

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Sixth Sunday of Easter
LBW Setting Two
Sunday, May 17, 2020**

Introduction to the day

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (LBW p. 77)**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage 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

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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 ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 82)**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good things come: **Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to think those things which are right, and by your goodness help us to do them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Amen

FIRST LESSON: Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.

²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.

³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:7-18

⁷Bless our God, you peoples;
make the voice of his praise to be heard,

⁸**who holds our souls in life,
and will not allow our feet to slip.**

⁹For you, O God, have proved us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹⁰**You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹²**I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows,
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was
in trouble.**

¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

¹⁴**Come and listen, all you who fear God,
and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

¹⁵I called out to him with my mouth,
and his praise was on my tongue.

¹⁶**If I had found evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;**

¹⁷but in truth God has heard me;
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

¹⁸**Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld his love from me.**

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

***APOSTLES CREED (LBW p. 84)**

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

***THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (LBW p. 85)**

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.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us. Unite us forever in your final victory over death. 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.

***PEACE (LBW p. 86)**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

***LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p. 91)**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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 (LBW p. 94)**

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.

Amen

***DISMISSAL (LBW p. 94)**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 5/24/20

Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14,5:6-11, John 17:1-11

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Bailey, Lee Cook, Brian Dell, Betty Gaither,
Shannon Hildebrand, Don Miller, Jim Ream,
Susette Stallard, Earl Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sally Zimmerer joined the saints in heaven on Friday, May 8th. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Roman Davis will be celebrating his 16th birthday on Thursday, May 28th. If you would like to send him birthday wishes, cards and messages can be sent to 114 Church St., Glen Rock, PA 17327. Thank you in advance for helping to make this monumental birthday special for him.

Remote worship options are available in this time of physical separation from each other.

If you have an internet connection, click or copy the link provided below. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/7527077666>

Meeting ID: 752 707 7666

If prompted for Password: 123

The start time for the live streaming service on Sunday, 5/17, is 10am.

If you do NOT have internet connection, use the phone number provided below to join. The new toll-free number for worship service on Sundays at 10 am is: (862) 799-9807

Recorded services and other virtual fellowship opportunities are available on Zion's Remote Worship web page at <https://zionglenrock.org/worship/remote-worship>.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, York broadcasts their 11:00am Sunday service on FM 98.9 radio station. Some familiar names to many at Zion, Rev. Kevin Shively and Rev. Keith Fair, both serve at St. Matthew's.

Many of you are mailing or dropping off your regular church offering, and for that we are very thankful. Although the church building is closed to the public, Zion continues to have day to day expenses for providing ministry, and your contributions are used to make sure ministry continues at Zion. The church's mailing address is 47 Hanover St., Glen Rock, PA 17327.

Zion recently set up E-giving. On Zion's home page of the website, there is an "Online Giving" button. You can make a one-time donation or set up reoccurring donations. You will also have the option to offset the processing fees. (If you choose to cover the fees of your transaction, your yearly contribution statement will reflect the fees paid, in addition to your contributions.) "Give Plus" mobile app by Vanco is also available for download to access online giving. If you choose to pay with a credit/debit card, the fee is 2.35% + \$0.35 per transaction. If you choose to pay with a checking account, the processing fee is only .80% + \$0.35 per transaction.

At this time, online giving is only set up for regular contributions. In the future, you will be able to make online contributions for flowers, World Hunger, Memorial Gifts, and almost all other dedicated accounts.

If you desire pastoral care or conversation, please contact Pastor Katie Brantner at 717-420-0779.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joy Keller-Brown, Donna Price, Bill Ream, Tom Bailey, Susan Hengst, George Brown, Carrie Miller, Edgar Davis and Gevene Harden

Zion Lutheran Church

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