

# Mesquite Lutheran Church & Childcare Center

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## AS WE GATHER The Sixth Sunday of Easter May 17, 2020

What makes our Easter celebration so amazing is that here it is that same Lord Jesus whom we witnessed dying on a bloody cross who now risen from the dead appears and speaks to us. Today He promises to send to us “another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth” (John 14:16–17). By means of the Spirit we are equipped not only to testify and witness to the saving faith but also, should it be God’s will, to suffer for that testimony. We hear the inspired words of Peter speak about suffering “for righteousness’ sake” living in the very resurrection hope of Christ.

Peter wants to convince us that it is precisely in our suffering that Christ meets us and acts for us. For He knows suffering intimately but also possesses the triumph over it. He points us to our Baptism, where Christ’s victory becomes our victory. His resurrection life gives us new life, which for now is but the beginning to be stretched out into life eternal.

## WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN 903 “This is the Day the Lord Has Made”

- 1 This is the day the Lord has made; He calls the hours His own.  
Let heav’n rejoice, let earth be glad And praise surround the throne.
- 2 Today He rose and left the dead, And Satan’s empire fell;  
Today the saints His triumphs spread And all His wonders tell.
- 3 Hosanna to the anointed King, To David’s holy Son!  
Help us, O Lord; descend and bring Salvation from Your throne.
- 4 Blessèd is He who comes to us With messages of grace;  
He, in the Lord’s name, comes to us To save our fallen race.
- 5 Hosanna in the highest strains The Church on earth can raise.  
The highest heav’ns, in which He reigns, Shall give Him nobler praise.

## INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 95:1, 7

P Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

C let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

P For He is our God,

C and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand!

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P The three sad days have quickly sped,  
He rises glorious from the dead.  
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia! (*LSB* 464:3)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Even as we glory in the gift of eternal life, in that hope we spend our days in joyful repentance and faith. Let us confess our sin, the sin that still so easily besets us, and receive the full forgiveness our Lord daily provides for us.

**C Lord God, though the strife is over, the battle done, and now is the victor's triumph won, sin still hangs on. We are Your baptized people. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us into our Easter joy.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## WORD

**INTROIT** Psalm 119:89–93; antiphon: v. 105

P Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

**C Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.**

P Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

**C By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants.**

P If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

**C I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.**

**All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

## SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

God our Father, You protect Your children from all that would harm our salvation. Give us the courage of faith and love toward You, that we have boldness to live for You and confess Your holy name before all; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Acts 17:16–31

<sup>16</sup>While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup>Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbling wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup>And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are pre-

senting? <sup>20</sup>For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.”  
<sup>21</sup>Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. <sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup>And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup>that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup>for “‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, “‘For we are indeed his offspring.’ <sup>29</sup>Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup>The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

#### **EPISTLE READING** 1 Peter 3:13–22

<sup>13</sup>Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, which corresponds to this, 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, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

#### **VERSE** Romans 6:9; John 16:33b

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia.

C **In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.**

#### **HOLY GOSPEL** John 14:15–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup>even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY 725 “Children of the Heavenly Father”**

- 1 Children of the heav’nly Father Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e’er was given.
- 2 God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms He bears them.
- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.
- 4 Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne’er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

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## **SERMON “Children of God” John 14:15-21**

### **APOSTLES’ CREED**

**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**

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Lord God, we give You thanks and praise for the new life and salvation with which You have brought beauty into our lives and our world again through the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray that You open the ears of all who hear Your Word, that this salvation come to many in true repentance and faith, the gift of Your own Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** [*Petitions...*] Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C** **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## BENEDICTION

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN 821 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood."
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received Him When the forty days were o'er,  
Shall our hearts forget His promise: "I am with you evermore"?
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to You from day to day.  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea  
Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary, Earth Your footstool, heav'n Your throne.  
As within the veil You entered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,  
Here on earth both priest and victim In the eucharistic feast.
- 5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood."

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**PRAYER LIST:** Turk Chaney, healing; Melissa Harris, daughter of Den & Sophie Hood, cancer treatment; Marilyn Goble, cancer treatment; Kalyse, niece and Rhoda, sister of Gayle & Les Miller, cancer; Harold Holtz, cancer treatments; Randy Saltzman, cancer; Bernard Dill, cancer, friend of Fritz & Barbara Reed. Tom Stettler, Southern Utah Veterans Home; the homebound.

**RUMMAGE SALE HAS BEEN CANCELLED** (until further notice – possibly to be held in the fall).

**THANK YOU** to all our golfers, volunteers, and donors who made our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament a success and helped us make the most of it in our current circumstances!

**MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER:** Our cash position remains stable. In order for our position to remain stable, please mail in, drop off offerings in a timely manner as you would normally do. April was a tough month. We're hoping to improve in May and going forward. God bless, Den Hood.

**WORSHIP AND COMMUNION BY RESERVATION** is being offered in ½ hour time slots (limited to 8 at a time) Sunday-Thursday. **Sunday times** are: 8:30am, 9:30am, 10:30am, 11:30 a.m. **Monday – Thursday:** 10am, 11:00 am, 1pm, 2pm. Reservation can be made by clicking on this link or typing it into your browser address bar: <https://sagenda.net/Frontend/Calendar/5eb87752034e114b20b9d402>

**This will be available through June 4<sup>th</sup>.** We will monitor the situation if there is a need to continue beyond then. We hope it will be safe to gather in regular worship very soon.

**Please note:** the calendar will only confirm that you are booked. Time slot will not be listed when it is already full. It does not tell you how many others have signed up. If you have any problems, call me and I will help you out, make reservations, or correct any errors. You may also call Pastor to make reservations. 815-409-1156.

**Your continued prayers and support for Mesquite Lutheran Church and Childcare Center are greatly appreciated! Thanks be to God for His generous Spirit!**