

Easter 7/Confirmation



FIX YOUR
THOUGHTS ON
Jesus

May 16, 2021

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church

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Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

∞ Prayer before worship

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your might power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin, nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

JUSTIFICATION

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Blessed Are the Saints of God



1 Bless - ed are the saints of God; They are bought with
2 They are jus - ti - fied by grace; They en - joy the
3 They are lights up - on the earth, Chil - dren of a



Christ's own blood. They are ran - somed from the grave;
Sav - ior's peace. All their sins are washed a - way;
heav'n - ly birth. One with God, with Je - sus one,



Life e - ter - nal they shall have. With them num - bered
They shall stand in God's great day. With them num - bered
Glo - ry is in them be - gun. With them num - bered



may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty.
may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty.
may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Joseph Humphreys, b. 1720, alt.

Tune: VOLLER WUNDER (77 77 77) Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–76.

STAND

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

The minister says the Prayer of the Day.



THE WORD



FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:15-26

¹⁵In those days, when the group there numbered about 120 people, Peter stood up among the brothers and said, ¹⁶"Gentlemen, brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through the mouth of David about Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷Judas was counted as one of us and was given a share in this ministry.

¹⁸"Now this man acquired a field with what he was paid for his wicked act. When he fell headfirst, his middle burst open, and all his intestines spilled out. ¹⁹This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, and so in their own language that field was called Akeldema, which means Field of Blood. ²⁰Indeed, it is written in the book of Psalms:

May his residence be deserted.

Let there be no one dwelling in it.

And,

let someone else take his position.

²¹"Therefore it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us during the entire time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from his baptism by John until the day Jesus was taken up from us, become a witness with us of his resurrection."

²³They proposed two: Joseph called Barsabbas (who was also called Justus) and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go to his own place."

²⁶Then they assigned lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias. So he was counted with the eleven apostles.



I will praise your name for - ev-er, my King and my God.

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

You have set your glory above the heavens.

When I consider your heavens,*

the work of your fingers,

what is man that you are mindful of him,*

the Son of Man that you care for him?

Refrain

You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings*

and crowned him with glory and honor.

You made him ruler over the works of your hands;*

you put everything under his feet.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,*

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Lynn Trapp. © 1989 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



SECOND LESSON

1 John 4:13-21

¹³This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴We have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵If anyone confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God. ¹⁶We also have come to know and trust the love that God has for us.

God is love. Whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him. ¹⁷In this way his love has been brought to its goal among us, so that we may have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are just like Jesus. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but complete love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who continues to be afraid has not been brought to the goal in love.

¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," but hates his brother, he is a liar. For how can anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, love God, whom he has not seen? ²¹This then is the command we have from him: The one who loves God should also love his brother.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia.

M: I will not leave you as orphans;

C: I will come to you. Alleluia. (John 14:23)



GOSPEL

John 17: 11b-19

Holy Father, protect them by your name, which you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept those you gave me safe in your name. I protected them and not one of them was destroyed, except the son of destruction, so that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

¹³"But now I am coming to you, and I am saying these things in the world, so that they may be filled with my joy. ¹⁴I have given them your word. The world hated them, because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I am not asking that you take them out of the world, but that you protect them from the Evil One. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

¹⁷"Sanctify them by the truth. Your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, I also sent them into the world. ¹⁹I sanctify myself for them, so they also may be sanctified by the truth.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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Jesus, My Great High Priest



1 Je - sus, my great High Priest, Of - fered his blood and
 2 To Christ, my sub - sti - tute, Will I com - mit my
 3 My ad - vo - cate ap - pears For my de - fense on
 4 Should all the hosts of death And pow'rs of hell un -



died; My guilt - y con - science seeks No sac - ri -
 cause; He an - swers and ful - fills His Fa - ther's
 high; A gra - cious Fa - ther hears And lays his
 known Put their most dread - ful forms Of rage and



fice be - side. His pow'r - ful blood did once a -
 bro - ken laws. Be - hold my soul at free - dom
 thun - der by. Not all that hell or sin can
 mis - chief on, I shall be safe, for Christ dis -



tone, And now it pleads be - fore the throne.
 set— My Je - sus paid the dread - ful debt!
 say Shall turn his heart, his love, a - way.
 plays Su - pe - rior pow'r and guard - ian grace.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: BEVAN (66 66 88) John Goss, 1800–80.

SERMON: John 17:15-19

THIS IS A DAY TO REMEMBER!

- I. Remember where you are from**
- II. Remember where you are**
- III. Remember where you are going**

NICENE 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (8:00 AM)

RITE OF CONFIRMATION (10:00AM)

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord Jesus said to his disciples: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

In obedience to the Lord’s command, you have been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. You have been taught the precious truths of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church. You know what God has given you by his grace and what he expects of you as his dear child. You now have the privilege of receiving the Lord’s body and blood in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

You are here to make a public profession of your Christian faith. The apostle Paul, writing to the Romans, said: “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Therefore, lift up your hearts to the God of all grace and joyfully answer these questions.

M: Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this congregation, acknowledge that in Baptism, God gave you forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation?

R: I do.

M: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

R: I do.

M: Do you believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit?

R: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

M: Do you believe all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God?

R: I do.

M: Do you believe that the teaching of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know it from Luther's Small Catechism, is faithful and true to the Word of God?

R: I do.

M: Do you intend to continue steadfast in this teaching and to endure all things, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R: I do, and I ask God to help me.

S: M: Do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the teachings of God's Word, to be faithful in the use of the Word and sacrament, and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live?

R: I do, and I ask God to help me.

The minister addresses the congregation.

M: Since it is God alone who enables us both to will and to do his good pleasure, it is right for us, dear friends in Christ, to call on him for these confirmands, that he would graciously complete the good work which he has begun in them. Let us, therefore, bow our heads and pray.

M: Almighty God, in Baptism you made these brothers and sisters members of the body of your dear Son, Jesus Christ. You washed them by his blood, buried them with him in his death, and gave them a new life in his resurrection. Renew them by the Holy Spirit, which you have poured out on them generously through Jesus Christ our Savior. Let them live out their lives as heirs of eternal life. Lead them to serve your Church in holiness and righteousness all their days. Keep them in fellowship with all who wait for the return of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, what we as a Christian congregation have here asked our heavenly Father to confer on all of you, we now ask him to give each of you individually.

The confirmands, in turn, come forward and may kneel. The minister may lay his hand on the head of each one. After all the confirmands have received the blessing, the minister dismisses them, saying:

M: Your church now invites you to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's body and blood. Accept this invitation with deep reverence and holy joy. Regard your communing at the Lord's Table as a precious privilege given you by God through his Church; receive this Sacrament thankfully and often. The almighty and most merciful God—Father, Son, (†) and Holy Spirit—bless and keep you.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



DISTRIBUTION

Thank you for Respecting our Communion Practice. The Bible teaches that partaking of the body and blood of Christ is a special assurance of forgiveness to penitent believers in Christ. It is also an expression of our oneness in the doctrines we teach and believe. Christ wants us to administer this blessed sacrament responsibly. We would ask that if you are not a communicant member of St. Paul's Lutheran and desire the sacrament, please kindly speak with the pastor before the service.



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O Lord, We Praise You



1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, In thanks-
 2 Your ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en, Life to
 3 May God be - stow on us his grace and fa - vor To please

giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your bod - y
 win for us in heav - en. No great - er love than
 him with our be - hav - ior And live to - geth - er

and your blood you nour - ish Our weak souls that they may
 this to you could bind us; May this feast of that re -
 here in love and u - nion, Cher - ish - ing our blest com -

flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy! May your bod - y,
 mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy! Lord, your love and
 mu - nion. O Lord, have mer - cy! Let not your good

Lord, born of Mar - y, That our sins and sor - rows
 kind - ness did move you; Let your sup - per move us
 Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that heav'n - ly - mind - ed

did car - ry, And your blood for us plead In all
 to love you. All our debt you have paid; Peace with
 he make us. Give your Church, Lord, to see Days of

tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 God once more is made. O Lord, have mer - cy!
 peace and u - ni - ty. O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: German folk hymn, 15th century, st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483–1546, st. 2-3; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.

Tune: GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET (PM) *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

THANKSGIVING



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

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May God the Father of Our Lord



1 May God the Fa - ther of our Lord, Who
 2 In Je - sus Christ may you be blessed And
 3 The Ho - ly Spir - it give you pow'r, The
 4 May God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And



called you by his ho - ly Word, Per -
 brought to his e - ter - nal rest. The
 strength of the prayer in ev - 'ry hour, The
 God the Spir - it, Three in One, Pre -



fect, es - tab - lish, set - tle you, Keep
 work he has in you be - gun, He
 wis - dom, knowl - edge, fear of God, That
 serve you blame - less till in grace You



you through faith for - ev - er true.
 will per - form till all is done.
 lifts a - bove his chas - t'ning rod.
 stand be - fore his ho - ly face.

Text: Dorothy I. Scharlemann, b. 1912.

Tune: TALLIS' CANON (LM) Thomas Tallis, c. 1505–85.

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