

## **Announcements**

-Worship in July: we will offer two opportunities for in-person worship in July, on July 12 & 26. These will be outdoor services, with social distancing & other precautions for safety. Full details will be in the July Newsletter.

-Zoom Coffee Hour: Starting at 11 every Sunday, join in for conversation:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/601353237?pwd=YjhXSE5rZ2hPaUg1SIIzMUNMNVI2dz09>

-Pastor Beth is taking vacation June 18-23. Please contact Jodi with any church needs or questions during those days.

-On June 28, we will include Holy Communion in our online worship service. Lutherans teach that through the promises of God, Jesus is present in the bread and cup whenever the congregation assembles in faith. Even if we assemble in front of screens at home, God's promises still apply. I invite you to bring bread or crackers and wine or grape juice with you to online worship. At that point in the service, I will speak the Words of Institution and you may commune in your home. If you are unable to get bread and wine or juice, contact me: I have individually packaged wafers and juice which I will deliver at your home this weekend if you prefer. If you can't access online worship but want communion, call me about having a physically-distanced home communion visit.

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have**

**done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**Rise, Shine, You People!**



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the  
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.  
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.  
 Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934-2003  
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**GREETING**

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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God, we know that we must obey you, yet there are many voices who demand our attention and obedience. Turn our ears and hearts to listen to your voice above all others, for we must obey you rather than humans. Make us faithful to your call.

**Amen.**

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*  
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*  
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

**WORD**

5Vtg) . %+! (&`  
CbW'U[ U]bž'h YfY ]g'U'dck Yf'ghfi [ [ 'Y'VYHk YYb'h Y'YghUV ]g\ YX'Ui h cf]h]Yg'UbX'h Y'  
Zc`ck Yfg'cZ>Ygi g''H Y'UdcghYg'UfY'k fcb[ ž `m]a df]gcbYXž'h Yb'fYgWYX'VmX]j ]bY'  
]bhYfj Ybh]cb'' H YmiUfY'UffYghYX'U'gYVčbX'h]a Yž'Yj ]XYbhimiYgVUd]b[ 'dc ]W'Vfi HU]hmi  
VYVWi gY'h Y'Včk Xg'UfY'k UHVV]b[ 'h Y'UffYgh''5h'h Y'gYVčbX'UffYghž'h YmiUfY'Vfci [ \ h'  
VYZcfY'h Y'fY'] [ ]ci g'Ui h cf]h]Yg'fk \cgY'dck Yf'Yi hYbXg'hc'V] ]W]ZYž'Ug'k Y`čž'k \c'cbW'  
U[ U]b'cfXYf'h Ya 'bch'hc'gdYU\_ 'UVci h>Ygi g''DYHf'ghUHYg'h Uh'h YmiVUbbchc'VYmi\i a Ub'  
Ui h cf]hmicj Yf'X]j ]bY'Ui h cf]hmi'h ci [ \ ]bž'f]UH'X'Uh'h ]g'XYZ]UbWž'h Y'YUXYfg'UfY'  
Včbj ]bWX'bch'hc'UMiVmi'h Y'fUVV]; Ua U]Y''H Ymik ]`k U]h'Zcf; cX]đ'í X[ a Ybh'cb'h Y'  
Zc`ck Yfg'cZ>Ygi g''

Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said, "Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole

message about this life." When they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and went on with their teaching.

When the high priest and those with him arrived, they called together the council and the whole body of the elders of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the temple police went there, they did not find them in the prison; so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed about them, wondering what might be going on. Then someone arrived and announced, "Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!" Then the captain went with the temple police and brought them, but without violence, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, stood up and ordered the men to be put outside for a short time. Then he said to them, "Fellow Israelites, consider carefully what you propose to do to these men. For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him; but he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and disappeared. After him Judas the Galilean rose up at the time of the census and got people to follow him; he also perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case, I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone; because if this plan or this undertaking is of human origin, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them—in that case you may even be found fighting against God!"

They were convinced by him, and when they had called in the apostles, they had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. As they left the council, they rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer

dishonor for the sake of the name. And every day in the temple and at home they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.

## **SERMON**

Peter is in trouble again. It's not just Peter, either! There's a whole crowd of apostles who have been arrested. Those early Christians sure were trouble-makers! For James and John, Mary and Martha, Peter and Andrew, Salome and Mary Magdalene, Bartholomew and Matthew, and all the rest, "trouble-making" was in many ways a part of their spiritual heritage. Doubt it? Here's just a few examples of people from the Hebrew Bible, our Old Testament, defying human authority to answer to God.

In Exodus, when Pharaoh wanted the Hebrew boys killed, he commanded the midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, to kill any male baby they helped deliver. They refused, and when Pharaoh challenged them about the baby boys, they lied: "Oh, you know those Hebrew women! They're so strong they give birth before we even get there, so there's really nothing we can do!" Because of their defiance, Moses was born and lived to lead the Israelites out of slavery.

In I Kings, when King Ahab and Queen Jezebel directed the people to worship Baal, Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal and returned the people's worship to God. Because of his courage, many Israelites repented and returned to God.

In Esther, when Haman advised King Ahasuerus to let all the Jews in Persia be killed because they worshipped and lived differently than the Persian majority, Queen Esther defied the law to go before Ahasuerus and plead for her people. Because of her boldness, genocide was prevented.

And so, bolstered by this legacy of trouble-makers who follow God rather than human authority, the disciples defy their leaders, too. Even being thrown in jail does not cool their passion for sharing the Good News that Jesus Christ is the risen savior of the world. They know this message must be shared! They spent three years listening to Jesus, learning from him, and following him. They know Jesus so well that they can't stand to let his story die. They are so full of the Holy Spirit that they cannot stand the idea of obeying human commands that contradict God's commands.

This is our heritage, too. Christians have resisted unjust authorities in order to obey God. Like Sophie Scholl, who disobeyed the German government to call for resistance to the Nazis and denounced Nazi oppression. Like Rosa Parks, who disobeyed the law, remaining seated on the bus in Montgomery. Like Archbishop Oscar Romero, who spoke out against social injustice in his home of El Salvador until he was assassinated in the middle of celebrating mass.

It is deeply Christian to hold God's commands more dear than any human authority. It is deeply Christian to hold leaders of church and state accountable for their actions. The church has always had its share of trouble-makers who call us all to follow God more deliberately. They call us to pay attention, to notice if we're willing to take risks

in the name of Jesus. The disciples, after all, were imprisoned-- twice! The police weren't violent with them only because there was a crowd watching. The leaders tried again and again to make the disciples shut up and sit down. They did not. They could not-- for they knew: "we must obey God rather than any human authority."

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Just a Closer Walk with Thee**

*Refrain*



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



- 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
- 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



*Refrain*

I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.  
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.  
 guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional  
 Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

**PRAYERS**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

God our authority, make us hear and heed your commands. Let no earthly authority overtake your place in our hearts. Where we must, give us courage to resist ungodly

authorities and follow you. Let your church be ever faithful to your call. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our creator, you called your creation good. May we take delight in oceans and lakes, rivers and streams, hills and valleys, deserts and mountains. May we work to protect the creation you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our Father, you have given to us earthly fathers. Help all who are called to fatherhood. May they love and provide for their children's needs. Comfort those who are without their father. Console those who long to be fathers but are not, due to division, loss, or infertility. Equip fathers to raise faithful children. Be present with all those whose relationship with their father or children is damaged. We thank you for all men who act as fathers in our lives. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our healer, you hear our cries and do not avoid our suffering. Bring relief to those afflicted by disease, unemployment, prejudice, and violence. Lend your strength to those who work to restore healthy bodies and communities. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of our ancestors, we thank you for those who have followed you faithfully through life and death. May all your saints rest in peace and rise in glory. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Let us join together in the prayer Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*HcXUnz'VebhUMi'U'ZUha Yf'Z[i fY']b'nci f''ZY'UbX'g\UfY'; cX'g'dYUW'k Jh' h Ya ''*

**OFFERING**

*; cX'\Ug'[ Jj Yb'hc'YUW'cZi g'ci f'gY'j Ygž'ci f'h]a Yž'UbX'ci f'dcggYgg]cbg''; cX'[ Jj Yg'hY' k Ufa h'cZgi a a Yf'gi bž'hY'Vta ZcfhcZU'd\cbY'W''Zca 'U'cj YX'cbYž'hY'fYUggi fUbW' cZdfUmYf''K \Uh; cX'\Ug'[ Jj Yb'hc'i gž; cX'Yl dYVg'i g'hc'g\UfY''=Znci 'UfY']b'U'dcg]h]cb' hc'a U\_Y'U'Vebhf]Vi h]cb'hc'gi ddcfh'ci f'Veb[ fY[ Uh]cb]a ]b]ghfnž'nci 'Wlb'a U]'nci f' WYV\hc'hY'Wi fW/h'Y'a U]' ]g'VY]b[ 'WYV\YX'fY[i 'Uf'm'H'Ub\_'nci 'Zcf'nci f'gi ddcfh'*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Merciful God, our ordinary gifts seem small, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives. Let all that we offer be in service to you to the glory of the risen Christ.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SENDING HYMN**

In our prayers this week:

Millie Mracek (Sally Kruse's great-niece, cancer treatment)

Our members in nursing homes or assisted living: Ron & Carolyn Belitz, Marge Seebeck, Delores Werling