

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Memorial Day Weekend



The Ascension of Jesus (May 25) reminds us of what Jesus did as His time with us was completed. This Memorial Day weekend, we contemplate the ultimate sacrifice of those who gave their lives in battle for the sake of liberty and our country's heritage. Both topics bring rather sobering moments to reflect upon all that Jesus did, and what others did as well.

Perhaps President Ronald Reagan's speech at Arlington National Cemetery in 1986 highlights our topic this day as well, as look at some of the opening lines:

"Today is the day we put aside to remember fallen heroes and to pray that no heroes will ever have to die for us again. It's a day of thanks for the valor of others, a day to remember the splendor of America and those of her children who rest in this cemetery and others. It's a day to be with the family and remember."

Remembering is what we are all about as the church. First, remembering the work of God over the eons of time. Remembering the person and work of His Son, Jesus, who completed the work on earth on Ascension Day. Remembering the gift of salvation as we share the Supper together, recalling the words, *"On the night which He was betrayed....."* Remembering to carnage of war, what it does to families, and how we miss our loved ones who cared so much to lay down their lives for the freedom we hold so dear.

Memorials are all about remembering. So it stands to reason that as a country, as a faith community, that we are only as good as is our memory. I mean to say that if we forget all that has gone ahead of us, we lose our hold on the reasons why we are in the positions we are in today. Memorial Day began in 1868 by General John Logan recalling and remembering all of men and women, North and South, who perished in the Civil War.

We praise God for His faithfulness over the centuries. We praise Jesus and give thanks for all He did with the Cross, the Tomb, and the Cloud. We give thanks to those who gave their lives for us. It will not be forgotten.

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Pre-Service Music

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER

This blessed Easter season is our celebration of the great work that Jesus had accomplish while here on earth. His care and concern for the lost, the disenfranchised, and the neglected of society points our attention to what Jesus truly felt important as He shared the good news that the Kingdom of God was made manifest in His work, His suffering, His death on the cross, and now, His resurrection. We allow too many things to distract our attention away from what Christ brought that first Easter, and all of the subsequent Easters we celebrate. For that, and for the many other times we let our Lord down, we make our confession this day.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things 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. 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

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake, and by His promise, forgives us all our sin. Therefore on His behalf, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray in His Holy Name, **Amen**

HYMN 600 Eternal Father Strong to save 1+4

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Alleluia. I will not leave you orphaned, says the Lord. I am coming to you. Alleluia.

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 1:6-14 New Living Translation (NLT)

So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”

He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!”

Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile. When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying.

Here are the names of those who were present: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (the zealot), and Judas (son of James). They all met together and were constantly united in prayer, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 4:12-14 & 5:6-11 New Living Translation (NLT)

Dear friends, don’t be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world.

If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you.

So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are. In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. All power to him forever! Amen.

Hymn 599 My Country Tis of Thee 1-4

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

New Living Translation (NLT)

After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you. For you have given him authority over everyone. He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.

“I have revealed you to the ones you gave me from this world. They were always yours. You gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything I have is a gift from you, for I have passed on to them the message you gave me. They accepted it and know that I came from you, and they believe you sent me.

“My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory. Now I am departing from the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are.

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON “Remembering”

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

HYMN OF THE DAY: 601 America the Beautiful 1,3,4

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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 into hell. 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. 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.

THE OFFERING:

After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE COMMUNION

HYMN 604 God Bless our Native Land

PASTORAL THOUGHTS AND PRAYER

P: Two years again you called me to be your pastor, to proclaim God's Word to you, to baptize new members into the Church of Jesus Christ, to announce God's forgiveness to us all, and to preside at the celebrations of our Lord's Supper together. With the Gospel of Christ I have labored to bring comfort in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing all our joys and sorrows together, I now take my leave of the role of being your pastor, sharing in the knowledge that our time together has been blessed by God himself, in the name of the Church of Jesus Christ and in our community. We thank God for this opportunity in our life together as a pastor and congregation, and now as our paths part somewhat, it is my prayer that God will send us all out as a blessing to others as we have been a blessing to each other. May the Lord bless us and keep us, make His face shine upon us in all we do and in all the ways we will go, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! Please take a moment to turn your Cell Phone or other devices to mute, so they do not go off during the service and become disruptive. We appreciate your help to this regard. And thanks again for being here with us this morning!

IN OUR PRAYERS: We take time during our service to offer petitions for the prayer needs of ourselves, our families, our friends, and the world. Pastor will invite prayer requests at the beginning of our service, so simply share them at that time.

TO OUR GUESTS: Welcome! We are happy that you are here, and we hope you have felt comfortable since you arrived. You are welcome to participate in the Lord's Supper this day as God's sign of our redemption, His presence among us, and His promise to come again.

CALL COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION by the membership of OSLC is both welcomed and encouraged. If you are interested in participating in the process, it is not too late to become involved. Talk to President Dean Carson about the opportunity to get involved and serve if that is what you would like to do. The Call Committee is up and running and actively working to bring the next pastor to OSLC!

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Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.
Bible Study: Times as announced

