

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Lord Who Gives Rest

July 1, 4, 5, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Rest is elusive; as each day ends, we must confess with Paul in today's Epistle that we had "the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out." In our tiredness, the mirror shows that we are wretched indeed. But Zechariah wrote of a day when the battle would be over, thanks to a coming king, who would set the prisoners free. His description points us to Jesus on Palm Sunday; His death and resurrection have set us free from our bondage to sin. His compassion for us shows in His prayer of thanksgiving to our heavenly Father. In our Savior, we find the rest we need each day. Compared to the failing struggle we engage in daily, His yoke is easy, His burden is light. As David wrote in the psalm, "The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down." He gives rest for the soul!

WELCOME

For you were called to freedom, brothers.
Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh,
but through love serve one another.
For the whole law is fulfilled in one word:
"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
Galatians 5:13-14 ESV

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #906 "O Day of Rest and Gladness"

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness, Most beautiful, most bright;
This day the high and lowly, Through ages joined to bless,
Sing, "Holy, holy, holy," The triune God confess.

This day at earth's creation The light first had its birth;
This day for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth;
This day our Lord victorious The Spirit sent from heav'n,
And thus this day most glorious A threefold light was giv'n.

1 continued

This day, God's people meeting, His Holy Scripture hear;
His living presence greeting, Through bread and wine made near.
We journey on, believing, Renewed with heav'nly might,
From grace more grace receiving, On this blest day of light.

(Rise)

That light our hope sustaining, We walk the pilgrim way,
At length our rest attaining, Our endless Sabbath day.
We sing to Thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son;
The Church her voice upraises To Thee, blest Three in One.

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

People: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Pastor: Behold, your king is coming to you;

People: righteous and having salvation is He.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: By ourselves, we are not righteous and cannot free ourselves; our only hope is to be given Christ's righteousness and be saved. Let us confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and our sinful condition.

Pastor: Merciful God,

People: I confess to you and in the presence of my brothers and sisters that I sin daily and deserve nothing but punishment. Not only am I by nature sinful and unclean, but also with St. Paul, "I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand." Father forgive us.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He offers full and free pardon for all your sins and even your sinful condition. By His death and resurrection, He provides rest. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord, God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, whose yoke is easy and burden light, who has promised that we will find rest for our souls,

People: when we are weary, strengthen our resolve; when disheartened, lift our spirits; and when opposed on all sides, surround us with your strong love,

Pastor: for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Zechariah 9:9–12* (Through the prophet, the Lord promises an end to spiritual warfare.)⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Romans 7:14–25a* (Unable to stop sinning, Paul finds deliverance only in Jesus Christ.)¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good.¹⁷ So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being,²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SONG

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

(AGPS 139)

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul. (repeat)

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul. (repeat)

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul. (repeat)

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 11:25–30* (Jesus invites His hearers to come to Him for true rest.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

SERMON HYMN #684 "Come Unto Me, Ye Weary"

"Come unto Me, ye weary, And I will give you rest."

O Blessed voice of Jesus, Which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction, Of pardon, grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending, Of love that cannot cease.

"Come unto Me, ye wand'ers, And I will give you light."

O loving voice of Jesus, Which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness, And we had lost our way;
But Thou hast brought us gladness And songs at break of day.

"Come unto Me, ye fainting, And I will give you life."

O Cheering voice of Jesus, Which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager, The fight is fierce and long;
But Thou hast made us mighty And stronger than the strong.

"And whosoever cometh, I will not cast him out."

O patient love of Jesus, Which drives away our doubt,
Which, though we be unworthy Of love so great and free,
Invites us very sinners To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

SERMON "Jesus Carries Your Burden"

(Rise)

NICENE CREED

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING *Offering plates will be placed in the narthex and elevator room for gathering at the end of the service.*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs: We pray for the Church, that the message of salvation be proclaimed joyfully throughout all the world and that those who faithfully share the Gospel and who live it out in their lives know blessing and contentment. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for the nations of the world, that all would know times of peace and security. Grant that the leaders of our nation be endowed with wisdom and courage, that they seek the well-being of our people in every way. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for our nation as we rejoice in the freedoms we enjoy. We give you special thanks for all those who serve in the military, in medical professions, as educators, and as emergency personnel. Grant that we live out our citizenship with dedication and gratitude. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for special conditions and circumstances. By your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, especially Jack, Janine, Louis, Dawn, Charles, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Marilyn, Dennis, Diane, Arlene, Dorothy, June, Jerry, Bette, Cindy, Sarah, Shirley, Katie, Gladys, Shirley and Sarah. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all a measure of your love, taking them into your tender care. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you on earth, who now rest from their labors, especially Russ Graf. Keep us in fellowship with all your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: All these things and whatever else you know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

“O Lamb of God, Christ Jesus”

O Lamb of God, Christ Jesus, Our sins You take away.
O Lamb of God, Christ Jesus, Grant us Your peace this day.
O Lamb of God, Christ Jesus, In You our sins take flight,
And thus Your yoke is easy, For us Your burden light.

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(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION *Wait for the ushers to direct you to come forward.* Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN #642

“O Living Bread from Heaven”

O living Bread from heaven, How well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing, Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing, With praises overflows.

My Lord, you here have led me To this most holy place
And with yourself have fed me The treasures of your grace;
For you have freely given What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven, That now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted; This food can death destroy.
And you have freely granted The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit The favor you have shown,
And all my soul and spirit Bow down before your throne.

Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened With heav'nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened, To serve with holy fear.
And when you call my spirit To leave this world below,
I enter, through your merit, Where joys unmingled flow.

HYMN #622

“Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared”

Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared This feast for our salvation;
It is your body and your blood, And at your invitation
As weary souls, with sin oppressed, We come to you for needed rest,
For comfort, and for pardon.

Although you did to heav'n ascend, Where angel hosts are dwelling,
And in your presence they behold your glory, all excelling,
And though your people shall not see your glory and your majesty
Till dawns the judgment morning.

Yet, Savior, you are not confined To any habitation;
But you are present even now Here with your congregation.
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Unmoved by any daring
hand Or subtle craft and cunning.

We eat this bread and drink this cup, your precious Word believing
That your true body and your blood Our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true, All things are possible with you,
For you are Lord Almighty.

Though reason cannot understand, Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is even now At once in many places.
I leave to you how this can be; Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unailing.

Lord, I believe what you have said; Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust, And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.

Grant that we worthily receive your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins, May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for your grace And day by day
may run our race, In holiness increasing.

For your consoling supper, Lord, Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have given
us pardon and peace in this Sacrament,

**People: and we implore you that, rested and refreshed, we leave to serve you
with all that we are and have, and bring your invitation of rest to all
whom we meet;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you with rest and keep you in His care. The Lord make
His face shine on you and invigorate you for service in His name. The
Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace today and always.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN #924 "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing, Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us, Trav'ling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration For Your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful To Your truth may we be found.

Savior, when Your love shall call us From our struggling pilgrim way.
Let not fear of death appall us, Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever Reign with You in endless day.

Preacher & Liturgist

Lector

Director of Parish Music

Pastor Noah Kegley

Debbie Ulbing

Michelle Prince

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