

7th Sunday of Easter

“The Hour Has Come! All Glory to our Triune God” John 17:1

May 17, 2026

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Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, our text for this 7th Sunday of Easter is from our Gospel reading, John 17:1.

“Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,”

So far our text:

The hour has come... the most blessed hour...the hour that the sinful world needed to come. For the Son sets the sinful world free from its eternal destruction. And if the Son sets you free you are free indeed.

Jesus prays aloud to His Father in the presence of His eleven apostles. They hear His prayer, the innermost thoughts of the High Priest who is doing the will of His Father by offering Himself as the sacrifice for the sins of the world, for you and me.

This was the Triune God’s plan from the beginning, prophesied in the Old Testament, testified by Jesus Himself the Word made flesh, and now brought to completion on the night that Jesus was betrayed.

Jesus had just instituted the Lord’s Supper and most likely speaks these words outside of the house with the upper room, right before He goes forth to the Garden of Gethsemane.

Right before Jesus begins His this prayer in John 17 He strengthens His disciples with His word for He knows that this hour which they will witness, Jesus’ suffering, crucifixion, death and burial will cause them extreme sadness. He prepares them for this hour, and then prays for them. What great love the Shepherd shows for His sheep!

In chapter 16, Jesus says that this hour is like the hour when a woman gives birth. An expectant mother knows it’s coming, knows it will be very difficult, but it has to come for a new life to enter the world.

“A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me”? 20 Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy. 21 A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. 22 Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you.”

Jesus promises that He will see them again for His He will be glorified after His death. Jesus will rise after three days. He will be glorified as He ascends into heaven. And Jesus will be glorified as He now reigns at the right hand of the Father!

This is the glory that Jesus had before He descended from heaven and was born humbly in a manger. How was Jesus glorified? According to His human nature He was glorified. For He allowed Himself to be humbled on the cross for the world’s salvation.

This is the hour of which Jesus speaks now to His Father. Jesus graciously takes our place, our hour, so that we would never have to face this hour.

There are moments in each of our lives in which we have to face a most difficult situation. Maybe it’s that hour when you know that you have to undergo a surgery that has to be done. Maybe it’s that moment when you have to make a difficult financial or work related decision. Maybe it’s that moment when you have to have a difficult conversation with someone you love.

There is no more putting off these moments. The hour has come. One might say, you have to face the music, or pay the piper. You have to get over these hurdles in life.

For the Christian, thanks be to God, you never face any of these moments alone. For God, the Triune God, is with you. He always has been with you! For Jesus faced the music for you, the hour that we dreaded most – the judgment for our sin.

That’s the hour that was upon Jesus and which the Good Shepherd did not run away from. He lovingly gave His life so that we would never have to face God alone and give

an account of our sins. For Jesus took them all upon Himself. And this sacrifice of love glorified His Father.

“4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”

Even knowing how deep His suffering will be, Jesus knows that He will not fail when the hour comes. He sees His finished work and the glory that He will receive according to His human nature.

And by this great work, this marvelous work of redemption, Jesus gives to us eternal life. The Father gave the disciples to Him. Jesus gave them His words of eternal life and they received these words for their salvation and believed them.

“3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

To know the only True God is to know Jesus, the Son of God. You cannot know the Father, unless you know the Son whom the Father sent.

And Jesus then joyfully prays these words to His Father.

“8 For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.”

They, His apostles, minus Judas, received His words of eternal life found only in Him, the Way, the Truth and the Life. They received, they have known, and they believed!

And when that happens, the hour of salvation comes to a sinner, not the hour of condemnation that Jesus faced. But the hour of eternal life – even now.

But what about me? What about you? Is Jesus thinking and praying about you also or just those with whom He just celebrated the Lord’s supper?

Your hour of salvation has come also. And Jesus prays about it also. Listen to verse 20 of Jesus' High Priestly prayer.

“20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.”

Memorize these words! Commit them to your heart for Jesus is talking about you! He is talking about your hour of salvation when the Father gave you to the Son and by the power of the Holy Spirit called you to believe in Jesus and redeemed you from all your sin!

Jesus sees into the future on the night He was betrayed and sees you, sees you receiving His Word in faith, and becoming one with the Triune God! For these first believers kept Jesus' word, preached His word, spread His word and God made sure it was preserved for you to hear and be saved!

Jesus hour of suffering and death came so that you would never face that hour. Instead what does Jesus pray aloud for all His disciples to hear...for you to hear?

“22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

Jesus' glory, given to Him from His Father, He gives to you! It's a free gift – your eternal glory with Him – with the Triune God – with the “We” Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Your perfection is your gift, graciously won for you by Jesus on the cross. His righteousness is yours by faith. Sealed to you in your baptism, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

Your gracious hour of coming to faith, continues to live as the Triune God lives in you through His Word and Sacraments, and makes all your hours, days, and weeks full of joy and peace until you are completely glorified eternally in heaven.

All glory to our Triune God who has given you and all believers this most precious gift! **And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Amen. (Philippians 4:7)**