



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
**Babbtown (Meta 8 am)**  
**Schubert (Jefferson City 10 am)**

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***Seventh Sunday of Easter***  
***Exaudi Sunday***  
***June 1, 2025***

**Order of Worship:** Printed below  
(with P for Pastor, C for Congregation)  
or  
found on page 15 in The Lutheran Hymnal TLH

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"Exaudi" Sunday (meaning to "hear" or "listen") is set between Ascension and Pentecost as a time for us to stop and listen, to trust that God hears us and that we are prepared to continue to hear and speak about Christ and his Resurrection.



**The Ringing Of The Bell**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn: TLH #465 "Christ Is Our Cornerstone"**

Christ is our Corner-stone, On Him alone we build;  
With His true saints alone The courts of heav'n are filled.  
On His great love Our hopes we place Of present grace And joys above.

Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise The three in One to Sing  
And thus proclaim In joyful song, Both loud and long, That glorious name.

Here, gracious God, do Thou Forevermore draw nigh:  
Accept each faithful vow And mark each suppliant sigh.  
In copious show'r On all who pray Each holy day, Thy blessing pour.

Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we implore,  
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us evermore  
Until that day When all the blest To endless rest Are called away! Amen.

**Invocation: p. 15 [Responses Sung]**

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

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

**ALL: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**Absolution p. 16**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: [Sung] Amen.**

**Introit – Psalm 27 (read responsively)**

P: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud. Your face, Lord, do I seek; hide not your face from me.

**C: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

P: Teach me your way, O Lord; give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.

**C: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud. Your face, Lord, do I seek; hide not your face from me.**

**Gloria Patri: p.16 [Sung]**

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**The Kyrie: p.17 [Sung]**

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**The Gloria in Excelsis: p. 17-19 [Sung]**

**C: Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,**

**We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.**

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Salutation and Response:** p.19

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

**Collect** *(Prayed together)*

**O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above the heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father, for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading**

*Ezekiel 36:22-28*

"Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

**Epistle Reading**

*1 Peter 4:7-11*

The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

**The Gradual** *(The congregation responds with "Halleluiahs!")*

P: Alleluia. God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne. Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I am going away, and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice. Alleluia.

*As the Gospel reading is announced, the congregation sings...*

***Glory be to Thee, O Lord!***

**The Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 27:50-56*

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

*The Gospel ended, the congregation sings...*

***Praise be to Thee, O Christ!***

**The Nicene Creed p. 22**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Sermon Hymn: TLH #296 "Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth"**

**Speak, O Lord, Thy servant heareth, To Thy Word I now give heed;  
Life and spirit Thy Word beareth, All Thy Word is true indeed.  
Death's dread power in me is rife; Jesus, may Thy Word of Life  
Fill my soul with love's strong fervor That I cling to Thee forever.**

**Oh, what blessing to be near Thee And to hearken to Thy voice!  
May I ever love and fear Thee That Thy Word may be my choice!  
Oft were hardened sinners, Lord, Struck with terror by Thy Word;  
But to him who for sin grieveth Comfort sweet and hope it giveth.**

**Lord, Thy words are waters living Where I quench my thirsty need;  
Lord, Thy words are bread life-giving, On Thy words my Soul doth feed.  
Lord, Thy words shall be my light Thro' death's vale and dreary night;  
Yea, they are my sword prevailing And my cup of joy unfailing.**

**Precious Jesus, I beseech Thee, May Thy words take root in me;  
May this gift from heav'n enrich me So that I bear fruit for Thee!  
Take them never from my heart Till I see Thee as Thou art,  
When in heav'nly bliss and glory I shall greet Thee and adore Thee. Amen.**

**Sermon Theme: LISTEN TO US! Sermon Text: Matthew 27:50-53**

**Introduction – When do you “sit up and pay attention?”**

1. The witnesses to Jesus' resurrection were ready to tell
  - a. The disciples who saw Jesus many times in 40 days
  - b. Paul the Apostle who saw Jesus later
  - c. Those who were raised from death as Jesus died
2. What about the people who listened to the witnesses?
  - a. Someone telling a truth is convincing
  - b. Christians in our past have shared their faith
  - c. You have been “raised with Christ”
3. Jesus himself speaks to you today
  - a. We trust that he “hears” our voice
  - b. We are asked to listen to his witness
  - c. Jesus is not yet done living and using us

**Conclusion – We want people to “sit up” and hear our faith**



*(The Offerings are brought forward. Offering plates are at the entrances.)*

**Offertory** p. 22 *[Sung]*

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**Prayers**

**THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*[We invite those who are communicant members of sister Lutheran Congregations, in the fellowship of LC-MS, and are repentant, to commune with us.]*

**The Preface:** p. 24 *[Responses Sung]*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And with thy spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C: It is meet and right so to do.**

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God ... therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**The Sanctus:** p. 26 *[Sung]*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,  
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna,  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**The Lord's Prayer:** p. 27

**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;**

*[Sung]* **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**The Words of Institution:**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**The Pax Domini:** p. 27

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

**C: *[Sung]* A - - - - men.**

The Agnus Dei: p. 28 *[Sung]*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace.

A - - - - men.

## The Distribution

Distribution Hymns: TLH #206 "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense"

Jesus Christ, my sure Defense And my Savior, ever Liveth;  
Knowing this, my confidence Rests upon the hope it giveth  
Though the night of death be fraught Still with many an anxious thought.

Jesus, my Redeemer, lives; I, too, unto life shall waken.  
Endless joy my Savior gives; Shall my courage, then, be shaken?  
Shall I fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His members dead?

Nay, too closely am I bound Unto Him by hope forever;  
Faith's strong hand the Rock hath found, Grasped it, and will leave it never;  
Even death now cannot part From its Lord the trusting heart.

I am flesh and must return Unto dust, whence I am taken;  
But by faith I now discern That from death I shall awaken  
With my Savior to abide In His glory, at His side.

Glorified, I shall anew With this flesh then be enshrouded;  
In this body I shall view God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;  
In this flesh I then shall see Jesus Christ eternally.

Then these eyes my Lord shall know, My Redeemer and my Brother;  
In His love my soul shall glow,— I myself, and not another!  
Then the weakness I feel here Shall forever disappear.

They who sorrow here and moan There in gladness shall be reigning;  
Earthly here the seed is sown, There immortal life attaining.  
Here our sinful bodies die, Glorified to dwell on high.

Then take comfort and rejoice, For His members Christ will cherish.  
Fear not, they will hear His voice; Dying, they shall never perish;  
For the very grave is stirred When the trumpet's blast is heard.

Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave And at death no longer tremble;  
He, the Lord, who came to save Will at last His own assemble.  
They will go their Lord to meet, Treading death beneath their feet.

Oh, then, draw away your hearts Now from pleasures base and hollow.  
There to share what He imparts, Here His footsteps ye must follow.  
Fix your hearts beyond the skies, Whether ye yourselves would rise. Amen.

TLH #370 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

**My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.**

**His oath, His covenant, and blood Support me in the whelming flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my Hope and Stay.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand. Amen.**

**The Nunc Dimittus: p. 29 [Sung]**

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,  
For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation:  
which Thou hast prepared before the Face of all people,  
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**The Thanksgiving: p. 30**

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: [Sung] **And His mercy endureth forever.**

**The Thanksgiving Prayer: pp, 30-31**

P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith towards You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C: [Sung] **A- - - - men.**

**The Benedicamus: p. 31**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: [Sung] **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: [Sung] **Thanks be to God.**

**The Benediction: p. 31**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: [Sung] **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

**Closing Hymn: TLH #472 "Rise, Ye Children of Salvation"**

**Rise, ye children of salvation, All who cleave to Christ, the Head.  
Wake, arise, O mighty nation, Ere the Foe on Zion tread.  
He draws nigh and would defy All the hosts of God Most High.**

**Saints and heroes long before us Firmly o this ground have stood;  
See their banner waving o'er us, Conquerors through the Savior's blood.  
Ground we hold whereon of old Fought the faithful and the bold.**

**Fighting, we shall be victorious By the blood of Christ, our Lord;  
On our foreheads, bright and glorious, Shines the witness of His Word;  
Spear and shield on battle-field, His great name we cannot yield.**

**When His servants stand before Him, Each receiving his reward;  
When His saints in light adore Him, Giving glory to the Lord,  
"Victory!" our songs shall be Like the thunder of the sea. Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Announcements**

***Have A Blessed Week!***

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**Cover pic artwork:** Allan Forbis

**The Lutheran Hymnal:** St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn #465: Scripture: 1 Kings 9:3; Angularis fundamentum; Christ Is Our Corner-stone; Author: Unknown (c. 700, cento); Tune: Darwall's 148<sup>th</sup>; Composer: John Darwall (1770).

Hymn #296: Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:10; Rede, liebster Jesus, rede; Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth; Author: Anna Sophia of Hesse-Darmstadt (1685, ab.); Translator: George T. Rygh (1909); Tune: Werde munter; Composer: Johann Schop (1642).

Hymn #206: Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:35 ff.; Jesus, meine Zuversicht; Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense; Author unknown (1653); Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1863); Tune: Jesu, meine Zuversicht; Composer: Johann Crüger (1653).

Hymn #370: Scripture: 1 Timothy 1:1; My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less; Author: Edward Mote (c. 1834, cento); Tune: Magdalen; Composer: John Stainer (1873, arr.).

Hymn # 472: Scripture: Jude 3; Auf, ihr Christen, Christi Glieder; Rise, Ye Children of Salvation; Author: Justus Falckner (1697, cento); Translatr: Emma R. Bevan (1858); Tune: Neander; Composer: Joachim Neander (1680).

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