

Welcome

The Lord be with you! **C: And also with you!**
Siblings in Christ, welcome to worship!

Today is the 7th and final Sunday in the season of Easter, celebrating Christ's resurrection from the dead and the promise of new life for us as well. Today we listen in on Jesus' prayer for his disciples and all those who will follow because of what they share.

It's our practice to pause as we move into worship, to quiet the noises within ourselves and become aware of God's presence with us. It's also a time to remember that we are not gathering alone, but with the whole communion of saints. So together, let us pause and join our hearts as we come to worship.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

As we gather, we remember the gift of our baptism that joins us to the death and resurrection of Christ, that we may live a new life. We begin with the Easter affirmation: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. Remembering the gift of your grace in our baptisms, you shower us again with the water of life.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever, amen.

Opening Hymn: 824 "This is My Father's World"

This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This I my Father's world; the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

This is my Father's world; oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

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.**

Let us join in the Prayer of the Day

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture readings

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

⁶Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.

¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶"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. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for 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. ⁹I 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. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And 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.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: 656 "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

Prayers of God's People

Each petition ends: L: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever, amen.

Offering

Mail: 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705.

Website: lordoflifeak.com/giving "I'd like to give" button

App: "Give Plus Church" search by our zip code of 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the easy instructions.

Let us pray, **Merciful God, you take our ordinary gifts and make them into an abundance. Do the same with our lives, that we may serve in the name and strength of the risen Christ, amen.**

Announcements

Tuesday and Wednesday food box distribution, come at noon to help out!

AA has begun meeting in the building again, Monday and Thursday at 8pm. They ask you wear a mask.

You're invited to a virtual coffee hour right now on Zoom.com video conference. Type in our meeting ID: 922 5244 9173. It's a chance to see each other and check-in.

Although we are in phase 3 of re-opening our state, we are still a ways off from gathering together in our sanctuary but we are making plans for outdoor worship. Next Sunday, bring a lawn chair and a mask – we will spread out around the firepit AND broadcast on car radios if you would prefer to stay in your vehicle.

Sending Blessing and Dismissal

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

L: Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!