

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

Opening Bells and lighting of the candles

Pastor: He is Risen!

People: He is Risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn – “This Joyful Eastertide” (LSB # 482)

This joyful Eastertide away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow:

Refrain

*Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst His three day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen,
But now has Christ arisen!*

Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river:
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver;

Refrain

*Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst His three day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen,
But now has Christ arisen!*

My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number:

Refrain

*Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst His three day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen,
But now has Christ arisen! Amen.*

Invocation:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

All: I a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Collect of the Day:

Pastor: O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

Readings for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:16-31

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." ¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷ For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹ After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the

imprisoned spirits—²⁰ to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water,²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,²² who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

The Apostles’ Creed (Spoken together)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence 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**

Sermon Hymn – “Jesus, Lead Thou On” (LSB # 718)

Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won;
And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow calm and fearless,
Guide us by Thy hand, to our fatherland.

If the way be drear, if the foe be near,
Let not faithless fears o’ertake us;
Let not hope and faith forsake us;
For through many’a woe to our home we go.

When we seek relief from a longfelt grief,
When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring.
Show us that bright shore where we weep no more.

Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won;
Heav’nly leader, still direct us,
Still support, console, protect us,
Till we safely stand in our fatherland. Amen.

Sermon : “The Calm, Christ-centered voice of the Church” – 1 Peter 3:14-17

Prayer of the Church

After each petition:

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord,

All: Lord, have mercy.

The Lord’s Prayer(Spoken together)

**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.**

Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

All: Amen

Closing Hymn – “Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling” (LSB # 827)

Hark, the voice of Jesus calling, “Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth; rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me?”

Some take up His task in morning; to their Lord responding soon;
Some are called in heat of midday, others late in afternoon;
Even as the sun is setting, some are sent into the fields,
There to gather in the bounty that God’s Word so richly yields.

For as rain and snow from heaven water seeds in dusty soil,
Causing them to bud and flower, giving bread to those who toil;
So the Lord sends forth His promise; words of life and joy and peace—
Never void to Him returning, bearing fruit with great increase.

Hearken to the Lord who coming marks the time when grace shall end,
When with His angelic reapers He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest; soon the time for work shall cease.
Then the souls His grace has garnered shall enjoy His Sabbath peace. Amen.