**May 26, 2019 Early**

**SHARING OF CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed by the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water,

The rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

AMEN.

Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

*Silence*

God of grace and glory,

**You have brought us through the night of sin**

**Into the light of Jesus’ resurrection.**

**Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin.**

**Make us alive in Christ, O God.**

**Make us new as you make all things new.**

**Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace,**

**And restore us to living in your holiness,**

**Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.**

**Amen.**

Rejoice with all creation around God’s throne!

The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride.

Jesus Christ loves you

And + frees you from your sins by his blood.

To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG This is the Feast (ELW p. 140)**

**GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

The assembly is seated.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that, empowered by your Spirit, we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**First Reading:** Acts 16:9-15

A reading from Acts….

9During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” 10When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. 11We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, 12and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. 13On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. 14A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. 15When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING:** Revelation 21:10, 22 – 22:5

A reading from Revelation…

10And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

22I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. 23And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. 24The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. 25Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. 26People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. 27But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

22Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; 4they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to welcome the Gospel.*

*(The gospel is read by the pastor)*

**The Gospel:** John 14:23-29

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

3Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. 24Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

25”I have said these things to you while I am still with you. 26But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. 27Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

28You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. 29And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** The Church of Christ, in Every Age (ELW 729) Vs 1, 3, 5

**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.**

*(The pastor reads the introduction and the ending, the lay assistant reads the indented petitions.)*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting God’s promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Prevail upon us with your Spirit. Convince us daily that you have called us to proclaim the good news of your grace. Let all who love you proclaim your word of life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Feed us with the bounty of your creation. Bless the earth with enough rain and sun fore the flourishing of orchards, gardens and fields. Give us thankful hearts as we share the fruit of the land with all who hunger. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

The leaves of your tree of life are for the healing of the nations. Bring an end to civil war, genocide, terrorism, and violence. Overcome divisions of race, politics, and religion. Mend relationships across borders. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Our hearts are troubled and afraid. Visit us again with your peace. Comfort those facing uncertain futures: those who are unemployed or underemployed, those in difficult relationships, those with chronic pain, those waiting for news about their health, and those who mourn or are sick. *Especially….* Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for all who have died in service to our nation. Inspire us to walk in your light and to live for the sake of freedom and justice for your children. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Open the gates of salvation to all who are written in your book of life. Lead us into the city that needs no light of sun or moon, where you will be our light forever. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,

for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,

and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus

who, living among us,

healed the sick,

fed the hungry,

and with a love stronger than death,

gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,

we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:

carry us in your arms from death to life,

that we may live as your chosen ones,

clothed in the righteousness of Christ

who taught us to pray…

**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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The table of life is spread before you.   
Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.   
**Thanks be to God.**

**COMMUNION**

*The prayer after communion is read by the lay assistant)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, O God, that you make your home with us

Bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal.

Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here, that we may wipe away tears, tend to those in mourning and pain, seek the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Blessing**

The blessing of the Lord God Almighty,

The blessing of + Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

And the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth

Be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Song** *Lord, You Give the Great Commission (ELW 579) vs 1, 3, 5*

*(The dismissal is given by the lay assistant)***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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