

# Lord’s Day Worship

## A DIVINE SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14, 2023

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*Quiet our minds, O God, and gladden our hearts; that, as we come together to worship you, we may, by your Spirit, be drawn near to your presence and find that this place is indeed the very gate of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

#### SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

## GOD CALLS US

“*This Joyful Eastertide*” . . . . . The Choir

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow!  
Had Christ, who once was slain, ne’er burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith would be in vain: But now has Christ arisen!

Death’s flood has lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river;  
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.  
Had Christ, who once was slain, ne’er burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith would be in vain: But now has Christ arisen!

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber,  
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.  
Had Christ, who once was slain, ne’er burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith would be in vain: But now has Christ arisen!

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

*John 20:19-20*

#### †HYMN OF PRAISE

“*Christ is Risen! O Praise Him!*” . . . . Tune: “All Creatures of Our God and King”

Light’s glitt’ring morning fills the sky, heav’n thunders out its victor cry:  
Christ is risen! Alleluia!  
Earth shouts her Paschal triumph high, and groaning hell makes wild reply.  
Christ is Risen! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

For Christ the Lord, the mighty King, closes with death and draws its sting:  
Christ is risen! Alleluia!  
He tramples down the powers of night, brings out his ransomed saints to light  
Christ is Risen! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

His rocky tomb the threefold guard of watch and stone and seal had barred:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
But now in royal triumph high he comes from death to victory!  
Christ is Risen! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Death’s gates are broken down at last, our days of mourning now are past:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
“Weep not!” an angel voice has said. “The Lord is risen from the dead!”  
Christ is Risen! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Now fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above  
That we conquer through your triumph;  
Grant grace sufficient for life’s day that by our lives we truly say:  
Christ is Risen! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

#### †SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF PRAISE

Pastor: We are called together to worship in the Name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

**People: Amen!**

The LORD be with you!

**And also with you!**

Ruth 2:4

Return, O my soul, to your rest;

**For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.**

Ps 116:7

For we have died, and our life is hidden with Christ in God.

**When the Christ who is our life appears,  
we also will appear with him in glory. Alleluia!**

Col.

3:3-4

Let us pray together:

**Heavenly Father, you have delivered us from the  
dominion of sin and death, and brought us into the  
kingdom of your beloved Son: Grant that, as by his  
death he has called us to life, so by his love he may raise  
us to eternal joys; who lives and reigns with you, in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen!**

## GOD CLEANSSES US

Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up;

**God is our salvation.**

Our God is a God of salvation,

**And to God, the Lord, belong deliverances  
from death.**

Ps 68:19-20

#### †PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*+Silent Prayer of Confession+*

**Have mercy on us, most merciful Father; in your compassion  
forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left  
undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and  
serve you in newness of life to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### †DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Now lift up your heads, and hear these words of comfort  
and good news from the Scriptures...

*“And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Take heart,  
my son, your sins are forgiven.’”*

*Matthew 9:2b*

**Pastor:** Our heavenly Father, in his great mercy, has given his only  
Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your  
sins; wherefore as Christ's minister and by his authority, I  
declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name  
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen!**

*All praise be Thine, O Risen Lord, from death to endless life restored:*

*Christ is risen! Alleluia!*

*To Father, Son, and Spirit be all power and praise eternally!*

*Christ is risen! O praise Him! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

## GOD CONVERSES WITH US

OLD TESTAMENT READING . . . . . Zephaniah 3:6-13

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

NEW TESTAMENT READING . . . . . Acts 2:1-13

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

†GOSPEL READING . . . . . Matthew 28:16-20

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

#### †HYMN OF PRAISE

*"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"* . . . . . Selection 53

†We Respond by Confessing Our Faith. . . . . *The Nicene Creed*

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven  
and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of  
Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one  
substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.**

**Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from  
heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin  
Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us,  
under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the  
third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and  
ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of the  
Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the  
living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the  
Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who  
spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and  
apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen!**

†“*Gloria Patri*” . . . . . Selection 735

SERMON TEXT. . . . . Genesis 11:1-9

#### PREACHING OF GOD’S WORD

*“The Tower of Babel”* . . . . . Pastor Josh Anderson

XIV. Exposition of Genesis 4-12: The True History of the World

#### †PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God...For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation...Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life...  
We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name forever and ever.**  
We give you thanks for all those who have died in Christ and whose souls are now in your presence as their bodies wait for the resurrection...  
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**  
All these prayers, and even the desires of our hearts that are known only by your Holy Spirit, we offer to you, our Heavenly Father;  
**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!**

GOD COMMUNES WITH US

†COMMUNION HYMN  
"Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands" ..... Selection 427  
†The Great Thanksgiving  
Pastor: The Lord be with you!  
**People: And also with you!**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord!**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise!**  
Pastor: It is indeed right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, in union with the saints who have gone before us and the whole church on earth, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:  
**All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O Lord Most High!**

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Prayer of Preparation & Faith  
**We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your steadfast love, which endures forever. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Father, to partake of the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ, that we may grow into his likeness, and evermore abide in union with him, and he with us. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bread  
Pastor: Alleluia, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:  
**All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Wine  
Pastor: Let us confess the mystery of our faith:  
**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**

GOD COMMISSIONS US

†Prayer of Dedication  
**All gracious God, who of your infinite love gave your only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and rise again for our justification, and have made us partakers of your divine nature through the gift of the Holy Spirit; accept the fruits of our labors which we now present to you in this offering and also our very selves as we stand before you; and hear us as we pray as your Son taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!**  
†Hymn of Praise  
"Hail to the Lord’s Anointed" ..... Selection 311  
†Pastoral Benediction  
Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.  
**People: Amen!**  
†Those who are able are invited to stand.

Genesis 11:1-9

[1] Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. [2] And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. [3] And they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.” And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. [4] Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.” [5] And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. [6] And the LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. [7] Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech.” [8] So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. [9] Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.



Sixth Sunday  
of Easter

May 14, 2023