

# May 12, 2024: Seventh Sunday of Easter

## **RESURRECTION REALITY: We Will Overcome This Broken World**

### **Hymn: 476 On Christ's Ascension I Now Build**

*Stand*

### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### **Confession**

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

### **Absolution**

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

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.**

## Hymn: 583 God Loves Me Dearly

sts. 1,3



1 God loves me dear - ly, grants me sal -  
3 He sent forth Je - sus, my dear Re -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, loves e - ven me.  
deem - er, he sent forth Je - sus and set me free.



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, loves e - ven me.

# The Word

## Salutation

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

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Acts 6:1–9, 7:2a, 51-60*

<sup>1</sup>In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup>So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup>Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup>and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

<sup>5</sup>This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. <sup>6</sup>They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup>So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

*Continued on the next page*

<sup>8</sup>Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen.

<sup>2</sup>To this he replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me!

<sup>51</sup>“You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! <sup>52</sup>Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— <sup>53</sup>you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.”

<sup>54</sup>When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>“Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

<sup>57</sup>At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, <sup>58</sup>dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

<sup>59</sup>While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**8:00 AM: We Celebrate This Day**

*Kindergarten*

**10:30 AM: Oh, How I Love Jesus**

*Early Learning Center*

**Second Reading**

*1 John 5:1–6*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. <sup>2</sup>This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. <sup>3</sup>In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands.

And his commands are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world? Only 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. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

*John 14:18*



*Refrain*



*Tone*



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## Gospel

*John 17:11b–19*

Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

<sup>13</sup>“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world.

<sup>15</sup>My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.

<sup>16</sup>They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **Hymn of the Day: 446 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense**

*The children are invited forward during verse 2 of the hymn for a Children's Lesson*

**Sermon: John 17:11b-19**

*Pastor Joe Gawel*

*Stand*

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there 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.**

*Be seated*

## **Prayer of the Church**

Ascended Lord, seated at the right hand of the Father, we rejoice in your rule. In wisdom you govern the kingdoms of this world. Bless all those in positions of authority. Lead them to confess that all power comes from you.

**Continue to work all things together for the good of your kingdom, and guard and protect us from all harm and danger.**

When you ascended on high, you gave good gifts to us. We thank you for sending the apostles and evangelists to record your words and explain them in Scripture.

**Continue to provide pastors and teachers to guide and equip your people.  
Empower us to share your gospel with all nations.**

Direct us always to you for grace that will help us in our time of need.

**As our High Priest, continue to intercede for us with the Father when we pray in your name.**

*Intercessory prayers may be added here.*

Lord Jesus, as you humbled yourself even to death on the cross before you were exalted on high,

**lead us through all our trials in patient and humble faith until you lift us up on high where you have gone to prepare a place for us.**

On this festival day, we join the angels in rejoicing that you completed the work of salvation and returned to your glory. With those who gazed up toward heaven, lift up our hearts as we await your return.

**Come quickly and redeem our bodies as you have redeemed our souls. We praise and bless you, our victorious Savior. Amen.**

## Offering

*If you are visiting Mount Olive today, please don't feel obligated to give an offering. We are happy to have you as our guest today. Please do sign the friendship register and leave your contact information. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring donation, scan the QR code to visit Mount Olive's online giving page. Thank you!*



## Hymn: 839 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

### Closing Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Presiding Minister:**

*Pastor Robert Raasch*

**Sunday Organist:**

*Sarah Sehloff*

**Kindergarten:**

*Amy Cain, Junel Korth*

**Early Learning Center:**

*Rachel Brown, Jessica Enter*

**Monday Organist:**

*Jon Riehle*

## **Acknowledgments**

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