

May 9, 2021 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

Deacon: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Welcome & Announcements

*Invocation

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

Opening Music *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives; I know that my Redeemer lives!

*Confession and Absolution

Deacon: Let us come before God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hid, and confess our sins in the name of Him who died and rose again to give us forgiveness and life.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

People: **I confess that I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. I have not honored my Lord's name as I should; my worship and prayer have faltered. I have not let His love have its way with me, and my love for others has failed. There are many whom I have hurt and many whom I failed to help. My thoughts and desires are soiled with sin. I have sinned against God and against my brothers and sisters. There is no health in me. Except for the promise of Christ, I could not hope for reconciliation and peace. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, O Lord, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Deacon: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on us the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

***Prayer of the Day**

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Deacon: Let us pray. O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

The First Lesson

Acts 10:34-48

³⁴ So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." ⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

Epistle Lesson

1 John 5:1-8

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶ This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ For there are three that testify:⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Jesus Loves Me/Children's Message

Deacon: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the fifteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

***The Holy Gospel** John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. ¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷ These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

Deacon: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

***Sermon Song** *Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone*

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

Chorus My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

Chorus (x2)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine You are forever mine

Message

Deacon Paul Pugliese

***The Apostles Creed**

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.

***The Prayers & The Lord's Prayer** each petition will conclude "Lord in Your mercy" to which the congregation will respond, "hear our prayer"

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.

The Sharing of the Lord's Supper

***Words of Institution**

***The General Dismissal**

Deacon: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting. Go in peace!

All: Amen.

***The Benediction**

Deacon: 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.

***Closing Song** *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Deacon: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: We will. Thanks be to God!