

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

Service of the Word

May 10, 2020

**PRELUDE** *Berceuse from Suite Bretonne* | Marcel Dupré

## Gathering

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN #380** Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?  
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;  
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.  
5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom-y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,  
Christ who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,  
joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;  
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n - ly birth.  
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
 lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his church be - low.  
 with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.  
 Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.  
 Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.  
 Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

**KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*  
  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

  
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.


*Refrain*  
  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

  
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*  
  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

  
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

  
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*  
  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*  
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O Christ the Way, the Truth, and the Life: give us grace to see the Father in you. Make us know satisfaction in following the way of your cross, that we might share your crucified and risen life. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Word**

**FIRST READING** Acts 7:55–60

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. Look, he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16**

*The cantor/choir and congregation alternate in the singing of psalm verses, beginning with the cantor.*

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;\*  
deliver me | in your righteousness.

Incline your | ear to me;\*  
make haste to de- | liver me.

**Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag | and my stronghold;\*  
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.**

**Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,\*  
for you are my tow- | er of strength.**

Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,\*  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, | God of truth.

My times are | in your hand;\*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.

Let your face shine up- | on your servant;\*  
save me in your | steadfast love.

**SECOND READING** 1 Peter 2:2–10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Sung before and after Gospel. First time, sung by cantor; second time, sung by all.*

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

**GOSPEL** John 14:1–14

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY #816** Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

1 Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a  
 2 Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a  
 3 Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a

way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all  
 light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in  
 joy as none can move; such a love as none can

strife; such a life as kill - eth death.  
 length; such a strength as makes his guest.  
 part; such a heart as joys in love.

Text: George Herbert, 1593–1632  
 Music: THE CALL, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958  
 Outside USA: Music © 1911 Stainer and Bell, Ltd., 23 Grunstein Road, London N3 1DZ, UK. www.stainer.co.uk.

**NICENE CREED**

**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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**



# Sending

## BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN #758 You Are the Way



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;  
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;  
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.  
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## POSTLUDE The Rhythmic Trumpet *from Suite Baroques* | Seth Bingham



# Today

## from the life of the church

Thou who art over us,  
Thou who are one of us,  
Thou who art —  
Also within us,  
May all see Thee — in me also,  
May I thank Thee for all that shall fall to my lot,  
May I also not forget the needs of others,  
Keep me in Thy love  
As Thou wouldst that all should be kept in mine.  
May everything in this my being be directed to Thy glory,  
And may I never despair.  
For I am under Thy hand,  
And in Thee is all power and goodness.  
Give me a pure heart —  
that I may see Thee,  
A humble heart —  
that I may hear Thee,  
A heart of love —  
that I may serve Thee,  
A heart of faith —  
that I may abide in Thee.  
Amen.

*Dag Hammarskjold*  
(1905 – 1961)

### **Luther Memorial Church staff**

The Rev. Brad Pohlman, *Senior Pastor*  
The Rev. John Worzala Dumke, *Associate Pastor*  
The Rev. Rebecca Ninke, *Visitation Pastor*  
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