

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9, 2021
Living Faith Lutheran Church, Sechelt, BC

Preservice Music/Welcome/Announcements

GATHERING

Easter Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!** (*Repeat 3 times*)

Psalm 98

*O sing to the LORD a new song,
for God has done marvelous things.*
God's right hand and holy arm
have gotten him victory.
The LORD has made known his victory;
and has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
God has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.*
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
God will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Gathering Hymn #631 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
 into ev'ry troubled breast;
 let us all in thee inherit;
 let us find thy promised rest.
 Take away the love of sinning;
 Alpha and Omega be;
 end of faith, as its beginning,
 set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
 let us all thy life receive;
 suddenly return, and never,
 nevermore thy temples leave.
 Thee we would be always blessing,
 serve thee as thy hosts above,
 pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
 glory in thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then thy new creation,
 pure and spotless let us be;
 let us see thy great salvation
 perfectly restored in thee!
 Changed from glory into glory,
 till in heav'n we take our place,
 till we cast our crowns before thee,
 lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you tht, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Chrsit, your Son and our Lord, who livesand reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WORD

First Reading 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world.

And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *Please rise in body or spirit*

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Holy Gospel John 15:9-17

Glory to you, O Lord

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The good news of our Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ***

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #343 **My Song Is Love Unknown (vv. 1,2,3,6)**

1 My song is love unknown,
my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

2 He came from his blest throne
salvation to bestow;
the world that was his own
would not its Savior know.
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend!

- 3 Sometimes we strew his way
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to our king.
Then "Crucify!" is all our breath,
and for his death we thirst and cry.
- 6 Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches, unite us in our common faith and confession that Jesus is the Risen Lord.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering. Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. In words spoken or whispered, we bring before you the names of those whose needs weigh upon our hearts . . . Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. And we give thanks for our Moms . . . Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate One, we ask your special blessings on all who struggle to end the plague of Covid 19: research scientists, doctors and nurses, hospital staff, care givers . . . and those who urge us to be generous towards nations and peoples of poverty and want.

Your mercy is great.

Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives. We especially remember Bud's daughter Nancy. Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace and Offertory (*A musical reflection is played while the table is set*)

MEAL

Offertory Prayer

God of love, **you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.**

Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

God is with you. **And God is also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Eucharistic Prayer over the Gifts of the Earth

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.

Through him all glory and honour is yours, Eternal One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

**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.

Fraction (*Breaking of the bread*)

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied. **Hallelujah!**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The feast of gladness is shared while a musical reflection is played

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Wellspring of joy, **through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.**

**Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses that your love
may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

Benediction

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn #836 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1. Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

Dismissal Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude