



# LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A Growing Family of Faith*

May 16, 2021

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Ascension Sunday**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASTORAL GREETING**

**INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP** *Based on Psalm 47 (please rise as you are able)*

P: We are called together to worship today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen!**

P. Come and worship, people of God!

**C. Let's celebrate with songs of praise!**

P. For our God-the Most High-is seated on His holy throne,

**C. Sovereign over all the earth!**

**ALL: Let's worship God together.**

**GATHERING SONG** "I Offer My Life"

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

P: Most merciful God,

**C. We confess that we are in bondage 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**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** *Congregational response: AMEN*

**(Please be seated)**

**WORSHIP SONG** "Alleluia, Sing to Jesus"

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS** **FIRST LESSON**

R. The first lesson is from the book of Acts chapter 1, verses 15-17, 21-26:

<sup>15</sup> In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, <sup>16</sup> "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. <sup>17</sup> For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>21</sup> So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord

Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup> beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup> And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup> And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup> to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup> And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

R. This is the word of the Lord **C. *Thanks be to God.***

**RESPONSIVE PSALM** R. The responsive Psalm is Psalm 8:

R. <sup>1</sup>O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

**C. <sup>2</sup>*Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.***

R. <sup>3</sup> When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

**C. <sup>4</sup>*what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?***

R. <sup>5</sup> Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

**C. <sup>6</sup>*You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet,***

R. <sup>7</sup> all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

**C. <sup>8</sup>*the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.***

R. <sup>9</sup> O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

R. Here ends the reading of the Psalm. Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

**GOSPEL LESSON** Please rise as you are able)

P. The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter, verses 9-17:

**C. *Glory to you, O Lord.***

<sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. <sup>12</sup> “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that

your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. <sup>17</sup> These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

P. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **NICENE CREED**

***I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***I 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.***

***I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

**(Please be seated)**

**SERMON SONG** “Hallelujah, Easter Version”

**MESSAGE** Pastor Michael Birnbaum

**OFFERING PRAYER and PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** (please rise as you are able)

*(Offering plates located at rear-thank you thank you, thank you!)*

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray.....**C. Bountiful God; we come with our offerings in response to your love.**

***With the new life in Christ, we give ourselves in service to others. Receive the work we do and the gifts we bring, that they may become a blessing in your sight. AMEN***

*Following general prayers, you are encouraged to share other prayer concerns out loud.  
Please close your prayer concern with “Lord in your mercy”.*

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P. It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise your name and join their unending proclamation: **C. (singing) Holy, holy, holy,**

***My heart, my heart adores You!  
My heart is glad to say, the words:  
You are holy, Lord!***

### **Communion Prayer, Consecration of Elements, Lord's Prayer**

**(Please be seated during distribution of communion)**

We welcome everyone to the Lord's Table who shares the Biblical belief that He is present (1 Cor. 10:16) and our sins are being forgiven as He promises (Matt.26:28). This sacrament is a truly wonderful opportunity to share this miracle and our oneness as the Body of Christ together! (1Cor. 10:17-18)

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE** "Thank the Lord" *(please rise as you are able)*

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING/BENEDICTION**

**SENDING SONG** "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

P. Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God!**

P. Christ is Risen! **C. He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

***God Bless You!***

***Invite a friend or relative to worship with us!***



### **COMING UP:**

- May 19, 26-Men's Bible Study and Breakfast 9 AM, Wednesday Lunch Group (contact Donna Ferguson for time and place)
- May 22-Women's Bible Study, 11-12, at church
- **MAY 23-PENTECOST-BE SURE TO WEAR SOMETHING RED!!**
- **May 23-Special Congregational Meeting after worship**
  - **To discuss Pastoral Transition**
- May 27-Blessed and Unstoppable, IHOP 5:30
- **May 30-Holy Trinity Sunday**
- **June 6-BLESSING OF THE PARSONAGE, NOON**
  - **976 Shadow Crest Way**



## MAY 23-SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO DISCUSS PASTORAL TRANSITION PROCESS.

Agenda and other documents will be sent by email to voting members. \*\*

*\*\*If you are not yet a voting member of Living Word Lutheran Church and desire to become such, please contact Pastor Birnbaum or our congregational president Bob Pressler for information on that process.*

### I Offer My Life

All that I am, all that I have  
I lay them down before You O Lord  
All my regrets, all my acclaim  
The joy and the pain  
I'm making them Yours

Chorus Lord I offer my life to You  
Everything I've been through  
Use it for Your glory  
Lord I offer my days to You  
Lifting my praise to You  
As a pleasing sacrifice  
Lord I offer You my life

Things in the past, things yet unseen  
Wishes and dreams  
That are yet to come true  
All of my hopes, all of my plans  
My heart and my hands  
Are lifted to You

Chorus  
What can we give  
That You have not given  
And what do we have  
That is not already Yours  
All we possess are  
These lives we're living  
And that's what  
We give to You Lord  
Chorus x 2

### Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

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.

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'

Alleluia! Bread of Heaven,  
Here on earth our food, our stay!  
Alleluia! here the sinful  
Flee to Thee from day to day:  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
Earth's redeemer, plead for me,  
Where the songs of all the sinless  
Sweep across the crystal sea.

*Text: Revelation 5:9; William C. Dix, 1837-1898 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus Type: Words and Music; First Line: Alleluia sing to Jesus Contributors: Public Domain Tune: HYFRYDOL, 8 7 8 7 D; Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887*

## **Hallelujah, Easter Version**

A crown of thorns placed on his head  
He knew that He would soon be dead,  
He said "Did you forget me, Father did you?"  
They nailed him to a wooden cross  
Soon all the world would feel the loss,  
Of Christ the King before us Hallelujah.  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

He hung his head and prepared to die  
Then lifted his face up to the sky,  
Said "I am coming home now, Father to you."  
A reed which held his final sip  
Was gently lifted to his lips,  
He drank his last and gave his soul to Glory.  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

The soldier who had used his sword  
To pierce the body of our Lord,  
Said truly this was Jesus Christ our Savior  
He looked with fear upon his sword,  
Then turned to face his Christ the Lord  
Fell to his knees crying Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Took from his head the thorny crown  
And wrapped him in a linen gown,  
Then laid him down to rest inside the tomb  
The holes in his hands, his feet, his side,  
Now in our hearts we know he died  
To save us from ourselves, Oh Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Three days went by, again they came  
To move the stone to bless the slain,  
With oil and spice anointing Hallelujah  
But as they went to move the stone  
They saw that they were not alone  
For Jesus Christ has Risen, Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

*Music: Leonard Cohen, Lyrics: Kelley Mooney*

## **Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise**

Thank the Lord and sing His praise;  
tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice  
and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises  
and leads His people forth in joy  
With shouts of thanksgiving.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

*Divine Service One, The Lutheran Service Book, CPH 2006)*

## **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne  
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own  
Awake my soul and sing, of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King, through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of love, behold His hands and side  
Rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified  
All hail, Redeemer, Hail, for Thou has died for me  
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity

Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave  
Who rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save  
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high  
Who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of heaven, One with the Father known  
One with the Spirit through Him given,  
From yonder glorious throne  
To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died  
Be Thou, O Lord through endless days  
Adored and magnified

We'll hail you as our matchless king  
Through all eternity

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