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**6th Sunday of Easter**

“In that day you will ask nothing of Me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.” *John 16:23-24*

**AS WE GATHER**

“In that day,” Jesus told the disciples in the Upper Room, “whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He will give it to you.” They could not understand, hearing Him before Easter and Pentecost. But we know now that the day has arrived, thanks to His death and resurrection, when our heavenly Father’s ears are open to our every prayer. In this our day, we can anticipate by faith seeing Him and Jesus, the Lamb, in the perfect Jerusalem, as John writes in the reading from Revelation. Hearing the good news, Lydia, in the Reading from Acts, asked if the disciples deemed her worthy for Baptism. Indeed, with the gift of faith by the Holy Spirit, Christ’s worthiness and her sins had been exchanged on the cross. She provided a home for Paul and Luke, and God had an eternal Jerusalem awaiting her entry. What Easter joy!

**Psalm** 67

**+ PREPARATION +**

**INVOCATION and EASTER ACCLAMATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION** *Psalm 118:24; John 16:23, 33*

Pastor: This is the day that the Lord has made.

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: On another day, the one before He gave His life for us, our Lord said, “In that day you will ask nothing of Me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He will give it to you.” Today, this side of Easter, we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. But we cannot free ourselves from our sinning and our sinful condition. Let us therefore ask our heavenly Father for forgiveness for Jesus’ sake.

 *Silence for reflection on the Word of God and our sinful condition.*

Pastor: Almighty God,

**People: have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Although Jesus foretold about the disciples’ scattering that very night, yet He said, “I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you.

**People: Amen! And may peace also be with you.**

Pastor: Amen.

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”* (*LSB* 474)

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(bulletin insert)*

**FIRST READING** Acts 16:9-15

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** *(bulletin insert, below Collect of the Day)*

**EPISTLE** Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 16:23-33

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HYMN** *“Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”* (*LSB* 490)

**SERMON *“Open Ears”***

# THE NICENE CREED *(LSB*,back inside cover)

**OFFERING**

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(after each petition):* Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

 **People: hear our prayer.**

**LORD’S PRAYER, SUNG** (*LSB*,front inside cover)

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However,* ***if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing****. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**DISTRIBUTION**

 *“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”* (*LSB* 849)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Give us confidence as we pray each day, knowing that You hear our every petition and that Your answers are better than our requests; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

**HYMN** *“Jesus Shall Reign”* (*LSB* 832)

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 **All are welcome …**

 **… Christ is honored.**