

Sixth Sunday of Easter/Ascension

May 21, 2017



BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Joel F. Kluender

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HYMN— #170—*Draw Us to Thee*

STAND

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:
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

Mark 10:47

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

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life,
hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith
in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear
our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

1. All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.
2. Our grateful thanks to you we bring,
For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.
3. O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
You take all human sin away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
From God's right hand, your mercy share.
4. You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
"All glory be to God!" Amen.

THE WORD

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:1-11 (EHV)

¹I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching ²until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God.

⁴Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me. ⁵For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they were together with him, they asked, "Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 47

Refrain

Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.

Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone

Refrain

Clap your hands, all you nations;*
shout to God with cries of joy.
How awesome is the LORD Most High,*
the great King over all the earth!
God reigns over the nations;*
God is seated on his holy throne.

Refrain

God has ascended amid shouts of joy,*
the LORD amid the sounding of t trumpets.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;*
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth;*
sing to him a psalm of praise.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:16-23 (EHV)

¹⁶I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is, ¹⁹and just how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe. ²⁰It is as

great as the working of his mighty strength, which God worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion, and above every name that is given, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church. ²³The church is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age. Alleluia. (*Matthew 28:20b*)

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the

mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53 (EHV)

M: The Gospel according to Luke chapter twenty-four.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

⁴⁴He said to them, "These are my words, which I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms."

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He said to them, "This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵²So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

BE SEATED

HYMN— #173—*On Christ's Ascension I Now Build*

SERMON (*sermon text Acts 1:1-11*)

"Get Your Head Out of the Clouds!"

STAND

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son,
Jesus Christ, from the dead.

C: Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

C: Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.

M: Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

C: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.

M: Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

C: Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.

M: Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

C: Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

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, who rose from the dead in glorious triumph to bring forgiveness to the world and everlasting life to all who believe. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Tune: Munich

1. O holy, holy, holy Lord God, to You we pray,
The heavens show Your glory, The earth Your works display.
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,
And in Your grace and mercy Receive our fervent cry.

2. Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is He
Who in God's name is coming To set His people free!
He comes to bring salvation And with His blood outpoured
Deliver us from bondage—Hosanna, mighty Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we **remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.**

By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts.
Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

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 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.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

(The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord’s Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. For this reason, we ask that only members of Bethany or other WELS or ELS congregations partake in this special meal.)

HYMN #341—Crown Him with Many Crowns

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON

Tune: Munich

1. O Lord, now let your servant Depart in peace, assured:
 For I have seen your promised Incarnate, saving Word—
 A Light that will enlighten All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
 The brilliant, crowning glory Of those in Israel!

2. All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
 All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three-in-One;
 For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
 God’s triune name resounding Through all eternity.

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you give us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. We pray that through this precious gift of yourself you would feed our faith, nourish our hope, and strengthen our love that we might live as your people now, and as your guests forever at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: 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: Amen.

HYMN #169—*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*



REFORMATION

GRACE. FAITH. SCRIPTURE.



500

2017 Reformation Festival Service

hosted by the WELS Ohio Conference
Saturday November 4, 2017 at 3:00pm, with dinner following
St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

News And Notes

WELCOME!

Welcome to worship! We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us today. Guests, if there is anything we can do to make your worship more meaningful, please do not hesitate to ask us.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

A special "thank you" to those who served their Lord by serving us this morning, our violinists, our organist, and our ushers. Thank you for edifying and beautifying our worship with your service.

PRESCHOOL GRADUATION THIS WEDNESDAY, LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FRIDAY

This is a bittersweet week in the history of Bethany. While we rejoice in the opportunity for new future ministries, a blessed chapter is also coming to an end. Preschool graduation for our last class year is this Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. All are welcome to join us and are encouraged to do so. The last day of school is Friday. Please take the opportunity to show your support both for our preschool families and for our teacher, Vicki Fronk. Thank you!

COUNCIL MEETING THIS THURSDAY

Council members — please make every effort to attend our monthly meeting this Thursday at 7:00 P.M. A number of agenda items which will impact our future ministries will be discussed and it is important to have the broadest participation possible. Thank you!

PIRATES BREWERS GAME SIGNUP SHEET — PLEASE DO JOIN US!

Please take the opportunity to signup for the July 17th baseball game between the Pirates and the Brewers. It is essential that if you are going, you sign up soon, as we need 15 people to sign up to get the \$19 ticket rate. Our goal is to have at least 15 and obtain the tickets by end of this month, to avoid a sellout, The sooner the better!

REFORMATION FESTIVAL SERVICE IN COLUMBUS, OHIO, NOVEMBER 4th

A signup space has been established on our whiteboard to indicate your interest in the Saturday, November 4th joint Reformation festival service at St. Paul's, Columbus. The service is at 3 PM with a fellowship meal to follow. Bethany will be attending — the question is simply how many of us, and do we need a van? Please help us determine this by indicating your interest, at least in a preliminary sense. THANKS!

LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP

In last Sunday's worship, 41 people were fed and strengthened by the Word of God.

Our Walk For God

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	7:00p Bible Study	7:00p Preschool Graduation	7:00p Council Meeting	Last Day of Preschool Happy Birthday Kathy Stadler!		9:00a Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30a Worship 12:10p Catechism

Serving next Sunday: Alter: Stadler; Greeter: Schult; Ushers: Team B