

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

May 16, 2021

8:30 & 11:00 Services

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Introduction for the Day: The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome to Worship

(Please stand as you are able)

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

When we were baptized, we died and were buried with Christ.

We were baptized so that we might have a new life, as Christ was raised to life by the glory of God.

Therefore, let us confess our sins to God so that we may receive the gifts our Savior desires to give.

(We pause for meditation and self-examination)

Almighty and all-merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Christ is risen.

Risen indeed!

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

Amen.

Gathering Song

#392 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus [Stanza 2]

Please meditate on the hymn text.

*Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us; faith believed, 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"?*

Text: Williams C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt. Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887. Tune: Hyfrydol 87 87D.

Opening Litany for the Seventh Sunday of Easter & Apostolic Greeting

The Lord is Risen!

He is risen indeed!

The Lord is near to those who journey forward in faith.

Guard and protect us as we seek to deepen our faith.

The Lord is near to those who trust in him at all times.

Guard and protect us as we face difficulties.

The Lord is near to all those in his care.

Guard and protect us as we live as your loved ones here on this earth.

The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be
with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

(Please be seated)

Reading

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.

A reading from 1st John, Chapter 5.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 1, Read Responsively

The LORD knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)

Let us read responsively from Psalm 1.

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore, the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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.

The holy gospel according to John, the 17th chapter.

[Jesus prayed:] “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Acclamation

#393 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing [Stanza 5]

Please meditate on the hymn text.

*O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia!
Alleluia!*

*You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia!
Alleluia!*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Bede, 673-735; tr. LBW. Text Copyright © 1998 LBW, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used with permission. OneLicense.net A-703603. Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623. Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen, LM and Alleluias.

(Please stand as you are able)

Reading

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

A reading from Acts, Chapter 1.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry."

So, one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So, they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Sheila Rawn

Hymn of the Day

#420 By All Your Saints [Stanza 12]

Please meditate on the hymn text.

*Lord, your abiding presence directs the wondrous choice;
The lot falls to Matthias, the faithful now rejoice.
May we as true apostles your holy church defend,
And by your parting promise be with us to the end.*

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823-1913, alt. Tune: Aurelia 76 76D. Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876.

(Please stand as you are able)

Profession of Faith

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,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

...We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Peace of Christ

Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled." The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Meal

Musical Offering [5-26-2019-Video]

Peace I Give You by Craig Courtney
 Senior Choir

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.

Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Healing Liturgy

Jesus said: 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.'

Look upon us with mercy and bless us with your healing Spirit.

Bring us comfort amid pain, light to illuminate our darkness,

And strengthen us in our journey.

Pastoral Prayer - Prayer for the Sick and Weary

God of hope and healing,

Be with those whose bodies burn with fever, rage with pain, struggle for breath, crave addictive substances.

Be with those whose minds and emotions face the wait of a diagnosis, wrestle with the choices for treatment, adapt to a life altered by chronic illness, recover from abuse, push against the encroaching clouds of dementia.

Be with those whose spirits are exhausted, doubt the existence of love, struggle with depression, stare into the face of death.

Cool the fever, bring balm to pain, ease the fight for air, adapt the body for new ways to move, calm the cravings, build trust in your everlasting love and care.

God of all,

hear our prayer.

Pastoral Prayer - Prayer for the Caregiver

God of comfort and strength,

Be with those whose backs ache with the weight of lifting, whose hands are raw from the constant washing, whose eyes close frequently from lack of sleep, whose bodies feel broken and weary.

Be with those whose anxiety runs high, whose thoughts do not go beyond the next moment, whose tears have flowed until there are no more, whose patience has worn thin, whose minds and emotions have become fragile.

Be with those whose spirit is exhausted by the many demands, doubt the existence of love, questions the fairness of life, stare into the reality of losing a loved one to death.

Soothe the body and ease the pain. Calm the anxiety and fear. Build trust in your everlasting presence and love.

God of all,

hear our prayer.

Healing Prayer

Let us pray. O Creator and Mighty God,

**you have promised strength for the weak, rest for the laborers, light for the way,
grace for the trials, help from above, unfailing sympathy, undying love.**

Living God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, grant comfort in suffering to all who
are in need of healing.

Amen.

A time of Reflection [Video and live Music]

Invitation to Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you bid us to share your one bread and body with all Christians,
everywhere. Unify your people. Make us one, one in you.

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat, and be satisfied.

Please take your belongings with you to communion.

Communion Hymn

#471 Let Us Break Bread Together

Please meditate on the hymn text.

*Let us break bread together on our knees; Let us break bread together on our
knees.*

*When I fall on my my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy
on me.*

Let us drink wine together on our knees; Let us drink wine together on our knees.

*When I fall on my my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy
on me. when humbly in your name two or three are met together, you are
in the midst of them. Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's
hem.*

Text & Music: African American Spiritual. Tune: Break Bread Together 10 10 Refrain.