

*May 25, 2025  
The Sixth Sunday of Easter*

*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church*

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## Serving in God's house

Presiding & Assisting Minister: Rev. George Kirkup, Rev. Bruce Nathan

Readers: Charles Kalhorn

Organist: Doreen Leonard

*The altar flowers are dedicated to the loving memory of Matthew F. DiStefano at the confirmation of his daughter Gianna and niece Avery.*

*The flowers under the cross celebrate the grace of God given to all our confirmands.*

*Stand*

### Jerusalem, My Happy Home

LSB 673

- 1 Jerusalem, my happy home, when shall I come to thee?  
When shall my sorrows have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
- 2 O happy harbor of the saints, O sweet and pleasant soil!  
In thee no sorrow may be found, no grief, no care, no toil.
- 3 Thy gardens and thy gallant walks continually are green;  
There grow such sweet and pleasant flow'rs as nowhere else are seen.
- 4 There trees forevermore bear fruit and evermore do spring;  
There evermore the angels dwell and evermore do sing.
- 5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there around my Savior stand;  
And soon my friends in Christ below will join the glorious band.
- 6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare for that bright home of love  
That I may see Thee and adore with all Thy saints above.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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**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.

**P** 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 You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

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

**P** Upon this your confession, I... forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

*Psalm 55*

Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you;  
he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

**My heart is in anguish within me;  
the terrors of death have fallen upon me.**

But I call to God,  
and the LORD will save me.

**Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan,  
and he hears my voice.**

He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage,  
for many are arrayed against me.



**Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;**



**as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.**

Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you;  
he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

### KYRIE

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### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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### SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

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*Sit*

### FIRST READING

*Acts 16:9–15*

**A** The First Reading for the Sixth Sunday of Easter is from Acts, chapter sixteen.

A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the

city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM

*Psalm 67*

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,  
**that your way may be known on earth,  
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!

**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!

**The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, shall bless us.**

God shall bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth fear him!

#### EPISTLE

*Revelation 21: 9–14, 21–27*

**A** The Epistle is from the Revelation to St. John, chapter twenty-one.

Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb...

And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass.

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

*John 5:1–9*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifth chapter.

**G** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

Now that day was the Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’ ” They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk’?” Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

*LSB back cover*

*Sit*

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

*LSB 556:1, 9–10*

- 1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, with exultation springing,  
And with united heart and voice and holy rapture singing,  
Proclaim the wonders God has done, how His right arm the vict’ry won.  
What price our ransom cost Him!
- 9 “Now to My Father I depart, from earth to heav’n ascending,  
And, heav’nly wisdom to impart, the Holy Spirit sending;  
In trouble He will comfort you and teach you always to be true  
And into truth shall guide you.
- 10 “What I on earth have done and taught guide all your life and teaching;  
So shall the kingdom’s work be wrought and honored in your preaching.  
But watch lest foes with base alloy the heav’nly treasure should destroy;  
This final word I leave you.”

*Stand*

OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

LORD’S PRAYER

COLLECT TO RECEIVE THE WORD

BENEDICTION

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**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.  
**C** **Amen, amen, amen.**

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

*LSB 477*

- 1 Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;  
He who on the cross a victim for the world’s salvation bled—  
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.
- 2 Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:  
See the ancient pow’rs of evil in confusion and retreat;  
Once He died, and once was buried: now He lives forevermore,  
Jesus Christ, the world’s Redeemer, whom we worship and adore.
- △3 Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:  
Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity!  
Alleluia, alleluia to the triune Majesty!

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
The Lord bless you. The Lord keep you. Alleluia. Amen

*In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true body and blood. In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant will examine himself and come to the Lord's Table seeking forgiveness of sins. As the catechism says, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" Therefore, we expect all communicants to have been baptized, instructed, and confirmed in the Christian faith, repent of their sins, and believe that Jesus here offers His true body and blood for their forgiveness.*

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

**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 ... evermore praising God and saying:

**C** 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 WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

AGNUS DEI

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DISTRIBUTION

Wide Open Stand the Gates

LSB 639

Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior

LSB 640

NUNC DIMITTIS

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**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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PAULINE BENEDICTION



**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Joyce Barbagallo, Barbara, Terry Stapleton, Kathy Cecere, Tara Grey, Lenora Debra, Linda Konecny, Zachary Pompee, Ralph Ciniglio, David Perry, Richie LaPresti, Lydia Foley, Barbara Gerke

**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Paul Cataldo, John Wimmer, Rich & Betty Kuerner, ArleneENZ

**OUR SHUT-INS:** Charles & Ethel Nenstiel, Tom Maher

**THOSE IN THE MILITARY:** Mark Kummer (USN), Kristine Broger (USA), Michael Deck (USAF), Patrick Ullrich (USA)

**OUR CHILDREN:** Andrew Zeo, Liam Balroop, Thomas Cataldo, Mars Crowley

**FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S:** Nancy Cataldo, Rebecca Shannon, Erin Nicole Kuerner, Ken Skjeveland, Jacquelyn Berntsen, Frank Sandmeyer, Balmick Persaud, Beth Laine Mattarella, Bob Selkirk, Carolyn Gronlund, Shirley Koenig

**We give thanks for our confirmands:**

Declan Thomas Caine	August 7, 2011
Emily Kathryn DeVita	September 25, 2011
Gianna Marie DiStefano	October 24, 2010
Madison Anne Harrison	September 15, 2013
Gavin Conor Hogan	March 4, 2012
Brandon Thomas Markowski	September 4, 2011
Avery Reese Thurston	May 7, 2011

*Our Savior New American School in Centereach is still looking for a secondary Math teacher for the upcoming academic year. If you or someone you know would be interested in this position, you can reach out to Principal Wil Stelzer by emailing him at [wil.stelzer@osnas.org](mailto:wil.stelzer@osnas.org) or by calling the school at 631-588-2757. Having a heart for the Lord and a gift for teaching young people is preferred over any state certification.*