

Sixth Sunday in Easter May 17th, 2020 10:30 a.m. † Service of Holy Communion



"The Resurrection of Christ," by Michaelangelo, 1530

Reminder - We ask that you strictly adhere to these guidelines:

- An usher will guide you where to park. Please be patient as we do not know how many cars will show up.
- We ask you to not exit your vehicles.
- Please use restrooms before you arrive. However, should you need to
 exit your vehicle to use a restroom, our hallway will be taped off in 8
 feet increments. Enter & exit only through the side door. Do not congregate in the hallway.
- Please bring your own communion elements, bread & juice! We will not
 have extra elements on hand. Please use juice, as you cannot legally
 have an open container of wine in your vehicle!
- Offering can be left in a bin on the way out of the parking lot!

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God...
- C 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.
- P 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.
- C Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Here I am to Worship

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness; Opened my eyes, let me see, Beauty that made this heart adore You. Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, Here I am to say that You're my God. You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, O so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor. *Chorus*

And I'll never know how much it cost to see
My sin upon that cross.
(3 times) Chorus

Here I am to worship.

Here I Am to Worship, words and music by Tim Hughes, © 2000 Thankyou Music

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray... ...in Jesus Christ we pray,
- C Amen

FIRST READING

Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship

as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' 29Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. 30While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

- R The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in pris-

on, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, oh God.
And renew a right Spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, oh 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 renew a right Spirit within me.

GOSPEL

John 14:15-21 *Prior to reading:*

P The Holy Gospel...

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

After the Gospel reading:

- P The Gospel of our Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ. SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY

The Power of Your Love

Verse 1

Lord I come to You.

Let my heart be changed renewed.

Flowing from the grace.

That I found in You

and Lord I've come to know.

The weaknesses I see in me.

Will be stripped away.

By the pow'r of Your love

Chorus

Hold me close.

Let Your love surround me.

Bring me near.

Draw me to Your side.

And as I wait

I'll rise up like the eagle.

And I will soar with You.

Your Spirit leads me on
In the pow'r of Your love.

Verse 2

Lord unveil my eyes.
Let me see You face to face.
The knowledge of Your love.
As You live in me.
Lord renew my mind.
As Your will unfolds in my life.

In living ev'ry day In the pow'r of Your love. *Chorus*

The Power of Your Love, words and music by Geoff Bullock © 1992 Geoff Bullock Music

PRAYER SONG Lord, I Need You

Chorus

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Lord in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Red Letters

Verse 1

There I was on death row Guilty in the first degree Son of God hanging on a hill Hell was my destiny

Verse 2

The crowd was shouting crucify Could've come from these lips of mine The dirty shame was killing me

It would take a miracle to wash me clean

Chorus 1

Then I read the red letters
And the ground began to shake
The prison walls started falling
And I became a free man that day

Verse 3

Felt like lightning hit my veins My dead heart began to beat Breath of God filled my lungs And the Holy Ghost awakened me Yeah the Holy Ghost awakened me

Chorus 1

Bridge

For God so loved the whole wide world
Sent His only Son to die for me
Arms spread wide for the whole wide world
His arms spread wide where mine should be
Jesus changed my destiny

Chorus 2

Thank You God for red letters And the ground began to shake The grace of God started falling And I became a free man that day

<u>Tag</u>

The prison walls started falling And I am a free man today

THE LORD'S PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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; and 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.

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

P The Lord Bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

Light the Fire

I stand to praise You
But I fall to my knees
My spirit is hungry
But my flesh is so weak

Chorus

So light the fire in my soul
Fan the flame make me whole
Oh Lord You know where I've been
So light the fire in my heart again. *Chorus*I feel Your arms around me
As the power of Your healing begins
You breathe new life right through me
Like a mighty rushing wind. *Chorus*

Light the Fire, words and music by Bill Maxwell © 1986 Bloodsmith Music

DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C We Will! Thanks be to God!

PRAYER LIST

We hold the following in our prayers...

- Bernadette Stassen (mother of Dan Stassen, in hospice)
- Darlene Schuler (mother of Elaine Sandquist, in hospice with late stage dementia)
- David Edens (recovering from knee surgery)
- Dennis Mastbergen (father of Eric Klenken, diagnosed with Coronavirus)
- Karen Kupfer (cancer, mother of Ronda Bursell)
- Marie Seeman (breast cancer, recovering from surgery)
- Mary Leonard (aunt of Ashley Grams, colon cancer and urothelial carcinoma)
- MaryJo Hennen (friend of Arlyss Hovland, diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia)
- Pastor Delwayne Hahn (former St. Stephen Interim Pastor, being treated for acute myeloid leukemia)
- Phil Green (nephew of Roger Green, has ALS)
- Steve Knutson (on going treatment for Multiple Myeloma)
- · Family of Marilyn Brusven
- Family of Bonnie Walters (former member of St. Stephen, sister of Arlyss Hovland)
- · Family of Nancy DeRoode (Grandmother of Drew Tykwinski)
- Family of Norma Schneekloth (Mother-in-Law of Paula Petersen-Giles)

Worship Participants - 10:30 a.m.

Presiding Minister Pastor Lyle Snyder Pianist/Organist Seth Boerboom

Greeter/Ushers Paula Petersen-Giles, Marc Craigmile

Reader Judy DeCramer

Worship Team Jeff Allen, Lindsay Leibfried, Jake Olsen, Bill

Cowden, Josh Johnson

A special thanks to John DeCramer for pioneering our sound system for these two Sundays.