



**“...so that
they may be
one...”**

John 17:11

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Michael N. Vernava

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God's people equipping them for service to God and to each other.

CREATIVE WORSHIP

As We Gather: Calling A Faithful Pastor

O Gracious Father, You led Your holy apostles to ordain ministers for the proclamation of Your Word and the Faithful administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Grant to this congregation the guidance of the Holy Spirit to choose a suitable pastor according to Your will for the blessing of Your Church in this place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Vocal Solo

“Right Place, Right Time”

Michael W. Smith / William J. Gaither / Gloria L. Gaither

OPENING HYMN “The Day of Resurrection” LSB 478

- 1 The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad,
The passover of gladness,
The passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
From sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over
With hymns of victory.

2 Let hearts be purged of evil
That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal
Of resurrection light
And, list'ning to His accents,
May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and, hearing,
May raise the victor strain.

3 Now let the heav'ns be joyful,
Let earth its song begin,
Let all the world keep triumph
And all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen,
Their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord has risen,
Our joy that has no end!

△ 4 All praise to God the Father,
All praise to God the Son,
All praise to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne
And honor, pow'r, and glory
Ascribe to God alone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us come before God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden and confess our sins in the name of Him who died and rose again to give us forgiveness and life.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

C I confess that I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. My Lord's name I have not honored as I should; my worship and prayer have faltered. I have not let His love have its way with me and so my love for others has failed. There are many whom I have hurt and many whom I failed to help. My thoughts and desires are soiled with sin. I have sinned against God and against you, my brothers and sisters. There is no health in me. But for the promise of Christ, I would have no hope. Because of Christ's promise, I am made bold to ask for mercy. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, O Lord, so that I 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. Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PSALM

1

P Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

**C but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.**

P He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

**C The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

P Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**C for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

C 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.

KYRIE

L In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above and for our salvation.
Let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

COLLECT

P Let us 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.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:12–26

¹²Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ¹⁶“Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰“For it is written in the Book of Psalms,

“May his camp become desolate,
and let there be no one to dwell in it’;
and

“Let another take his office.’

²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 5:9–15

⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴And this is the confidence that we have toward him,

that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 17:11b–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE HYMN

“See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph” LSB 494 (Tune: LSB 848)

- 1 See, the Lord ascends in triumph;
 Conqu'ring King in royal state,
 Riding on the clouds, His chariot,
 To His heav'nly palace gate.
 Hark! The choirs of angel voices
 Joyful alleluias sing,
 And the portals high are lifted
 To receive their heav'nly King.
- 2 Who is this that comes in glory
 With the trump of jubilee?
 Lord of battles, God of armies,
 He has gained the victory.
 He who on the cross did suffer,
 He who from the grave arose,
 He has vanquished sin and Satan;
 He by death has crushed His foes.
- 3 While He lifts His hands in blessing,
 He is parted from His friends;
 While their eager eyes behold Him,
 He upon the clouds ascends.
 He who walked with God and pleased Him,
 Preaching truth and doom to come,
 He, our Enoch, is translated
 To His everlasting home.
- 4 Now our heav'nly Aaron enters
 With His blood within the veil;
 Joshua now is come to Canaan,
 And the kings before Him quail.
 Now He plants the tribes of Israel
 In their promised resting place;

Now our great Elijah offers
 Double portion of His grace.

- 5 He has raised our human nature
 On the clouds to God's right hand;
 There we sit in heav'nly places,
 There with Him in glory stand.
 Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
 Man with God is on the throne.
 By our mighty Lord's ascension
 We by faith behold our own.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, abr., alt. Text: Public domain

MESSAGE

**“Jesus' Prayer for His Own: God Keep You”
 St. John 17:11b-19**

APOSTLES' CREED

- C 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.**

OFFERTORY *“He Is Arisen! Glorious Word” LSB 488*

- 1 He is arisen! Glorious Word!
Now reconciled is God, my Lord;
The gates of heav’n are open.
My Jesus did triumphant die,
And Satan’s arrows broken lie,
Destroyed hell’s fiercest weapon.
O hear what cheer!
Christ victorious,
Rising glorious,
Life is giving.
He was dead but now is living!

Text: Birgitte Katerine Boye, 1742–1824; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt. Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

LORD’S PRAYER

- C 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.**

HYMN *“O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts’ Desire” LSB 553*

- 1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts’ desire,
Creation’s mighty Lord,
Redeemer of the fallen world,
By holy love outpoured:
- 2 How vast Your mercy to accept
The burden of our sin
And bow Your head in cruel death
To make us clean within.
- 3 But now the bonds of death are burst,
The ransom has been paid;
You now ascend the Father’s throne
In robes of light arrayed.
- 4 O let Your mighty love prevail
To purge us of our pride
That we may stand before Your throne
By mercy purified.
- 5 Christ Jesus, be our present joy,
Our future great reward;
Our only glory, may it be
To glory in the Lord!

△ 6 All praise to You, ascended Lord;
All glory ever be
To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Through all eternity!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, adapt. Text: Public domain

CLOSING PRAYER

P Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C 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.

CLOSING HYMN

“Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious” LSB 548

- 1 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, victorious!
Thanks to Thee, O Lord of Life!
Death hath now no power o’er us,
Thou hast conquered in the strife.
Thanks because Thou didst arise
And hast opened paradise!
None can fully sing the glory
Of the resurrection story.
- 2 Thou hast died for my transgression,
All my sins on Thee were laid;
Thou hast won for me salvation,
On the cross my debt was paid.

From the grave I shall arise
And shall meet Thee in the skies.
Death itself is transitory;
I shall lift my head in glory.

- 3 For the joy Thine advent gave me,
For Thy holy, precious Word;
For Thy Baptism, which doth save me,
For Thy blest Communion board;
For Thy death, the bitter scorn,
For Thy resurrection morn,
Lord, I thank Thee and extol Thee,
And in heav’n I shall behold Thee.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942 Text: Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Organist