

# THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 21, 2017 - 9:00AM

St. Paul Lutheran Church | 95 W. State St, Coldwater, MI 49036  
[www.stpaulcoldwater.com](http://www.stpaulcoldwater.com) | 517-278-8061 | Facebook: @StPaulColdwater



## WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS

We're glad you're here! All in attendance are asked to please complete the **CONNECT** card located in the pew rack and read the statement concerning the reception of the Lord's Supper found on the **WORSHIP** card. Feel free to ask an usher for help or directions.

**PRAYER** cards and **CONNECT** cards will be picked up by the ushers during the sermon hymn.

## NURSERY

Our nursery is located right past the double doors in the preschool wing on the right, which is across the hall from the coat room (to your right as you exit the Sanctuary). The Sanctuary audio is provided in that room, so you won't miss a thing.

## AS WE GATHER

At the time that Peter wrote today's Epistle, Rome was in great need for Jesus Christ. Rome needed people who were truly committed to Jesus Christ as their Lord in their hearts, in their minds, and in their daily lifestyles. Our world needs such people today. Jesus has sent His Holy Spirit to teach our hearts and equip us to defend that which we love. Have you set apart your heart for Jesus Christ and Him alone because He first loved you? Ask the Holy Spirit to create a clean heart in you and then prepare that heart by setting it aside, consecrating it for Jesus Christ as your Lord. Spend time in prayer asking for God to prepare you to share the hope that you have in Christ. And then look out, because God will answer that prayer with people and opportunities. So be bold. Be ready. Be prepared. In this hope, you have the forgiveness of your sin, your future secured, and your love unconditionally realized: Because He lives, you live!

# DIVINE SERVICE

Our Divine Service today follows what can be considered a “creative” or “contemporary” order of worship. While it contains all of the essential elements of a liturgical Divine Service, it contains variety in what these elements look, feel, and sound like. The ORDER of WORSHIP below will lead you through the Divine Service in its entirety. We pray that it delivers your heart where you can receive the gifts God brings, and join the chorus of worshippers united in singing His praise this morning.

## ORDER of WORSHIP

### CALL to WORSHIP

*Praise Team*

“Hungry”

1. **Hungry I come to You for I know You satisfy**  
**I am empty but I know Your love does not run dry**

*Pre-Chorus* **So I wait for You**  
**So I wait for You**

*Chorus* **I'm falling on my knees**  
**Offering all of me**  
**Jesus You're all this heart is living for**

2. **Broken I run to You for Your arms are open wide**  
**I am weary but I know Your touch restores my life**

### PSALM 66:8-12, 16-20

*REFRAIN (from NIV):*

Praise our God, \_ O peo - ples,

Let the sound \_ of His praise be heard. \_

**C Bless our God, O peoples;**  
**let the sound of his praise be heard,**  
**who has kept our soul among the living**  
**and has not let our feet slip.**  
**For you, O God, have tested us;**  
**you have tried us as silver is tried.**  
**You brought us into the net;**  
**you laid a crushing burden on our backs;**  
**you let men ride over our heads;**

**we went through fire and through water;**  
**yet you have brought us out to a place of**  
**abundance. (REFRAIN)**

**C Come and hear, all you who fear God,**  
**and I will tell what he has**  
**done for my soul.**  
**I cried to him with my mouth,**  
**and high praise was on my tongue.**

**If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened.  
But truly God has listened;  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.**

**Blessed be God,  
because he has not rejected my prayer  
or removed his steadfast love from me!**  
*(REFRAIN)*

## CONFESSION *and* ABSOLUTION

*Praise Team*

### CONFESSION

*(This is a time during the call to worship that you will be able to reflect and repent of our sinful condition in order to receive the grace found in Christ alone.)*

### ABSOLUTION

**P** Indeed, God's plan was not for you to die, but live. God's plan was not for you to be separated from Him by a wall of sin, but united with Him in joyful living. Therefore, it is my privilege as a called and ordained servant of the Word to forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen! All praise to our God in whom we live, move, and have our being.**

### SONG OF THE DAY: "Great Are You, Lord"

*Praise Team*

*Verse* **You give life You are love  
You bring light to the darkness  
You give hope You restore  
Ev'ry heart that is broken  
And great are You Lord**

*Chorus* **It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise  
We pour out our praise  
It's Your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise to You only**

*Bridge* **All the earth will shout your praise  
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing  
Great Are You Lord *(REPEAT)***

### PEACE

**L** We have come into this place burdened by the weight of sin and encumbered by the brokenness of the world. But, having been restored by the forgiveness of sin, we have been unified in grace. Take time now to share with one another the resulting peace of a community of saints.

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

*(Greet your neighbor saying, "Peace be with you." Reply with "And also with you." It is not expected that you greet the entire assembly, rather reach those in your vicinity..)*

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ,

Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## SERVICE *of the* WORD

### FIRST READING (*Sit*)

Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. 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. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babblers wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities" — because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. 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

### EPISTLE READING

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, 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; 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

### *Acts 17:16–31*

proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. 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, 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, 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."

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. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 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."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### *1 Peter 3:13–22*

be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

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, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, 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. 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, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

### ALLELUIA and VERSE (*Stand*)

Al - le - lu - ia! \_\_\_ Al - le lu \_\_\_ ia! \_\_\_ Al - le - lu - ia, \_\_\_ a - men.

### HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

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

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 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.

*John 14:15–21*

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 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!**

**NICENE CREED** (*Printed on the inside back cover of the Lutheran Service Book*)

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** (*Sit*)

**SERMON**

**OFFERING**

**MUSIC DURING OFFERING** “God Is Able”

1. **God is able, He will never fail.  
He is Almighty God.  
Greater than all we seek.  
Greater than all we ask.  
He has done great things.**

*Chorus* **Lifted up, He defeated the grave.  
Raised to life, our God is able.  
In His Name, we overcome,  
For the Lord our God is able.**

2. **God is with us, God is on our side.  
He will make a way.  
Far above all we know.  
Far above all we hope.  
He has done great things.**

*Bridge* **God is with us, He will go before.  
He will never leave us. He will never leave us.  
God is for us. He has open arms.  
He will never fail us. He will never fail us.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Stand)*

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.** *(this will be the response following each petition)*

*(Prayers conclude...)*

P We give You thanks, almighty God, that as You gave Your Son to be our Redeemer, so You send forth Your Holy Spirit to sanctify and keep us in the faith. Continue to pour out Your Spirit upon Your Church so that, enlivened by His work in the Means of Grace, we might remain steadfast until You deliver us to heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## SERVICE *of the* SACRAMENT

*We welcome to the table of the Lord's Supper all those who believe and confess alongside this family the teachings of the Lutheran Church. For more on this, refer to the Worship card, located in each pew rack.*

### PREFACE

P The crowds asked Jesus,

C **"What must we do to do the works God requires?"**

P Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one He has sent." So they asked Him,

C **"What miraculous sign then will You give that we may see it and believe You? What will You do? Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat'"**

P Jesus said to them: "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said,

C **"Sir, from now on give us this bread."**

P Then Jesus declared, . . . "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is My flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

C **Let us give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endures forever.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### 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.**

### **PEACE OF THE LORD**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

P Welcome to the table of the Lord.

### **AGNUS DEI** (*Remain standing*)

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us**

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us**

**Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

**DISTRIBUTION** (*You may be seated, awaiting instruction from the ushers*)

### **SONGS:**

*"Glorious Day"*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. I was buried beneath my shame<br>Who could carry that kind of weight<br>It was my tomb 'til I met You | 2. I was breathing but not alive<br>All my failures I tried to hide<br>It was my tomb 'til I met You |
|--|--|

*Chorus* ('Cause when) You called my name (and) I ran out of that grave  
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day  
You called my name (and) I ran out of that grave  
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3. Now Your mercy has saved my soul<br>Now Your freedom is all that I know<br>The old made new Jesus when I met You | <i>Bridge</i> I needed rescue my sin was heavy<br>But chains break at the weight of Your glory<br>I needed shelter I was an orphan<br>Now You call me a citizen of Heaven<br>When I was broken You were my healing<br>Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing<br>I have a future my eyes are open |
|---|---|

*"Once and For All"*

1. **Once and for all the Father's love, He is the light in the darkness.  
Who took on flesh and took our place, the weight of the world on His shoulders,  
The weight of the world on His shoulders.**

*Chorus* **We believe our God is Jesus, we believe that He is Lord,  
We believe that He has saved us from sin and death once and for all!**

2. **Once and for all our debt is paid, there on the cross it is finished.  
The Lamb of God for us was slain; up from the grave, He is risen;  
Up from the grave He is risen.** *Chorus* (*song continues on next page*)

*(Bridge)*      **Jesus, Jesus! God from God, Light from light, You are our salvation.**  
**Jesus, Jesus! God from God, Light from light, Your Kingdom is forever. (Repeat)**

**“Come As You Are”**

1. **Come out of sadness from wherever you've been**  
**Come broken-hearted let rescue begin**  
**Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel**  
**Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal**  
**Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal**

*Chorus (So)* **Lay down your burdens lay down your shame**  
**All who are broken lift up your face**  
**O wanderer come home**  
**You're not too far**  
**So lay down your hurt lay down your heart**  
**Come as you are**

2. **There's hope for the hopeless**  
**And all those who've strayed**  
**Come sit at the table come taste the grace**  
**There's rest for the weary**  
**Rest that endures**  
**Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure**

*Bridge* **Come as you are**  
**Fall in His arms**  
**Come as you are**

3. **There's joy for the morning O sinner be still**  
**Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal**  
**Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal**

### **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the Day of His coming we may join with all Your saints to celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

### **BLESSING and BENEDICTION**

*1 Peter 3:18*

P For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous,

**C that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit...**

P The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord bestow His favor upon you, and give you His ☩ peace, now and forevermore.

**C Amen.**

### **CLOSING SONG: “You Are Worthy of My Praise”**

*Praise Team*

*(The verses are an echo, so follow the worship leader.)*

*Chorus:* **I will give You all my worship, I will give You all my praise.**

**You alone I long to worship, You alone are worthy of my praise. (Repeat)**

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