

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER HOLY COMMUNION

16 May 2021

GATHERING

OPENING HYMN

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

1. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood.”
2. Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us;
faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o’er,
shall our hearts forget his promise:
“I am with you evermore”?

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THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

People: **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Now the Feast”

Refrain:

**Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life
and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

1. Now is the feast
of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God.

Refrain

2. Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever.

Refrain

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new.

Refrain

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SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **God, our creator and redeemer, your Son Jesus prayed that his followers might be one. By your Holy Spirit, hold the church in unity, and keep us faithful to your calling, so that we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service, now and forever. Amen**

WORD

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

Donald Fishel, comp.

THE FIRST LESSON

1 John 5:9-13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

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ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia, alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia!

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THE GOSPEL

John 17:6-19

*In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—
his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.*

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE SERMON

Pastor Aaron Couch

HYMN OF THE DAY

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

1. In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.
2. In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.
3. Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.
4. In Christ now meet
both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Assistant: Made alive in Christ and filled with God's Spirit, let us pray for the church,
the world, and all of God's creation.

After each petition...

Assistant: Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude...

Pastor: Receive our prayers, merciful God, and fill us with the risen life of Christ our
Lord.

People: **Amen**

HOLY COMMUNION

SHARING THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

SETTING THE TABLE

Refrain:

**As the grains of wheat
once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one
to become our bread;
so may all your people
from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.**

1. As this cup of blessing
is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love.

Refrain

2. Let this be a foretaste
of all that is to come
when all creation shares
this feast with you.

Refrain

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor: Holy and living God, we give you thanks for Jesus...

...Through Christ all honor and glory is yours, O God, now and forever.

People: **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread. As this gathering becomes Christ's table, we all are known and loved.

BLESSING

Pastor: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and these gifts of Christ's body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

People: Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray.

People: In this meal, O God, you have strengthened us by the risen life of your Son. As you send us into the world, guide us on paths of justice and teach us to live as servants to one another. In Christ's name we pray. Amen

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SENDING

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, restore, support, strengthen and bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amen

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CLOSING HYMN

“Thine the Amen”

1. Thine the amen thine the praise
alleluias angels raise
thine the everlasting head
thine the breaking of the bread
thine the glory thine the story
thine the harvest then the cup
thine the vineyard then the cup
is lifted up lifted up.
2. Thine the life eternally
thine the promise let there be
thine the vision thine the tree
all the earth on bended knee
gone the nailing gone the railing
gone the pleading gone the cry
gone the sighing gone the dying
what was loss lifted high.
3. Thine the truly thine the yes
thine the table we the guest
thine the mercy all from thee
thine the glory yet to be
thine the ringing and the singing
then the end of all the war
thine the living thine the loving
evermore evermore.
4. Thine the kingdom thine the prize
thine the wonderful surprise
thine the banquet then the praise
then the justice of thy ways
thine the glory thine the story
then the welcome to the least
thine the wonder all increasing
at thy feast at thy feast.
5. Thine the glory in the night
no more dying only light
thine the river thine the tree
then the Lamb eternally
then the holy holy holy
celebration jubilee
thine the splendor thine the brightness
only thee only thee.

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SENDING

Assistant: Go in peace. Through you Christ blesses the world.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!