

May 7, 2023: Fifth Sunday of Easter: Costly Discipleship

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.
In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.**

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Song *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* (ELW 645)



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



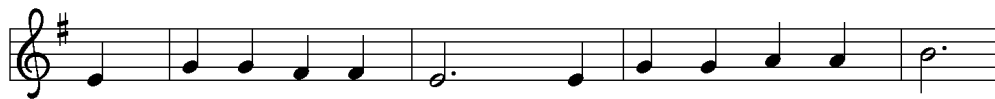
bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Kyrie (ELW p. 203)

The words "kyrie eleison" are an ancient prayer meaning "Lord have mercy".



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 204)



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

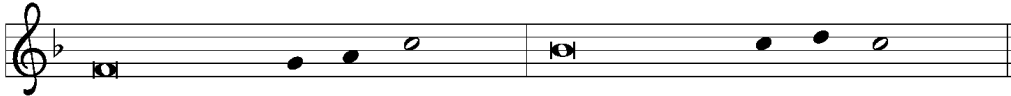
Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16



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¹In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;
deliver me | in your righteousness.

**²Incline your | ear to me;
make haste to de- | liver me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag | and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.

**⁴Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,
for you are my tow- | er of strength. R**

⁵Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, | God of truth.

¹⁵**My times are | in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.**

¹⁶Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love.” **R**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

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

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
“The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸and
“A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.”


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

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel using the words of Peter in John 6:6



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do 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; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Come, Share the Spirit* (ACS 1045)



1 Come, share the Spir - it, God has called us to ven - tures
2 Come, drown your sins be - neath the wa - ters where life flows
3 Come, God in - vites us to the ban - quet that ev - 'ry
4 Come, let us tell the gos - pel sto - ry, how God has



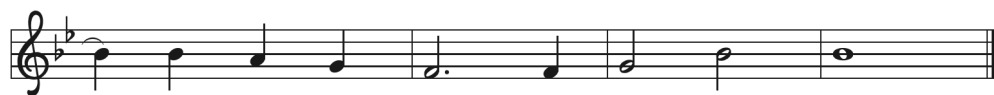
in the life of faith, to bring good tid - ings to the
from the gran - ite rock, the stone from which our Lord has
peo - ple soon will share, with shouts of joy and loud thanks -
giv - en us new birth and rais - es us to live for



need - y, to tell of vic - t'ry o - ver death.
ris - en, our cor - ner - stone and build - ing block.
giv - ing be - fore God's throne we will ap - pear.
oth - ers, to speak good news through - out the earth.



Christ speaks and all of life is new;
Christ speaks and rais - es from the dead
Christ speaks and bids us sit and dine;
Christ speaks and life is come a - gain.



God's word is pure and it is true.
all those who hear the liv - ing Word.
his bod - y, bread, his blood, the wine.
Good news, good news for ev - 'ry - one!

Text: Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, alt.

Music: ST. PAUL'S ARDMORE, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962

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Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends with the words "Hear us, O God" and the assembly responds with "Your mercy is great."

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you."

Anthem: Born, Reborn! (Hymn for next Sunday)

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

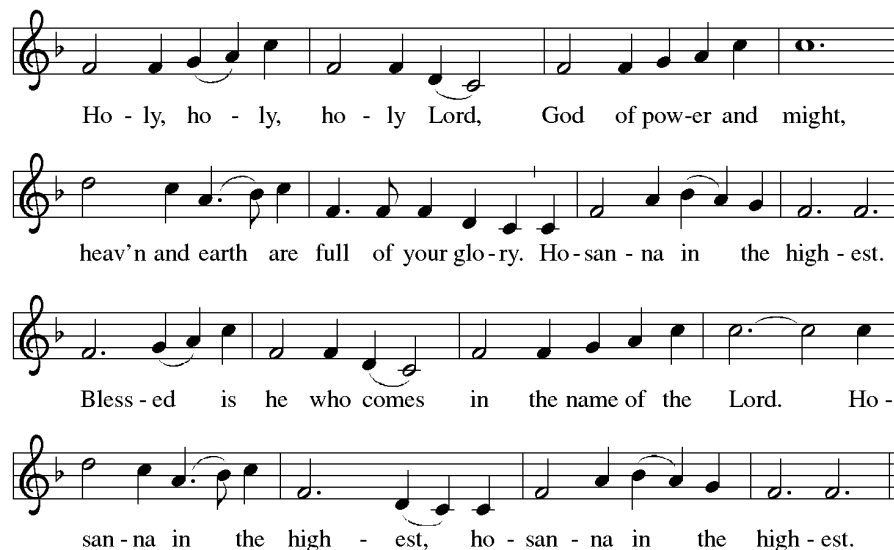
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy (ELW p. 190)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer


Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Invitation to Communion

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Song *I Received the Living God* (ELW 477)

Refrain



I re - ceived the liv-ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv-ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



1 Je-sus said: I am the bread, knead-ed long to give you life;
2 Je-sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
3 Je-sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
4 Je-sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,



Refrain

you who will par-take of me need not ev - er fear to die.
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: Anonymous
Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *The Church's One Foundation* (ELW 654)



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876