THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 5, 2024



Easter People Abide

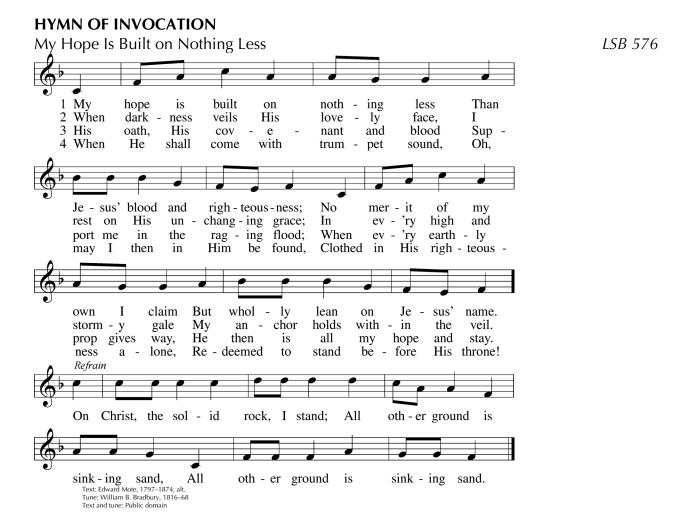
The hymn text "Abide with Me," by English clergyman Henry Lyte, has a history that assists in making the words of hope and comfort in the text memorable. Yet, in reflecting on the true importance of the hymn, it is not the circumstances surrounding why it was written that gives it beauty but the words themselves that the author wrote. In timeless poetry, Lyte underscores the meaning of God's presence in the life of the Christian as he writes: "I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless" (LSB 878:5). Our Lord abides with us not only at eventide, but at all times and in all places. Here and now let us bring to this caring God our thanks and praise!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION STATEMENT

In response to God's grace we as a congregation pledge ourselves to bring all people closer to Jesus through the Word of God, worship, and caring service.

DIVINE SERVICE — SETTING I



INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit

C: Amen.

PREPARATION

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD



Psalm 66:1–2, 8–9, 20; antiphon: Psalm 66:16

LSB 152

- P: Come and hear, all you who | fear God,* and I will tell what he has done | for my soul.
- C: Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;*

sing the glory of his name; give to him | glorious praise!

P: Bless our God, O | peoples;*

let the sound of his | praise be heard,

C: who has kept our soul among the | living* and has not let our | feet slip.

P: Blessèd | be God,*

because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast | love from me!

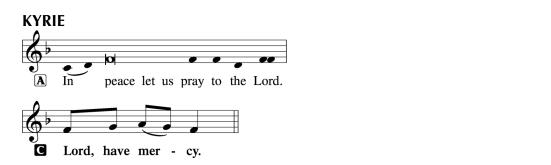
All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

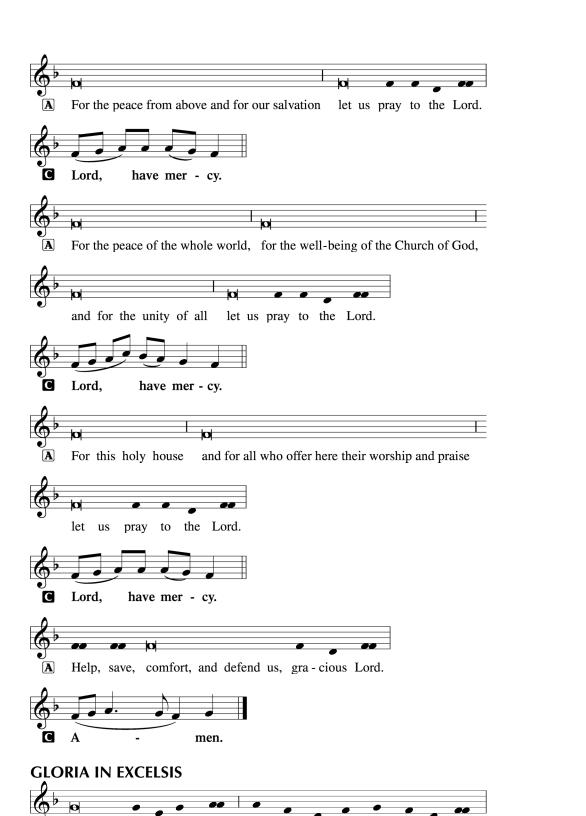
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P: Come and hear, all you who | fear God,* and I will tell what he has done | for my soul.

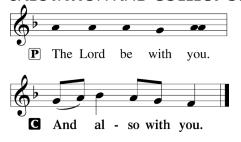




A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P: O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING Acts 10:34–48

R: The first reading for the Sixth Sunday of Easter is recorded for us in Acts, chapter ten.

Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

- R: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

- R: Let us recite the Gradual responsively:
- R: Christ has risen from the dead.
- C: [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.
- R: He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;
- C: he has put all things under his feet.

EPISTLE 1 John 5:1–8

R: The epistle is recorded for us in First John, chapter five.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this

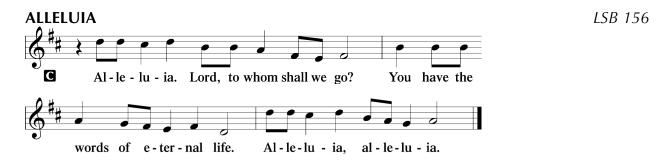
is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

R: Please stand to sing the Alleluia.



HOLY GOSPEL John 15:9–17



[Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved me, so have I 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. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another."





- 5 Here our true Paschal Lamb we see, Whom God so freely gave us; He died on the accursed tree— So strong His love—to save us. See, His blood now marks our door; Faith points to it; death passes o'er, And Satan cannot harm us. Alleluia!
- 6 So let us keep the festival
 To which the Lord invites us;
 Christ is Himself the joy of all,
 The sun that warms and lights us.
 Now His grace to us imparts

Eternal sunshine to our hearts; The night of sin is ended. Alleluia!

7 Then let us feast this Easter Day
On Christ, the bread of heaven;
The Word of grace has purged away
The old and evil leaven.
Christ alone our souls will feed;
He is our meat and drink indeed;
Faith lives upon no other!
Alleluia!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON "Water"

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

> And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, You invite us freely to come and hear Your Word. Bless and increase our faith, that we may rightly fear You and learn what You have done for our souls. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Lord of all, You make known the good news of peace through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Bless and direct the work of our missionaries, that in every nation there would be people who fear God, do what is right and, believing in Jesus, receive forgiveness of sins through His name. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Father of love, out of great love for You and for sinners, our Lord Jesus laid down His life for the world. Increase in us true love for one another, that like our Lord, we may also lay down our lives for our friends. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Almighty Father, You rule this world by Your established authorities in ways that we do not always understand; yet in the name of Jesus, we may ask You anything freely as friends and sons. Bless our nation's leaders, and cause them to serve wisely for our good. Give earthly peace and justice that is in accord with Your commandments and the order You have revealed. Bring an end to injustice, violence and disdain for Your truth, and let us receive all good with thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Lord God, the Giver of all that is good, grant Your healing and support to all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity especially ____. Give them also the gift of Your grace to accept and bear their crosses with faith in You, that finally they would be prepared to depart this life and receive the gift of eternal life in Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.

- P: Merciful God, at the death of Your Son, You gave the testimony of Your Spirit in the water and blood that poured from His wounded side. Grant that, having received this testimony in the water of Baptism, we may also receive it in the body and blood of Jesus in the Holy Supper and so overcome the world by our faith in Him. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OFFERING



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



LSB 160



PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

LSB 161

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LSB 162

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

ISB 162

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

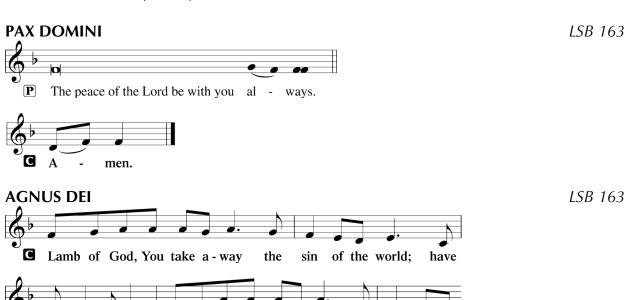
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

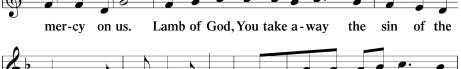
PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

LSB 162

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. C:





world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way



DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Awake, My Heart, with Gladness



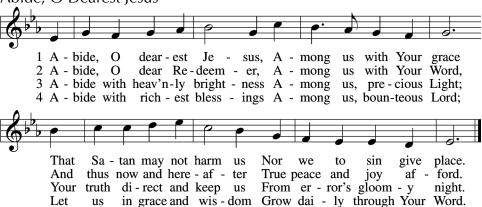
- is done;
- A wake, my heart, with glad ness, See what to day The foe in tri-umph shout ed When Christ lay in 2 The the tomb;
- sight that glad dens-What peace it im - part!
- its prince, the dev il, Of all their pow'r are shorn;



- 5 The world against me rages, Its fury I disdain; Though bitter war it wages, Its work is all in vain. My heart from care is free, No trouble troubles me. Misfortune now is play, And night is bright as day.
- 6 Now I will cling forever
 To Christ, my Savior true;
 My Lord will leave me never,
 Whate'er He passes through.
 He rends death's iron chain;
 He breaks through sin and pain;
 He shatters hell's grim thrall;
 I follow Him through all.
- 7 He brings me to the portal
 That leads to bliss untold,
 Whereon this rhyme immortal
 Is found in script of gold:
 "Who there My cross has shared
 Finds here a crown prepared;
 Who there with Me has died
 Shall here be glorified."

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain





- 5 Abide with Your protection Among us, Lord, our strength, Lest world and Satan fell us And overcome at length.
- Abide, O faithful Savior,
 Among us with Your love;
 Grant steadfastness and help us
 To reach our home above.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615 Text and tune: Public domain

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table 1 I 0 Thy ta - ble, For weak come, Say - ior, to 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners 3 Un - wor - thy though O Be - cause Ι am, Sav - ior, T 4 Wea - ry heav - y lad - en; With sin am and my 5 What high - er in - her - it? gift can we It is faith's is soul; Thou, Bread of Life, wea ry my a -Who, Lord, Thee may sal - va tion see to in have sin ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt a soul is sore op pressed: Re ceive me gra cious bond and sol id base; Ιt is the strength of sat - is - fy ble То lone art a and make me whole: turn - ing; So sin - ner, Thee. faith are I, a come to nev - er, For Thou my ban - ish faith - ful shep-herd art: glad - den My now Thy guest. ly and heart, for Ι am The heart and spir - it, cov - e - nant of hope and grace.



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high-est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.
Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002351

Tune: Public domain



The Church our blest Re-deem-er saved With His own pre-cious blood. Its sweet com-mu-nion, sol-emn vows, Its hymns of love and praise. the ap - ple of Your eye And grav - en on Your hand. For them my cares and toils be giv'n Till toils and cares shall end. The bright - est glo - ries earth can yield And bright - er of heav'n. bliss

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, alt. Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76 Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.





He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



LSB 651

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN



SILENT PRAYER

DISMISSAL

P:

Let us go forth in peace, in the name of the Lord. Amen. C: