

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to: Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all

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Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.



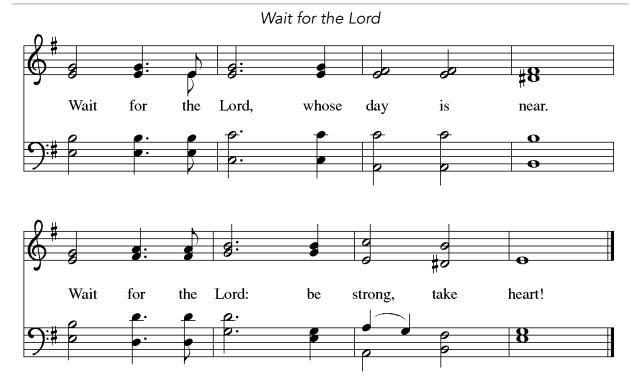


WORDS OF WELCOME

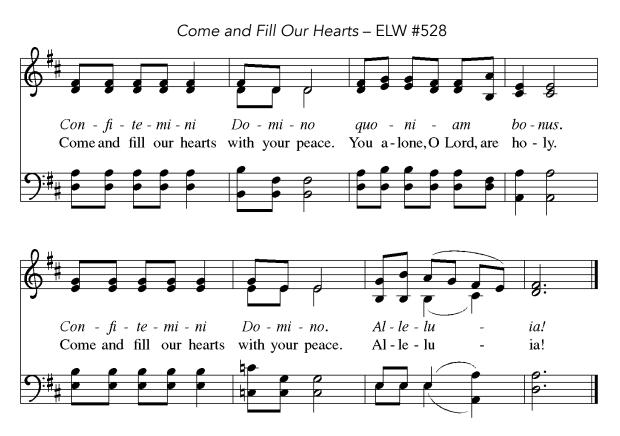
Pastor Dave Thomas

OPENING SONGS

ELW #262



Text: Taizé Community
Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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 Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community
 Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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GATHERING PRAYER

- P Let us pray: Holy God, your love is stronger than death, and your life-giving power has no end.
 We commend to your eternal care all who have died in the service of others, even as we lament the violence of war.
 Comfort and sustain all those who mourn.
 Heal the wounded body, mind, and spirit.
 Bring justice, freedom, and dignity to all people and bring an end to war throughout the earth so that all may know your promised peace; through the One who is the resurrection and the hope, Christ, our Lord,
- C who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:6-14 (The Message)

L A reading from Acts.

When they [Jesus and his disciples] were together for the last time they asked, "Master, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now? Is this the time?" He told them, "You don't get to know the time. Timing is the Father's business. What you'll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world." These were his last words. As they watched, he was taken up and disappeared in a cloud. They stood there, staring into the empty sky. Suddenly two men appeared—in white robes! They said, "You Galileans! why do you just stand here looking up at an empty sky? This very Jesus who was taken up from among you to heaven will come as certainly-and mysteriously—as he left." So they left the mountain called Olives and returned to Jerusalem. It was a little over half a mile. They went to the upper room they had been using as a meeting place: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James, son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas, son of James. They agreed they were in this for good, completely together in prayer, the women included. Also Jesus' mother, Mary, and his brothers.

- L Word of God. Word of Life.
- C Thanks be to God!

PSALM

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (The Message)

read responsively

Up with God! Down with his enemies! Adversaries, run for the hills! Gone like a puff of smoke, like a blob of wax in the fire one look at God and the wicked vanish.

continued...

LESSONS

When the righteous see God in action they'll laugh, they'll sing, they'll laugh and sing for joy. Sing hymns to God; all heaven, sing out; clear the way for the coming of Cloud-Rider. Enjoy God, cheer when you see him! Father of orphans, champion of widows, is God in his holy house. God makes homes for the homeless, leads prisoners to freedom, but leaves rebels to rot in hell. God, when you took the lead with your people, when you marched out into the wild, Earth shook, sky broke out in a sweat; God was on the march. Even Sinai trembled at the sight of God on the move, at the sight of Israel's God. You pour out rain in buckets, O God; thorn and cactus become an oasis For your people to camp in and enjoy. You set them up in business; they went from rags to riches. Sing, O kings of the earth! Sing praises to the Lord! There he is: Sky-Rider, striding the ancient skies. Listen—he's calling in thunder, rumbling, rolling thunder. Call out "Bravo!" to God, the High God of Israel. His splendor and strength rise huge as thunderheads. A terrible beauty, O God, streams from your sanctuary. It's Israel's strong God! He gives power and might to his people! O you, his people—bless God!

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 (The Message)

L A reading from First Peter.

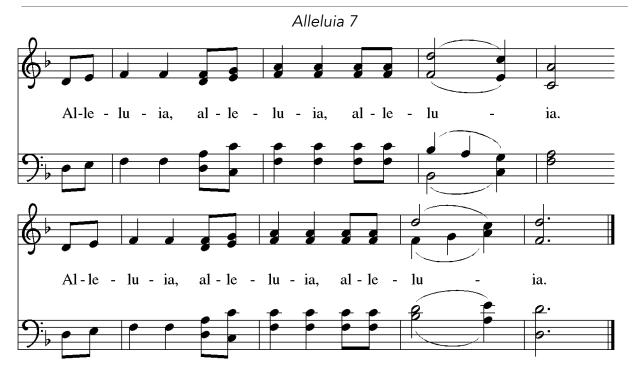
Friends, when life gets really difficult, don't jump to the conclusion that God isn't on the job. Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner. If you're abused because of Christ, count yourself fortunate. It's the Spirit of God and his glory in you that brought you to the notice of others. So be content with who you are, and don't put on airs. God's strong hand is on you; he'll promote you at the right time. Live carefree before God; he is most careful with you. Keep a cool head. Stay alert. The Devil is poised to pounce, and would like nothing better than to catch you napping. Keep your guard up. You're not the only ones plunged into these hard times. It's the same with Christians all over the world. So keep a firm grip on the faith. The suffering won't last forever. It won't be long before this generous God who has great plans for us in Christ - eternal and glorious plans they are! - will have you put together and on your feet for good. He gets the last word; yes, he does.

- L Word of God. Word of Life.
- C Thanks be to God!

LESSONS

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW #175



Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

† HOLY GOSPEL

John 17:1-11 (The Message)

P Hear the good news, as recorded in St. John the 17th chapter.

Jesus said these things. Then, raising his eyes in prayer, he said: Father, it's time. Display the bright splendor of your Son, so the Son in turn may show your bright splendor. You put him in charge of everything human so he might give real and eternal life to all in his charge. And this is the real and eternal life: That they know you, the one and only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent. I glorified you on earth by completing down to the last detail what you assigned me to do. And now, Father, glorify me with your very own splendor, the very splendor I had in your presence before there was a world. I spelled out your character in detail to the men and women you gave me. They were yours in the first place; then you gave them to me, and they have now done what you said. They know now, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that everything you gave me is firsthand from you, for the message you gave me, I gave them; and they took it, and were convinced that I came from you. They believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I'm not praying for the Godrejecting world but for those you gave me, for they are yours by right. Everything mine is yours, and yours mine, and my life is on display in them. For I'm no longer going to be visible in the world; they'll continue in the world while I return to you. Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life that you conferred as a gift through me, so they can be one heart and mind as we are one heart and mind."

- P This is good news.
- C Thanks be to God.



MESSAGE

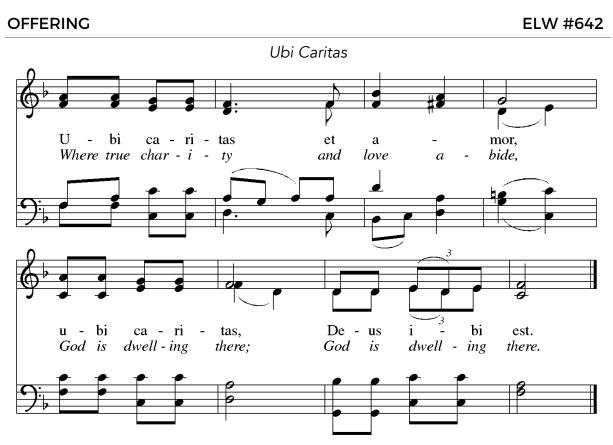
When Jesus Prays

SONG OF THE DAY

ELW #388



Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 Text and music © Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. With One Voice
Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ELW #751



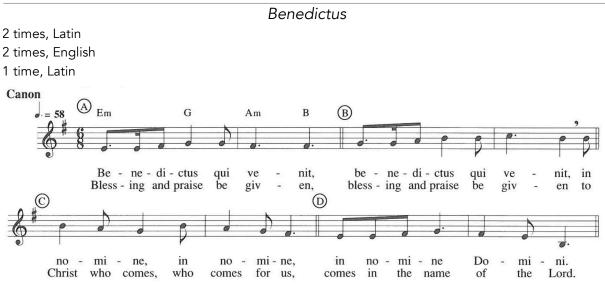
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



BENEDICTION



Music: J. Berthier © Aterliers et Presses de Taizé, F-71250 Taizé-Communauté

SENT TO SERVE

P Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you."
 By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:

C Worship God, Grow in Faith, Share the Gospel, Serve Others, Welcome All. — Thanks be to God!