

Memory Verse of the Week

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

+ John 14:15



*Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2020- 10:00 a.m. (Remote)*

ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR VISION:

We envision a world fed and led by God.

OUR MISSION:

Fed and led by God, we live as a neighbor - in the West Central community, the city of Fort Wayne, and all the world.

729 W. WASHINGTON BLVD.

FORT WAYNE, IN 46802

260/426-5751

260/420-9158 (fax)

sjluth@stjohnluth.com (church office email)

pastorpaul@stjohnluth.com (Pastor's email)

www.stjohnluth.com (Web Site)

Pastor
Rev. Paul Offhaus

Director of Music
Jay Heare

Organist
Martin P. Gigler

Caring Ministries
Tony Shelton

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:00 AM-3:00 PM

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

10:00 a.m. (Remote)

P = Presiding Minister; **A** = Assisting Minister; **C** = Congregation

GATHERING

Welcome & Announcements

Ringing of the Church Bells

Prelude

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

(silence is kept for reflection)

P: We give you thanks, O God, O Living One, for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly. Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you.

C: We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life. Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing through the

city of God. Here, death is washed away forever. Here, we are grafted into the tree of life, with leaves for the healing of the world.

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly, into this community, and throughout all creation. Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions. Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Peace

P: He is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

All: Alleluia!

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

C: And also with you.

(Please greet those around you in the name of Christ.)

Gathering Songs..... “Endless Light”

From the highest throne, to the earth below,
you laid down your life for the likes of us.
Great is the love of the Savior.

From a wounded heart, to a life made whole.
Ev’ry human heart will declare as one.
Great is the love of the Savior.

Lord of endless light, let your glory shine forever.
All the earth, all the earth sing your praise.

From the mountain heights to the valleys low,
all created things given life to show.
Jesus we live for your glory.

From the rising sun to the still of night,
ev’ry waking moment for your delight.
Jesus we live for your glory.

Chorus Lord of endless light, let your glory shine forever.
All the earth, all the earth sing your praise.
Hope of every heart, let your name be lifted higher.
All our hearts, all our hearts sing your praise.

God be exalted.
God be exalted in ev’rything.
We live for your glory,
live for your glory. *(repeat) Chorus*

“Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)”

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to you; we turn to you.
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for you; we long for you.

Chorus

'Cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day.
In your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away.
Hosanna, hosanna, you are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises.
Hosanna, hosanna, come have your way among us;
we welcome you here, Lord Jesus.

Hear the sound of hearts returning to you; we turn to you.
In your kingdom broken lives are made new; you make us new. *Chorus*

The Greeting

- P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C:** **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise **WORSHIP BOOK - Setting 4 Pages 149-150**
“This Is the Feast”

Worship Leader



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Salutation

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**

The Prayer of the Day

- P: Let us pray, Almighty and ever-living God,
- C: **you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

First Reading *Acts 17:22-31*

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed

anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.²⁶ From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’²⁹ Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent,³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Kids Talk..... Pastor Paul

Second Reading..... *1 Peter 3:13-22*

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel.....*John 14:15-21*

(spoken) (text for pastor's sermon)

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon.....Rev. Paul Offhaus

Hymn of the Day WORSHIP BOOK - 631

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Vs 1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Vs 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Vs 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Vs 4 Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

***Apostles' Creed**

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of the People (after each petition, please respond as follows):

A: Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: ...through Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

Time of Offering.....*Easter Sonata for Flute and Organ, III*
Easter Rondo - Robert J. Powell

Canticle of Thanksgiving..... **WORSHIP BOOK - 207**
"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.

Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Thanksgiving for the Word

P: Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

SENDING

The Blessing

Sending Hymn **Worship Book - 382**
"Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!"

Vs 1 Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him as his light once more appears;
bowing down in joy before him, rising up from griefs and tears.

Refrain Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!

Vs 2 Christ is risen! All the sadness of our Lenten fast is o'er;
through the open gates of gladness he returns to life once more;
death and hell before him bending see him rise, the victor now,
angels on his steps attending, glory round his wounded brow.
Refrain

Vs 3 Christ is risen! All the sorrow that last evening round him lay
now has found a glorious morrow in the rising of today.
See the grave its firstfruits giving, springing up from holy ground;
he was dead, but now is living; he was lost, but he is found. *Refrain*

Vs 4 Christ is risen! Henceforth never death or hell shall us enthrall;
be we Christ's, in him forever we have triumphed over all.
All the doubting and dejection of our trembling hearts have ceased;
hail the day of resurrection! Let us rise and keep the feast. *Refrain*

Dismissal

A: Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude..... *Christ is Risen! Alleluia!* - Henry Balcombe

THIS WEEK’S WORSHIP LEADERS (5/17)

Presiding Minister & Preacher Rev. Paul Offhaus
Assisting Minister Abigail Offhaus
Organist Martin P. Gigler
Altar Guild Lois Sharp, Dorothy Epple (fill oil candles only)
Media/Sound Jay Heare, Mike McGahey, Pete Newcomb, Lori Paul

NEXT WEEK’S WORSHIP LEADERS (5/24)

Presiding Minister & Preacher Rev. Paul Offhaus
Assisting Minister Steve Rieck
Organist Martin P. Gigler
Altar Guild Lois Sharp, Dorothy Epple (fill oil candles only)
Media/Sound Jay Heare, Mike McGahey, Pete Newcomb, Lori Paul

“Because I live, you also will live.”

+ John 14:19b

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
 3 Come, Al - mighty - y, to de - liv - er; let us
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
 ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
 all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
 spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
 turn, and nev - er; nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in



bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!



1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
4 Christ is ris - en! Hence-forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall;



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re-turns to life once more;
now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day.
be we Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground;
All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow-ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
an - gels on his steps at - tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow.
he was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927