



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 9, 2021

AS WE GATHER: Our Easter sermon series examines 6 tough topics that are often thought about (if not asked) by those inside and outside of the church. *Why do bad things happen to good people? Is the Bible reliable? Is abortion wrong? What is the relationship between faith and science? How should I identify? How do I navigate politics?* There are no easy answers, but join us as we find that Scripture will help us navigate these questions with wisdom, grace, and humility.

PRELUDE *“Highland Cathedral” (M. Korb & U. Roever)*
Sterling & Brass

WELCOME

STATEMENT OF FAITH

OPENING HYMN #803 *“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”*

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow’rs before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav’n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow’ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest.
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Fountain-head of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!
Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of
the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD,
forever;
People: **With my mouth I will make known
Your faithfulness to all generations.**

Pastor: Let the heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD,
People: **Your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy
ones!**

Pastor: O LORD God of hosts, who is mighty as You are,
O LORD,
People: **With your faithfulness all around you?**

Pastor: Blessed are the people who know the festal shout,
People: **Who walk, O LORD, in the light of Your face.**

Pastor: Who exult in Your name all the day
People: **And in Your righteousness are exalted.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful
Father.
People: **Gracious God, in heartfelt repentance we admit
and confess our sinfulness. We are sin-stained
people by nature. Each day we have sinned and
done things we ought not to have done and have**

not done that which we are to have been doing as Your servants. We have not seen people in the loving way that You see them. We have not always been ready to care and quick to help. We do indeed deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within our hearts and lives, lead us into ways that reflect Your goodness and love.

Pastor: God is loving and merciful. He sees us with loving eyes and graciously hears our supplications. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

“O God, Beyond All Praising”

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder at ev'ry gift You send,
At blessings without number and mercies without end.
We lift our hearts before You and wait upon Your word;
We honor and adore You, our great and mighty Lord.

The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,
Its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
But hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown,
Though small in mortal stature to heaven's garden grown.
For Christ, the man from heaven from death has set us free,
And we through Him are given the final victory!

INTERLUDE

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
That we who know Your favor may serve You as our King;
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
We'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless You still,
To marvel at Your beauty and glory in Your ways,
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

SALUTATION

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 2:4-8, 18-24

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground— ⁷then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. ⁸And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.

Verses 18-24

¹⁸Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” ¹⁹Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

*“This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man.”*

²⁴Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Heidi

“Thank you, God, for Mothers”

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 3:23-29

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand) “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Arr. 1995 Augsburg Fortress

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the first chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized or shut-in, those who are grieving, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill and shut-in, and all those whose needs are known to us.

People: Lord, grant that we bring Your blessing to situations of need in all places.

Pastor: Most merciful God, we thank You for all those faithful people whose words and actions have guided us in the past, especially remembering those no longer with us on earth, who now share in Your eternal presence. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, direct us to walk Your servant way throughout our lives, seeing each person through Your loving eyes, until that day when we stand in Your glorious presence in heaven.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His

rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: 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."

PROCESSIONAL DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#855, vs. 1,6,8,13,4

“For All the Faithful Women”

- 1 For all the faithful women
Who served in days of old,
To You shall thanks be given;
To all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness
In tasks Your wisdom gave.
To You their lives bore witness,
Proclaimed Your pow’r to save.
- 6 To Hannah, praying childless
Before Your throne of grace,
You gave a son and called him
To serve before Your face.
Grant us her perseverance;
Lord, teach us how to pray
And trust in Your deliv’rance
When darkness hides our way.
- 8 Mary, Mother of Our Lord
We sing of Mary, mother,
Fair maiden, full of grace.
She bore the Christ, our brother,
Who came to save our race.
May we, with her, surrender
Ourselves to Your command
And lay upon Your altar
Our gifts of heart and hand.
- 13 For Eunice and for Lois
We sing our thanks and praise.
Young Timothy they nurtured
And led him in Your ways.
Raise up in ev’ry household
True teachers of Your Word
Whose lives will bear clear witness
To Christ, our risen Lord.
- 4 All praise to God the Father!
All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise the Holy Spirit,
Who binds the Church in one!
With saints who went before us,
With saints who witness still,
We sing glad Alleluias
And strive to do Your will.

CANTICLE

“Thank the Lord”



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN #895

“Now Thank We All Our God”

1 Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

