Nicaea (c. A.D. 325) and was finalized at the First Council of Constantinople (c. A.D. 381), which are respectively known as the First and Second Ecumenical Councils of the Church. The Creed itself was crafted as a confession of Scripture in opposition to the Arian heresy, which denied that the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit

are God.

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.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,	1 Cor. 8:6
the only Son of God,	Jn. 3:18
eternally begotten of the Father,	Heb. 1:2,5
God from God, Light from Light, true God from tru	e God, Jn. 1
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.	Jn. 10:30
Through him all things were made.	Jn. 1:3
For us and for our salvation,	1 Th. 5:9
he came down from heaven,	Jn. 6:38
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mar	y, Lk. 1:35
and became fully human.	Gal. 4:4
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.	Mk. 15:15
He suffered death and was buried.	1 Cor. 15:3-4a
On the third day he rose again in accordance	1 Cor. 15:4b
with the Scriptures.	
He ascended into heaven	Ac. 2:33-34
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.	Heb. 1:13
He will come again in glory	Mt. 25:31
to judge the living and the dead,	2 Tim.4:1
and his kingdom will have no end.	Lk. 1:33
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,	Job 33:4
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,	Jn. 15:26
who in unity with the Father and the Son	Jn. 4:24
is worshiped and glorified,	
who has spoken through the prophets.	2 Pet.1:25
We believe in one holy Christian	Mt. 16:18; Eph. 2:19-20
and apostolic Church.	
We believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.	Eph. 4:5; Ac. 2:38
We look for the resurrection of the dead	1 Cor. 15:21-22
and the life of the world to come. Amen.	<i>Rev.</i> 22

Be seated.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

M Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence.

- M O Father of lights, You have revealed Your righteousness in the sight of the nations. Remember those whom You raise up to make known Your deeds among the peoples. Bless all pastors and missionaries, that the Word of truth would be proclaimed in all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
 - c hear our prayer.
- M O Father of lights, Your Son has promised that the gates of Hades shall not prevail against His Church and has charged us to love our enemies and pray for them. Therefore, we earnestly implore You to remember in mercy the enemies of Your Church, that they would be made to hear Your Word of truth and be led to true repentance and faith. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.
- O Father of lights, all the earth worships You and sings praises to You. Kindle the fire of Your love in all those who make music to You. Cause them to beautify the world and spurn the works of darkness. Bless especially all those who make music, sing, plant, tend and beautify this holy house of prayer. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.
- M O Father of lights, Your anger toward us has been turned away by the work of our High Priest, whose sacrifice on the cross is the propitiation for our sins. Yet, for the sake of good order, You still must rule Your left-hand kingdom with law and justice. Give wise counsel to all in authority, especially the president, Congress and justices of the United States. Bring an end to violence and chaos, especially that which is inflicted on the weakest among us through abortion, infanticide and assisted suicide. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

accordance with Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy, **c** hear our prayer.

The Service of the Sacrament

SALUTATION

Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22

M The Lord be with you.



PREFACE

M Lift up your hearts.

Lamentations 3:41



M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalm 136



Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who

The words of the
Proper Preface
(italics) 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.

The Service of the Sacrament begins with the **Salutation** (as did the Service of

the Word). Once again, the congre-

gation assents that the Pastor has their approval to speak on their behalf. Additionally, in the Preface, the Pastor encourages

the congregation to "lift up their hearts"

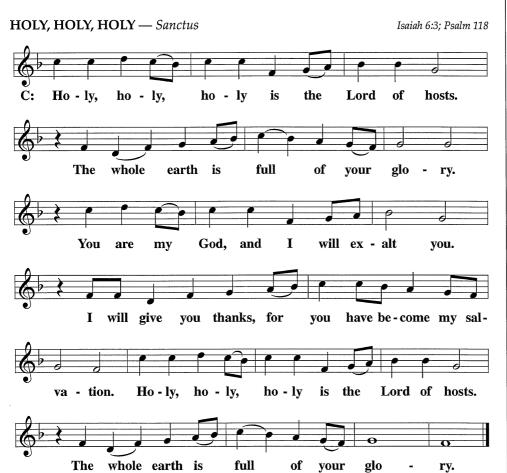
and "to give thanks" as he gives thanks on

their behalf in the Proper Preface and the Eucharistic Prayer.

M

sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

Sanctus means
"holy." Used possibly
as early as the 2nd
century, this canticle
was in wide use
among Christians in
worship by the 14th
century.



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M Blessed are you, O God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. By his victory over the grave, our Savior declared death's reign ended, the door to heaven open, and the payment for sin complete.

We celebrate with joy the glorious resurrection of your Son. We marvel at the depth of your love.

This Prayer of Thanksgiving is appropriate for Easter. We pray out of thanks (cf. the Salutation: "Let us give thanks to the Lord.") for the Easter blessings we receive in this Sacrament through the sacrifice of God's Son and ask that he bless us through the eating and drinking of Christ's body and blood.

We stand in awe of your power.

We are humbled by the compassion you have shown our fallen race.

Lead us to rejoice in the pardon offered and sealed in this Sacrament and to live a life worthy of your name. The Lord Jesus lives! Alleluia.

c Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER — Pater Noster

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

- M Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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 — Verba

Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

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

Worshippers may make the sign of the cross in the seventh petition as they pray to be "delivered from evil." This action serves as a remembrance of baptism and its connection to Christ's death on the cross, the means by which God has delivered us all from evil

and why we pray that

he will "grant us a

blessed end and graciously take us from

this world of sorrow

to himself in heaven."

The pastor speaks the Lord's own words.
These words give and bestow what they declare: the body and blood of Christ.

PEACE OF THE LORD — Pax Domini

John 20:19

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.





DISTRIBUTION

Be seated.

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)

The Pax Domini is drawn from Jesus' greeting to the Apostles after his resurrection from the dead: "Peace be to you." The Pastor offers us the same peace in the presence of the risen Christ in bread and wine.

In the Agnus Dei (Latin for "Lamb of God") we confess the mercy and peace that we receive from the Lamb of God in His Supper. We come to the Lord's Table hungry and thirsty, and He feeds us with His body and refreshes us with His blood. It is the Lord's Supper, As Luther reminds us, "Our Lord is at one and the same time chef, cook, butler, host, and food."

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.

Using the words of King David as the Ark of the Covenant was placed in the Tabernacle, we thank the Lord and praise him for what he has done. He sustains us in this precious service with His very body and blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.

The Antiphon (responsive reading) and Collect (prayer) echoes the words of St. Paul. We are reminded that the Lord's Supper does not merely look back in time, commemorating and remembering a meal celebrated long ago, but it also looks forward to the feast in the presence of the Lord on the Last Day.

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.

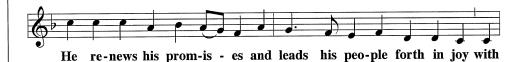
THANK THE LORD

1 Chronicles 16:8-10



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.







POST-COMMUNION ANTIPHON & COLLECT

- M Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
- we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

M Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be

restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

Numbers 6:22-27

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.



Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus, Jesus, Only Jesus | CW 348

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."



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