

6th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
— CHURCH & PRESCHOOL —
Hamilton, Texas

Church Office
254.386.3158 | stjohnlutheranoffice@gmail.com
youthstjohnlutheran@gmail.com
www.stjohnnhamilton.org
Preschool Office
254.386.3332 |
stjohnlutheranpreschool@gmail.com
Rev. Keith Reich, Pastor
254.784.0055 | pastorreich@gmail.com

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. A special welcome is extended to those visiting with us. Crossroads, though difficult and even painful to navigate, are places where God goes to work—does His cultivation of hearts so that our faith can grow and mature. Growing is a natural part of life. We would be worried if people would not grow. God's blessings on your worship this morning!

AS YOU PREPARE TO WORSHIP

- Please sign an attendance card. Pass to the center of the aisle. They will be collected after the offering.
- Please silence your cell phone.
- Children are welcomed in worship! There are busy bags available in the narthex with coloring pages and books. There will be a Children's Time during worship for your child(ren) to go up front with the pastor. If your child becomes fussy, you may prefer to use the nursery room (toys are available in the room and there is audio and video of the service).

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Keith Reich	Organist: Bonnye Wenzel	Usher Captain: Sonny De La Garza
Elders: Lucas Robinson & Ryan Polster	Acolytes: Tucker Ondrusek & Pierce Parks	
Offering Counter: Susie Odom	Greeters: Betty Tischler & Jane Wagner	Trustee: Jimmie Horton

ORDER OF WORSHIP

HYMN — "O Worship the King" # 804

**O worship the King, all glorious above.
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.**

**O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.**

**This earth, with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy pow'r hath founded of old,
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.**

**Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!**

**O measureless Might, ineffable Love,
While angels delight to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.**

by Robert Grant. Public Domain

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

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

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

[Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.]

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I assure you that all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE – “Glory to God in the Highest” # 204

**To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, the Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; receive our heart-felt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high.**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. “Amen!” our glad reply.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: We pray. O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading — *Acts 17:16-31*

¹⁶ Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸ Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities" – because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹ And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" ²⁰ For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²² So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶ And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸ for "'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, "'For we are indeed his offspring.'" ²⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — *1 Corinthians 3:1-9*

¹ But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³ for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴ For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human? ⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives

the growth. ⁸ He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹ For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building. (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA and VERSE — page 205

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
These things are written that you may believe
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gospel Reading — John 14:15-21

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH — Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

HYMN — "Great is Thy Faithfulness" # 809

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

(continued on next page)

**Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain**

by Thomas O. Chisholm

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MESSAGE – *At the Crossroads: Are You Growing? – 1 Corinthians 3:1-9*

“As a result of what you have heard from God’s Word today, what is He giving you to believe or do this coming week? _____

OUR OFFERINGS — (Give online at www.stjohnshamilton.org or text amount to 833-706-7586.)

SONG — “Goodness of God”

**I love You Lord, oh Your mercy never fails me.
All my days I’ve been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

**Chorus: All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

**I love Your voice You have led me through the fire.
In darkest night You are close like no other.
I’ve known You as a father, I’ve known You as a friend.
I have lived in the goodness of God. Chorus**

Bridge: Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now;
I give You everything.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
Bridge and Chorus 2 times

Ending: I will sing of the goodness of God.

by Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding and Brian Johnson.
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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C: Amen.

SONG — "Lifesong"

Verse 1: Empty hands held high, such small sacrifice;
If not joined with my life, I sing in vain tonight

Pre-Chorus: May the words I say and the things I do,
Make my life-song sing, Bring a smile to You

Chorus: Let my lifesong sing to You, Let my lifesong sing to You
I wanna sign Your name to the end of this day
Knowin' that my heart was true, Let my lifesong sing to You
(continued on back)

Verse 2: Lord I give my life, a living sacrifice,
To reach a world in need, to be Your hands and feet
Pre-Chorus and Chorus

Bridge: Hallelujah, hallelujah, Let my life-song sing to You
Hallelujah, hallelujah, Let my life-song sing to You
Hallelujah, hallelujah, Let my life-song sing to You
Chorus 2 times

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