

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The service for the Fifth Sunday of Easter follows below. The links for hymns and the sermon are within the service. I wish an enjoyable Mother's Day to all who have served in that caring, nurturing role. God's strength, patience, and well-being be with everyone.

Christ is Risen!

Pastor John

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
The Fifth Sunday of Easter May 10, 2020



As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

GREETING

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

The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always. **And also with you.**

GATHERING MUSIC: *Come, My Way*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3SSCuSMLK4>

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

READINGS

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not

so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

SERMON *THE WELCOMING INCLUSIVE WAY OF JESUS*

<https://youtu.be/pTZrD3qGAic>

MUSIC: *I Am The Way ...*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Fvwd9Y6xlg&list=RD9Fvwd9Y6xlg&start_radio=1

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Build us up, mothering God, as living stones united in your spiritual house. Continually strengthen your church as it is sent forth to proclaim your love. We pray especially for new congregations and those in redevelopment. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Humble us, creator God, as part of your creation. Fill us with respect and awe for the world you have made, including volcanoes, ocean currents, tropical rainstorms, glaciers, and other forces that both destroy and create. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Align our ways to your love, O God. We pray for countries, leaders, and other organizations as they prepare places for those seeking refuge and safety (*aid organizations may be named*). Guide all elected leaders in the path of wise decision-making. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of healing and rest, help those whose hearts are heavy and weighed down by many troubles. Pour out your spirit of well-being upon all who contend with injury or illness including all impacted by Covid 19. Extend your strength and peace to all medical professionals and all who work in medical settings. We pray for all in need including those on our parish prayer list. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, we pray for those who tend and teach young children, for the safe pregnancies of expectant parents, and for families who struggle with infertility and miscarriage. We give thanks for all who have shown mothering care, and we remember all for whom this day is difficult. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Generous God, you call into your brilliant light all who have died. Give us faith to take hold of the promise of your eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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 hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom **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.**

BENEDICTION

https://youtu.be/QgePJFvj1_M

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.**

SENDING SONG: *It Is Well*

The comfort and hope that God can provide resonates in the story behind the hymn, "It is Well with My Soul."

"It is Well with My Soul," written by Horatio Spafford, is a beloved hymn that captures well the profound grief he faced after a series of devastating events. After the death of his young son from Scarlet Fever and financial ruin from the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, Spafford's wife and remaining children embarked on a trip to Europe to accompany the famous evangelist D.L. Moody on his next crusade (with Spafford himself planning to follow). Their ship was struck by another sea vessel, the Loch Earn, and Spafford's four daughters perished. In quick order, Spafford traveled to meet his grieving wife (who had been "Saved alone...") and crafted the hymn's lyrics as his ship passed over the waters where his daughters had died. Of note, the hymn's tune, crafted in 1876, was named Ville du Havre from the name of the stricken vessel Spafford's family had traveled.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyPEohF6qq8>

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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We are praying for the following:

Dawne	Frank	Alice
Jean	Bev	Pat
Robert	John	Sandy
Candy	Mary Ellen	John C.
John Jr.	Dick	Dot
Dennis	Bobby	Carol
Tim	Kathy E.	Alice
Phyllis	Pat	Judi
Michelle	Carol	Toby
Cody	Bob	Leo
Ann	Irene	Ron
Lynn	Emit	Zion Lutheran Church, Barnegat Light
Dot	Jeanette	