



## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 16, 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

### WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

#493, vs. 1,2,5,6

*“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”*

- 1 A hymn of glory let us sing!  
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ, by a road before untrod,  
Ascends unto the throne of God.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The holy apostolic band  
Upon the Mount of Olives stand.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
And with His faithful foll’wers see  
Their Lord ascend in majesty.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,  
And be our future great reward.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Then, throned with You forever, we  
Shall praise Your name eternally.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
All praise to You let earth accord:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
You are, while endless ages run,  
With Father and with Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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### INVOCATION

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

### OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 47:6-8*

**Pastor:** Sing praises to God, sing praises!  
**People:** Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

**Pastor:** For God is the King of all the earth;  
**People:** Sing praises with a psalm!

**Pastor:** God reigns over the nations;  
**People:** God sits on His holy throne.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:** Our help is in the name of the LORD,  
**People:** Who made heaven and earth.

**Pastor:** Let us then confess our sins unto our gracious  
Lord.  
**People:** We confess before God and before one another  
that we have failed to live in the image of  
Christ. We have sinned against You in thought,  
word, and deed.

**Pastor:** We stand guilty before our Father in heaven and  
are in need of His forgiveness.  
**People:** Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Pastor:** Because of and in Christ's continued presence  
through all our days,  
**People:** Renew us and strengthen us for Christlike living  
and service in Your kingdom until the day when  
we ascend to the heavenly realm where we shall  
be in the presence of Christ forever and ever.

**Pastor:** Jesus Christ, your ascended Lord, has heard your confession, and He alone has the power to forgive all sin. His presence and grace are enough for us in this time and eternally. God has promised His merciful forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus, to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him in faith. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, in His stead and by His command, I therefore 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 #492**      *“On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build”*

- 1      On Christ’s ascension I now build  
         The hope of my ascension;  
         This hope alone has always stilled  
         All doubt and apprehension;  
         For where the Head is, there as well  
         I know His members are to dwell  
         When Christ will come and call them.
  
- 2      Since Christ returned to claim His throne,  
         Great gifts for me obtaining,  
         My heart will rest in Him alone,  
         No other rest remaining;  
         For where my treasure went before,  
         There all my thoughts will ever soar  
         To still their deepest yearning.
  
- 3      O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,  
         Recalling Your ascension,  
         That I may serve You faithfully  
         In thanks for my redemption;  
         And then, when all my days will cease,  
         Let me depart in joy and peace  
         In answer to my pleading.

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**SALUTATION**

**Pastor**      The Lord be with you.  
**People:**      And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Risen and ascended Lord, You now pray for us at the throne of the Father. Keep all those whom You love in Your name, O Lord, that they may be one even as You and the Father are one; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "Up, Up and Away" Miss Heidi

OLD TESTAMENT READING Daniel 6:7-13

*All the high officials of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an injunction, that whoever makes petition to any god or man for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions. <sup>8</sup>Now, O king, establish the injunction and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked." <sup>9</sup>Therefore King Darius signed the document and injunction.*

*<sup>10</sup>When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously. <sup>11</sup>Then these men came by agreement and found Daniel making petition and plea before his God. <sup>12</sup>Then they came near and said before the king, concerning the injunction, "O king! Did you not sign an injunction, that anyone who makes petition to any god or man within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked." <sup>13</sup>Then they answered and said before the king, "Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or the injunction you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day."*

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

SOLO "Give Me Jesus"  
Tradition arr. by Moses Hogan  
Angela Bahr, soloist

**SECOND READING**

Romans 13:1-7

*Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand)**

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

Mark 12:13-17

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the twelfth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk. And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone's opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?" But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me look at it." And they brought one. And he said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said to him, "Caesar's." Jesus said to them, "Render to*

*Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at him.*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

**SERMON**                      **Asking For a Friend:  
"How Do I Navigate Politics"**  
   **Pastor Seth Flick**

**HYMN OF THE DAY (Please stand)**  
#966    "Before You, Lord, We Bow"

1        Before You, Lord, we bow,  
          Our God who reigns above  
          And rules the world below,  
          Boundless in pow'r and love.  
          Our thanks we bring  
          In joy and praise,  
          Our hearts we raise  
          To You, our King!

2        The nation You have blest  
          May well Your love declare,  
          From foes and fears at rest,  
          Protected by Your care.  
          For this bright day,  
          For this fair land—  
          Gifts of Your hand—  
          Our thanks we pay.

3        May ev'ry mountain height,  
          Each vale and forest green,  
          Shine in Your Word's pure light,  
          And its rich fruits be seen!  
          May ev'ry tongue  
          Be tuned to praise  
          And join to raise  
          A grateful song.

4        Earth, hear your Maker's voice;  
          Your great Redeemer own;  
          Believe, obey, rejoice,  
          And worship Him alone.  
          Cast down your pride,  
          Your sin deplore,  
          And bow before  
          The Crucified.

- 5      And when in pow'r He comes,  
          Oh, may our native land  
          From all its rending tombs  
          Send forth a glorious band,  
          A countless throng,  
          With joy to sing  
          To heav'n's high King  
          Salvation's song!

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**All:**                I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of  
                          heaven and earth.

                          And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who  
                          was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin  
                          Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,  
                          died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The  
                          third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended  
                          into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the  
                          Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge  
                          the living and the dead.

                          I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian  
                          Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of  
                          sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  
                          everlasting. Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND TIME OF THANKSGIVING**

- 1) Divine Redeemer will be celebrating the anniversaries and the departure of the following teachers with a special reception in the media center 9 -11 a.m. on Sunday, June 6th. The Congregation is invited to stop by before or following services to visit with these teachers: Nancy Bretzmann (25th anniversary) & leaving teaching, Jen Boris (25th anniv. Only), and Cindy Stoltmann leaving teaching. Cake and morning beverages will be served and a gift/card table will be provided.
- 2) A Voters' Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 6 at 11:45 AM in the gym to vote on a proposed FY 21-22 budget.
- 3) VBS Registration closes this Monday, May 17 so t-shirts and cds can be ordered. You may still sign up after that but a t-shirt and cd will not be guaranteed.
- 4) Car Show: Register your car at [drlc.org/events](http://drlc.org/events) and attend on June 19 from 9-2. Food, Fun, Awards, and Live Music by: "Off the Record" (classic rock) FREE TO ATTEND - BRING A FRIEND. All makes/models welcome.

## OFFERTORY

*“Give Thanks”*

Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He’s given  
Jesus Christ His Son. (2x)

And now let the weak say “I am strong,”  
Let the poor say “I am rich,”  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.  
Give thanks, give thanks. (2x)

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## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Pastor:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord, beseeching Him for the needs of ourselves and others. Trusting in God’s loving response, we pray for the Church and all who are called to lives of service to God’s people.

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for the blessing of God upon our nation and its leaders that we may lead peaceable lives.

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for the men and women of our armed forces. Bless them and protect them as they serve You by serving our country.

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for the needs of ourselves and others for healing and restoration, for solace and comfort. Let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for ourselves, that the Holy Spirit would guide us into gracious ways and instill in us a holy confidence in the goodness of our God.

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** With thanks for the faithful examples set by those whose earthly journeys are complete and whose witness to Christ yet inspires us, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** These things and all else that we should have asked, grant us according to Your gracious will, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.

#### BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold to what is good, return no man evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor all people, and love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Our almighty God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you.

People: Amen.

#### CLOSING HYMN #832

*“Jesus Shall Reign”*

- 1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
Does its successive journeys run;  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore  
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2 To Him shall endless prayer be made,  
And endless praises crown His head;  
His name like sweet perfume shall rise  
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- 3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue  
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;  
And infant voices shall proclaim  
Their early blessings on His name.
- 4 Blessings abound where'er He reigns:  
The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,  
The weary find eternal rest,  
And all who suffer want are blest.
- 5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring  
Honors peculiar to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again,  
And earth repeat the loud amen.

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**Thank you to the Worship participants:**

**Lay Readers:**

8:00AM: John Uttech

10:30AM: Paul Ewan

**Acolytes:**

8:00AM: Ethan Ricker

10:30AM: Ava Lenz

**Sound:**

8:00AM: Todd Radke

10:30AM:

**Elders:**

8:00AM: Michael Johnson

10:30AM: Paul Ewan+