



June 30, 2024

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

Prelude

Invocation

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

This is the day that the LORD has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God,

And He has made His light to shine upon us.

Psalms 118:24, 26-27

Confession and Absolution

Almighty and eternal God, You have blessed us with a free land, having rights and privileges others dream about. We live in a land where liberty is given to us. With freedom also comes temptation to misuse our freedom.

Forgive us, Lord, for misusing freedom in selfish ways. Keep us from squandering the precious opportunities You have given to us by the many freedoms we have.

For these sins and all sins, sins of thought, word, and deed:

By what we have done or failed to do, we stand before You now, asking Your

forgiveness, and for the help of the Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives. *Time of Silence*

Hear the Good News! God has heard your confession. He has forgiven your sins because of the cross of Christ. Receive that forgiveness in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen! Thank You, Lord, for forgiving us. Help us, by the aid of Your Holy Spirit, to relish the freedoms You have given to us as Christians and as a country.

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

♪ Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with Thee.

Thou changest not; Thy compassions, they fail not;

As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

~Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

♪ Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above

Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. ~Great is...

♪ Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside. ~Great is....

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty and gracious God, You have given our country a precious gift—the gift of freedom. As we celebrate that gift from You today, help us, by Your Holy Spirit, to remember the greater gift of freedom in the cross and empty tomb of Jesus, who gives us freedom now and eternally, with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, one Lord, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading *Please Be Seated*

Exodus 12:10–28

¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast. ¹⁵Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall remove leaven out of your houses, for if anyone eats what is leavened, from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel. ¹⁶On the first day you shall hold a holy assembly, and on the seventh day a holy assembly. No work shall be done on those days. But what everyone needs to eat, that alone may be prepared by you. ¹⁷And you shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day, throughout your generations, as a statute forever. ¹⁸In the first month, from the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread until the twenty-first day of the month at evening. ¹⁹For seven days no leaven is to be found in your houses. If anyone eats what is leavened, that person will be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is a sojourner or a native of the land. ²⁰You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your dwelling places you shall eat unleavened bread.”

²¹Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go and select lambs for yourselves according to your clans, and kill the Passover lamb. ²²Take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. ²³For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you. ²⁴You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons forever. ²⁵And when you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this service. ²⁶And when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’ ²⁷you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.’” And the people bowed their heads and worshiped.

²⁸Then the people of Israel went and did so; as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

- ♪ Come, Thou almighty King, Help us Thy name to sing;
Help us to praise; Father all-glorious, O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.
- ♪ Come, Thou incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty sword;
Our prayer attend. Come and Thy people bless, And give Thy Word success,
And let Thy righteousness On us descend.
- ♪ Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour! Thou, who almighty art, Now rule in ev'ry heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.

Please Stand

- ♪ To Thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises be
Hence evermore! Thy sov'reign majesty May we in glory see,
And to eternity Love and adore.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 905 -Text: English, before 1760; Tune: Felice de Giardini 1716-96,
Setting: Lutheran Book of Worship 1985; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Holy Gospel

John 8:31–36

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

- ♪ Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring In joy and praise, Our hearts we raise to You, our King!
- ♪ The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.
For this bright day, For this fair land- Gifts of Your hand- Our thanks we pay.
- ♪ May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise A grateful song.
- ♪ Earth, hear Your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone. Cast down your pride,
Your sin deplore, And bow before The Crucified.
- ♪ And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, With joy to sing To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 966-Text: Francis Scott Key 1779-1843
Tune: John Darwall 1731-89, setting: William H. Monk 1823-89; Public Domain.*

Proclamation of the Word

“Why, in the Name of Freedom?”

Exodus 12:10–28

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand* *Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:14

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“God Bless Our Native Land”

- ♪ God bless our native land; Firm may she ever stand Through storm and night.
When the wild tempest rave, Ruler of wind and wave,
Do Thou our country save By Thy great might.
- ♪ So shall our prayers arise To God above the skies; On Him we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh, Guarding with watchful eye,
To Thee aloud we cry: God save the state!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 965-Text: Charles T. Brooks 1813-83, v. 1; John S. Dwight 1813-93, v. 2
Tune: Thesaurus Musicus, London c. 1740; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Postlude