# St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship Sunday, May 9, 2021 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Prelude - The Strife Is Over, setting by Wilbur Held

#### **GATHERING**

We gather in the name of the Father ₱ and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us confess our sin.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

# Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\Xi$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

## **Gathering Hymn - Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

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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.

#### **KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

# Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

# Lord, have mercy.

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.

# Lord, have mercy.

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

# Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

#### THIS IS THE FEAST

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Lord be with you **And also with you** Let us pray

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

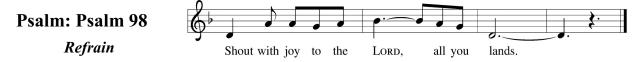
# **WORD**

# Children's Message

# First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, 46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47 "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" 48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.



Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made | known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

<sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;

lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. Refrain

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD| with the harp, with the harp and the | voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound | of the horn shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it, the world and those who | dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>Let the rivers | clap their hands,

and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the earth.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness

and the peo- | ples with equity. *Refrain* 

# Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

# **Gospel: John 15:9-17**

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another. [Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

### Sermon

# Hymn of the Day - My Song Is Love Unknown

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## **Blessing of Duke Graduates**

Ardath Dixon: Master of Environmental Management Joshua Gohlke: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science Nicole Kroschel: Master of Theological Studies

Christina Nesslage: Master of Divinity

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

# A brief silence.

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Today we pray for the Moravian Church, giving thanks for the life and witness of Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering (*especially*) Barbara, Jan, Johanna, Tony, JoAnn, Leon, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis, Leslie, Bob, Ellie, Fran, Gus, James and Cassandra, Sue, Barbara, David, Codell, Ted, and others we may name aloud or quietly.

Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. Be with the dying (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

# *Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives (*especially*). Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen.

#### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

#### MEAL

## Offering

Offertory - Christ, der ist mein Leben, setting by Max Reger

## Offertory - Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

## Offering Prayer

P Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

## C Amen.

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

# Dialogue

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.

#### **Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# **Holy Holy Holy**

Holy, holy Lord, Lord God of powe'r and might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

# Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.** 

# 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.

Come to the banquet for all is ready.

#### LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

# **Hymn during Communion - All Are Welcome**

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# Holy Communion will be available in the church parking lot on Sundays, from 11:15 am - 12:00 pm Please do not leave your car. We will come to you and deliver a wafer and wine or grape juice. It will be

served to you in a bowl. Please take the elements and distribute among those in your vehicle and then dispose of the cups and bowl when you get home.

# **Prayer after Communion**

God of the welcome table,

in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

# **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Postlude - Erstanden ist der Heilige Christ (The Strife is Over), from the Orgelbüchlein, setting by J.S. Bach

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**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God.

**You are invited to sign up for altar flowers** by stopping by at the credenza in the atrium under the monitor. In the double-stacked box are the sign up sheets in the top, with the forms and envelopes in the bottom. Sign up for your date(s) and then complete the forms/envelopes and return **at least** one week before your selected date(s). Any number of people may sign up for flowers each week.

**Prayer of the Church** (Members): Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Johanna Nikitscher, Tony Perrotte, JoAnn and Leon Bowman, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Ida Elliott, Phyllis Jenkins, Leslie Johnson, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Gus Holshouser, James and Cassandra Wagner, Sue Dahl, Barbara Shade, David Dahl, Codell Jones, Ted Dominick

**Prayer List Changes** – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time,** email staff, or call the office.

Prayer of the Church (Friends): Kay Matthews [Tony's mother], Robert Meissner [Tony's uncle], and Dian and Gina Piazza [friends] (by Tony and Penni Perrotte); Laura Williams (friend of Amanda Anderson), Bill Lopatta (uncle of Amanda Anderson), Jane L (friend of Robin Winfree), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Phillip Idom & Warner Ettinger (friends of the Perrotte's), Pamela Kildahl (sister of Wendy Waugh), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Lydia Taylor (cousin of Bee Ellertson), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), Donore Lantz (friend of Judy Schlegel), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Sally Midyette (mother of Kathy Anderson), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Lois Horn (friend of Penni Perrotte), Staci Dominick (daughter-in-law of Ted and Diana Dominick), Marti Casalino (friend of Marcia Redman), David Deardorff (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Michelle Meadors, Gad Kainer, Peggy Stevens (by John and Linda Foreman), Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Dean Greg Jones of Duke Divinity, Chuck Noll (friend of the Waugh's), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Marjorie Bower (daughter of Doug and Fran Whitfield), Linda Leslie (mother of Sean Slane), Paul DeVries (brother of Bob DeVries), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl), Gini Rinkus (friend of the Dominicks), Don Weaver (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Jim Allen (family member of Ted and Diana Dominick), Sara (sister of Marlene Coulter), Farmer family (cousins of Marlene Coulter), Betty Sue Dickerson and son Barry Dickerson (friends of the church), Elaine Williamson (sister-in-law of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Mike Winfree (brother-in-law of Robin Winfree)

# **Worship Opportunities**

With the Governor loosening restrictions on attendance to 100 inside and 200 outside, St. Paul's would like to limit socially distanced, masked worship to 75 people in the sanctuary and 75 people in Trinity Hall through May. The narthex and balcony are able to accommodate additional people socially distanced. Humming and soft singing behind masks is now allowed. We would encourage those who do not wish to sing to worship in Trinity Hall. Holy Communion will be served at the altar rail with one person per kneeler please (couples and families may be closer but please keep this to immediate households). We will begin using the pouring chalices and using wafers beginning May 2<sup>nd</sup>. One service will be held per week at 10 am. This service will be live streamed on zoom and drive through communion will be available from 11:15 to

noon at least through May. The zoomed service will be recorded and available as soon as possible after the Sunday morning worship.

## **In-Person Worship**

We will be open on Sunday morning at 10:00 am to worship in person using the ELW Setting Four. This service will be live streamed on Zoom. In addition, we will record this service for later viewing and will email the link.

#### **Zoom information:**

**Topic: Sunday Morning Worship** (this link stays the same each week for the Sunday morning Zoom)

Time: at 9:30 am - worship begins at 10:00 am

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88584944760?pwd=YTZISFp3NVq2Z09GV0JpOEhObER5Zz09

Meeting ID: 885 8494 4760 Passcode: 435920

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,88584944760#,,,,\*435920# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,88584944760#,,,,\*435920# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 885 8494 4760 Passcode: 435920

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbCjEelyDd

**Here is a listing of the Sign-Up Genius links** we are presently using to accomplish our many needed tasks. Please fill in as you are able. You can bookmark these sites to make it easier to return to them.

- ♦ **Devotions** <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1</a> Vicar Judy Goans is coordinator for the daily devotions. Sign up and send your devotions to Vicar Judy (vicar@stpaulsdurham.org) at least 2 days in advance of the date.
- ♦ Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Worship

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1

Tasks include setting up, lector, worship assistant, sound, video, etc.

**Pour a cup of tea or coffee and join the Pastor and Vicar for Coffee Hour on Mondays** on Zoom from 10-11. Here is the info:

Topic: Coffee Hour with the Pastor and Vicar, Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays

Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRlgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09

Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753 - Password: 292680

#### **Zoom Bible Study – The Study of the Minor Prophets.**

Bible study is now meeting in person in the conference room as well as on zoom. Join us either way.

Topic: Bible Study – Time: 10:30 am on Thursdays. Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/946532621?pwd=UTJqYjV0V3laMmpROStMdGRvTGFhUT09

Meeting ID: 946 532 621 - Password: 402561

#### Help Wanted!

Jackie Nappi is looking for one or more persons to help file away choir anthems and some bell choir music. All music and filing cabinets are in the upstairs choir loft in the sanctuary. Please email Jackie if you are interested: <a href="mailto:music@stpaulsdurham.org">music@stpaulsdurham.org</a>. Thank you!

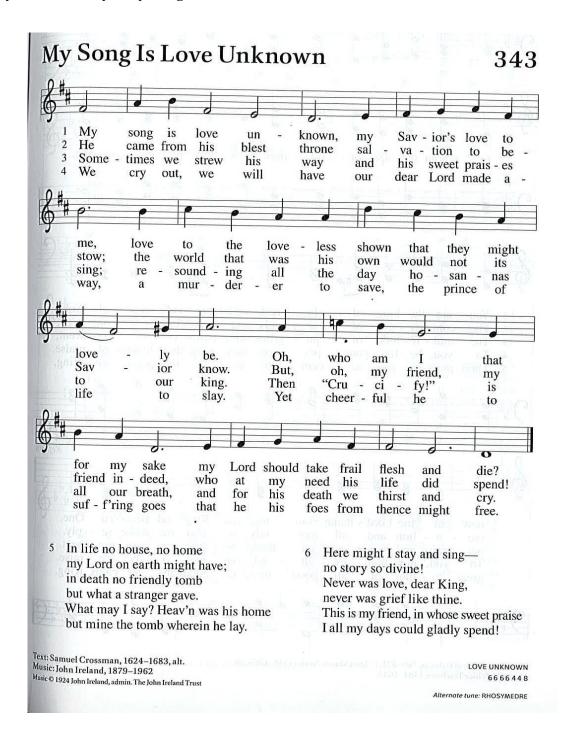
**St. Paul's Readers** – The book for May is <u>Beneath a Scarlett Sky</u>, by Mark Sullivan. The group will meet by Zoom on Thursday, May 20 at 3:00 pm.

Croasdaile Worship will resume on Thursday, May 27 (the fourth Thursday of the month) at 2:00 pm.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

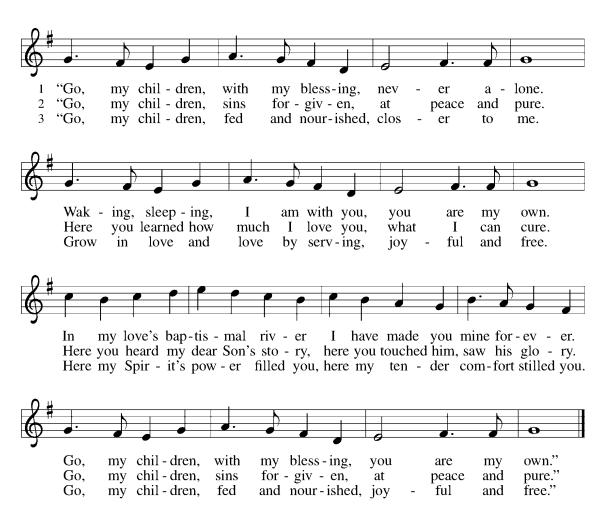
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887





Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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