

Seventh Sunday of Easter + Confirmation Sunday | May 16th, 2021

In-Person Reader: Kiersten Holicky | Online Reader: Tara Larsen

Announcements

- Congratulations to our confirmands: Lexi Factor, Abigail Fonseca, & Dylan Holicky!
 - Don't forget to pick up your grab-n-go coffee hour in honor of our confirmands
- Next week we celebrate with your seniors on Senior Recognition Sunday
- We'll continue to celebrate communion and sing during worship services while maintaining the required 6-feet between households.
 - Communion: Please bring the pre-packaged elements with you as you find a seat. You may partake of these elements during the worship service -or- you can take them home if that's more comfortable. Please dispose of your empty containers as you leave in one of the garbages.
 - We're looking at new ways of celebrating communion, so hold tight!
- Mark Your Calendars:
 - County-wide Food Distribution: May 18 from 2:00-3:30 at the fairgrounds
 - Outdoor Family Movie Night this Friday: May 21st at 8:30
 - Cottage Gatherings | A time of fellowship and feedback sponsored by our Stewardship Team.
 - Sunday, June 6th @ Wendy's House after worship
 - Thursday, June 10th @ Next Chapter Winery (6:00 w/ Jill)
 - Tuesday, June 22nd @ Church (10:00 w/ Pastor)
 - Tuesday, June 22nd online (7:00 w/ Pastor)
 - Saturday, July 3rd @ Gary's House (4:00) *Tentatively Set Time/Place*

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn** | *Be Thou My Vision* ELW 793

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art:

Thou my best thought both by day and by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.

Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r, raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise, thou mine inheritance now and always:

Thou and thou only, the first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Light of my soul, after victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still by my vision, O Ruler of all.

***Greeting**

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

***Prayer of the Day**

Gracious and glorious God, **you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Message

First Reading | 1 John 5:9-13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

If we receive human testimony, God's testimony is greater, because this is what God testified: he has testified about his Son. The one who believes in God's Son has the testimony within; the one who doesn't believe God has made God a liar, because that one has not believed the testimony that God gave about his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave eternal life to us, and this life is in his Son. The one who has the Son has life. The one who doesn't have God's Son does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of God's Son so that you can know that you have eternal life.

*Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*Gospel Reading | John 17:6-19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

[Jesus prayed:] "I have revealed your name to the people you gave me from this world. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. This is because I gave them the words that you gave me, and they received them. They truly understood that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.

"I'm praying for them. I'm not praying for the world but for those you gave me, because they are yours. Everything that is mine is yours and everything that is yours is mine; I have been glorified in them. I'm no longer in the world, but they are in the world, even as I'm coming to you. Holy Father, watch over them in your name, the name you gave me, that they will be one just as we are one. When I was with them, I watched over them in your

name, the name you gave to me, and I kept them safe. None of them were lost, except the one who was destined for destruction, so that scripture would be fulfilled. Now I'm coming to you and I say these things while I'm in the world so that they can share completely in my joy. I gave your word to them and the world hated them, because they don't belong to this world, just as I don't belong to this world. I'm not asking that you take them out of this world but that you keep them safe from the evil one. They don't belong to this world, just as I don't belong to this world. Make them holy in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. I made myself holy on their behalf so that they also would be made holy in the truth.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day | *Rise Up, O Saints of God* ELW 669

*Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts with nobler zeal might burn.*

*Speak out, O saints of God! Despair engulfs earth's frame;
As heirs of God's baptismal grace, the word of hope proclaim.*

*Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom's task embrace;
Redress sin's cruel consequence; give justice larger place.*

*Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain;
Stretch forth your hand of healing now, with love the weak sustain.*

*Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;
And, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!*

Affirmation of Faith

Presentation | *students stand & Barb joins Pastor Ally*

Pastor: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Barb: I present Lexi Kay Factor, Abigail Ann Fonseca, and Dylan Theodore Holicky, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brother, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Profession of Faith -- *Barb & Pastor to the confirmands*

Pastor: We ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Barb: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Barb: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Barb: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 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.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? **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.**

Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly

- *to the confirmands*

Barb: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth? If so, answer, "I do, and I ask God to help and guide me."
I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

- to the congregation

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ? *We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.*

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. **Amen.**

- confirmands sit down. *Call them to stand one-by-one, read their confirmation verses, and pray over them.*

(Hands are laid on them and a prayer is said of each one)

Lexi Factor

Barb: Genesis 28:15 | I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.

Pastor: Stir up in **Lexi Kay** the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Abigail Fonseca

Barb: Isaiah 33:22 | For the lord is our judge; the lord is our lawgiver, the lord is our king, he will save us.

Pastor: Stir up in **Abigail Ann** the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Dylan Holicky

Barb: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 | Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

Pastor: Stir up in **Dylan Theodore** the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

(All confirmands stand)

Pastor: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ. **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray: **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.**

***Communion + Blessing**

May the body and blood...

***Final Blessing**

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** | *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve* ELW 551

*The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name
To bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.*

*We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free;
Where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.*

*We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed
And, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.*

*Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.*

***Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**