

# 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

May 24, 2020



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

Church Office  
254.386.3158 | [stjohnlutheranoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranoffice@gmail.com)  
[youthstjohnlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:youthstjohnlutheran@gmail.com)  
[www.stjohnhamilton.org](http://www.stjohnhamilton.org)

Preschool Office  
254.386.3332 |  
[stjohnlutheranpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranpreschool@gmail.com)  
Rev. Keith Reich, Pastor  
254.784.0055 | [pastorreich@gmail.com](mailto: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. Why did God place His people at the crossroads of empires? Why did God plant a church in Corinth at the crossroads between the western empire and the eastern empire? Why did God plant St. John, bringing you and me to Hamilton, at the crossroads of 36 and 281? The reason is simple – to be God’s temple, God’s house, His embassy, the place where God lives and meets people as they journey through life. God’s blessings on your worship this morning!

## AS YOU PREPARE TO WORSHIP

- Please sign an attendance card. Pass to the center of the isle. 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

<b>Pastor:</b> Rev. Keith Reich	<b>Organist:</b> Bonnye Wenzel	<b>Usher Captain:</b> Sonny De La Garza
<b>Elders:</b> Lucas Robinson & Ryan Polster	<b>Acolytes:</b> Nathan Hall & Daniel Olalde	
<b>Offering Counter:</b> Buckie Pate	<b>Greeters:</b> Sherri Tomlinson & Brooke Tomlinson	<b>Trustee:</b> Jimmie Horton

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### SONG — “If We Are the Body”

It’s crowded in worship today  
As she slips in trying to fade into the faces  
The girls teasing laughter is carrying  
Father than they know, father than they know

**Chorus:** But if we are the body, why aren’t His arms reaching?  
Why aren’t His hands healing? Why aren’t His words teaching?  
And if we are the body, why aren’t His feet going?  
Why is His love not showing them there is a way?  
There is a way

A traveler is far away from home  
He sheds his coat and quietly sinks into the back row  
The weight of their judgmental glances  
Tells him that his chances are better out on the road Chorus

**Bridge:** Jesus paid much too high a price  
For us to pick and choose who should come  
And we are the body of Christ Chorus

**Ending:** But if we are the body, why aren't His arms reaching?  
Why aren't His hands healing? Why aren't His words teaching?  
And if we are the body, why aren't His feet going?  
Why is His love not showing them there is a way?  
Jesus is a way

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## **CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

**"Give Us Clean Hands"**

We bow our hearts we bend our knees  
Oh Spirit come make us humble  
We turn our eyes from evil things  
Oh Lord we cast down our idols

**Chorus:** Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob

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.**

## “Give Us Clean Hands”

We bow our hearts we bend our knees  
Oh Spirit come make us humble  
We turn our eyes from evil things  
Oh Lord we cast down our idols

**Chorus:** Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob

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### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: We pray. O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### First Reading — *Acts 1:1-11*

<sup>1</sup> In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." <sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup> And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup> and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle Reading — 1 Corinthians 3:10-23**

<sup>10</sup> According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. <sup>11</sup> For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw – <sup>13</sup> each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. <sup>14</sup> If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? <sup>17</sup> If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple. <sup>18</sup> Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. <sup>19</sup> For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness," <sup>20</sup> and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile." <sup>21</sup> So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, <sup>22</sup> whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future - all are yours, <sup>23</sup> and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's. (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 — Luke 24:44-53**

<sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." <sup>50</sup> And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup> and were continually in the temple blessing God. (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 — “America the Beautiful”**

**Oh, beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain.  
For purple mountain majesties, Above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood, From sea to shining sea.**

**Oh, beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern, impassioned stress.  
A thoroughfare for freedom beat, Across the wilderness!  
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,  
Confirm thy soul in self control, Thy liberty in law.**

**Oh, beautiful for heroes proved, In liberating strife,  
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
Till all success be nobleness, And ev'ry gain divine.**

**Oh, beautiful for patriot dream, That sees, beyond the years,  
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood, From sea to shining sea.**

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## **MESSAGE – At the Crossroads: God's Temple! – 1 Corinthians 3:10-23**

“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? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**HYMN — “The Church’s One Foundation” # 644**

**The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation by water and the Word.  
From heav’n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.**

**Elect from ev’ry nation, yet one o’re all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses with ev’ry grace endured.**

**Though with a scornful wonder the world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, “How long?”  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

**Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
O blessèd heav’nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us, may see You face to face.**

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**OUR OFFERINGS —** (Give online at [www.stjohnhamilton.org](http://www.stjohnhamilton.org) or text amount to 833-706-7586.)

**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.

## **HYMN — “Battle Hymn of the Republic”**

**Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;  
His truth is marching on.**

**Refrain:    Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on!**

**I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;  
His day is marching on.    *Refrain***

**He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never sound retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat.  
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him, be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on.    *Refrain***

**In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in His bosom that Transfigures you and me;  
As He died to make men holy, Let us live to make man free;  
While God is marching on.    *Refrain***

**We can almost hear the trumpet sound, the Lord’s return is near;  
There are still so many people lost, His message they must hear;  
Father, give us one more moment,  
one more day, just one more year,  
With God we’re marching on.    *Refrain***