

Peace Lutheran Church

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2020

As We Gather We enter God's presence today and admit that we don't always embrace or live out the faith to which we have been called. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, God guarantees His promises, assurances, and benefits for all who take up their cross and follow Jesus---the way, the truth, and the life. Martin Luther wrote: "This is the meaning of the word of Christ spoken here: to believe in God and to face without fear whatever may oppose and confront us."

People Have Asked, if they are not able to attend services, how can they continue to support the congregation with their regular giving? Whether we are holding regular Sunday worship services or not, the expenses will continue. We ask you to remember this is not a giving holiday. We have easy options.

1. You can mail you offering to the church or
2. You can sign up for Vanco giving. Vanco is a convenient way to give directly from your bank account or credit card. There is information about it on our website, or if it is easier for you, you can call them and they will walk you through the process on the phone. You will need to know the church address, 71 Loma Drive, Camarillo, and have your account information handy. Vanco moves your offering from your account directly into ours. We have been using this service for some time now and people have found it to be easy and one less thing to worry about.

You can sign up on our website, peacecamarillo.com, or call 1-800-675-7430. Choose option #1 for client services and they will help you get started.

Council also decided, to be good stewards of the resources we have available, that all major projects around the church will be put on hold for the present time.

If you have a special need we can help you with, please call the church office.

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.

Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee;
Let Thy will be done indeed.
May I undisturbed draw near Thee
While Thou dost Thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
Here is balm for all our woes.

INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious.

People: And whoever believes in him will not be put to shame. (1Peter 2:6)

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, asking God to grant us forgiveness and peace.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

Pastor: Lord Jesus,

People: as we confess with our lips that You are the way, the truth, and the life, we wrestle with embracing this reality in our hearts. We struggle to accept the way that You make for us through Your suffering and death on the cross. We struggle to accept the way You choose to come to us in simple water, bread, and wine. We struggle to accept the way of our own cross and suffering and to believe that You are still with us. Forgive us. Strengthen, renew, and lead us by Your Spirit as people who have been redeemed through the resurrection.

Pastor: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."

People: They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

Pastor: Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." (1 Peter 2:10) God's good news to His people is that by your faith in the perfect life, atoning death and glorious resurrection of His Son, all your sins are forgiven. In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Christ Is Our Cornerstone"

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Christ is our cornerstone,
On Him alone we build;
With His true saints alone
The courts of heav'n are filled.
On His great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above. | 3 | Here, gracious God, do now
And evermore draw near
Accept each faith vow
And all your children hear
And more and more
On those who pray
Each holy day
Your blessing pour |
| 2 | Oh, Then, with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring
Our voices we will raise
The three in one to sing
And thus proclaim
In joyful song
Both loud and long
That glorious name | 4 | Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore,
And may that grace, once giv'n,
Be with us evermore
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are called away. |

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, you make the minds of your faithful to be of one will; therefore grant to your people that they may love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the manifold changes of this age our hearts may ever be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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 WORD OF GOD+

FIRST READING Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

6 Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists^[a] arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. **2** And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. **3** Therefore, brothers,^[b] pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. **4** But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." **5** And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. **6** These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

8 And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. **9** Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen...

2 And Stephen said:

"Brothers and fathers, hear me...

51 "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. **52** Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, **53** you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

54 Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. **55** But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. **56** And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." **57** But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together^[a] at him. **58** Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. **59** And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." **60** And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,
“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸ and
“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
When my life is al - most gone,
And the day is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

HOLY GOSPEL. John 14:1-14

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

14 “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹² “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me^[e] anything in my name, I will do it.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Be Still, My Soul”



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear pa - tient-
 2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take To guide the
 3 Be still, my soul; though dear - est friends de - part And all is
 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on When we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der
 fu - ture as He has the past. Your hope, your con - fi - dence let
 dark - ened in this vale of tears; Then you will bet - ter know His
 be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re -
 noth - ing shake; All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
 love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
 fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly Friend
 last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
 From His own full - ness all He takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

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MESSAGE

If Your Life In Christ Suddenly Flashed Before Your Eyes,
 Would It Look More Like A Feature Film Or A Short Subject?

Sticking To God's Script

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

HYMN

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

1. When morning gilds the skies
My heart awaking cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer,
To Jesus I repair:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
2. Does sadness fill my mind?
A solace here I find,
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this,
May Jesus Christ be praised!
3. Be this, while life is mine,
My canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Sing this eternal song
Through all the ages long:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

CONFESSION OF FAITH *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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

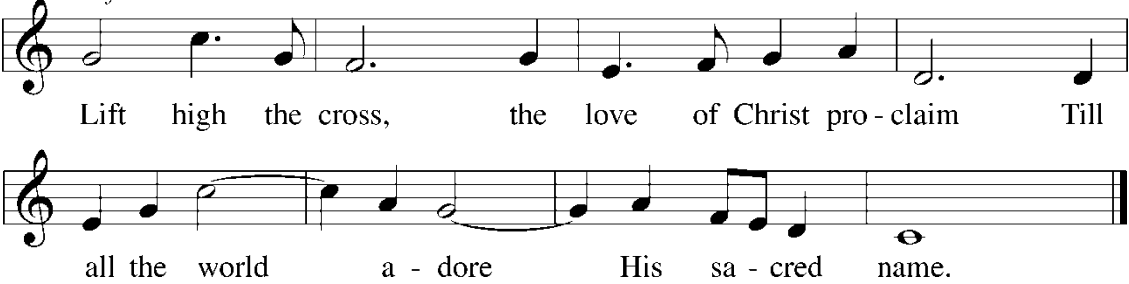
Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Lift High the Cross"


Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till
all the world a-dore His sa-cred name.

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Cap-tain trod,
3 All new-born sol-diers of the Cru-ci-fied
4 O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree,

Refrain



Our king vic-to-rious, Christ, the Son of God.
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
As Thou hast prom-ised, draw us all to Thee.

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember in Your Prayers

For health and healing: Edith Anderson, Lili Baehr, Christy Burckhard (Gary & Karen Taylor's sister-in-law), Mrs. Cheung (Veronica Lee's friend), Crystal (Phil Deck's niece), Remi Chatelain (Carol Yung's friend), Marshall Denninger, Dwayne Field, Bruce Fraser, Rory Hall (Jim & Lily Mainland's granddaughter), Ken Haugrud, Damon Hermann (friend of Greg Olewiler), Jim Hogan (Robin Schmidt's brother-in-law), Vickie Hutter, Jan Irwin (friend of David Zinger), Karen Johnson, Dawn Logan (Pat Massey's niece), Mrs. Mai, (friend of Greg Olewiler), Michelle & family (friend of Melissa Hamilton), of Seza Mirzarian (Phil Hamilton's son-in-law's aunt), Ken Nipstad, John O'Loony (friend of the Hamiltons), Linda Packham, Jim Pedersen, Hedy Pein, Ingrid Poehler, David Saunders (friend of Carol Yung), Llewyn Rae Spencer (infant grandson of Gary & Char Spencer), Leslie Stenke, Jon Volpei (Connie Morris' son & daughter-in-law), Carol Yung, Sue Zinger.

For peace and comfort:

Janet Saunders, (friend of Carol Yung) facing tough decision.

Jean Kohut, as she mourns the death of her husband Milton (Mickey).

Allen Burckhard, as he cares for his wife Christy and their children.

Pray for all military men and women especially: Jacob Chiles, Andrew Geib, Daniel Gross, Michael Hanson, Brian Miller, Kevin Palos, Kevin Schleicher, Stephen Volpei, Amy Waddell, Lucas Wentlandt. Also remember their families in your prayers.

Please keep the nation and all those in authority in your prayers, along with front line healthcare workers. We will get through this together, because we never go through anything alone.

