

# THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 17 & 18, 2025 5:30PM & 8:00AM

## **AS WE GATHER**

The Fifth Sunday of Easter bears the traditional name of Cantate, from the Introit's "Oh sing to the LORD a new song." Not only people but all creation is urged to break out in song. Throughout our worship today we will do just that, for the resurrection news cannot be left to quiet contemplation. Though it was difficult for Peter to convince the others, when they realized Gentiles had received the Spirit, they rejoiced. The vision of heaven in Revelation has no more pain or sorrow; what can be left but joyful singing?

At the end of Jesus' talk to the disciples, He promises "I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you" (John 16:22). When we are filled with such joy, singing is inevitable. Much of today's worship has us singing a few (or all) of the stanzas of familiar hymns. Let us join the joyful multitude in heaven and earth!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **OPENING HYMN** "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen" LSB 474, sts. 1-5

## <u>(please stand)</u>

## INVOCATION

- In the name of the Father and of the riangle Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 98:1–2, 4

- P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!
- **G** His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.
- P The LORD has made known His salvation;
- **G** He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

## **G** break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

We have come together to praise and thank God for His overwhelming grace and mercy. Singing and rejoicing are natural for us, but we cannot come to God with our sins and failures. Let us therefore confess our sins and ask for mercy for the sake of Christ.

- Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- God has called you to life, He has given His Son to pay for your sins, and He has given you and all believers in Christ the faith to trust all His promises. 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 I Son and of the Holy Spirit. C Amen.

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Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, at	nd the Ho-ly Spir-it.	
• O come, let us wor - ship Him.		
ENITE "O Come, Let Us Sing	" <u>·</u>	SB
		3
		4
<ul> <li>C 1 O come, let us sing</li></ul>	to the Lord, great God made it,	
5 Glory be to the Father and	to the Son	
0 4	1	
1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of ou	r sal - va - tion	
5 and to the $\dots$ He	ng a - bove all gods rmed the dry land	s.
2 and a greatkin3 and His handfor	ng a - bove all gods rmed the dry land b - ly Spir - it;	s.
2 and a great	ng a - bove all gods rmed the dry land b - ly Spir - it;	s.
2 and a great       kin         3 and His hand       for         5 and to the       for         5 and to the       Ho         1 Let us come into His presence with thanks         2 The deep places of the earth are         3 O come, let us worship and         4 For He	ng a - bove all gods med the dry land - ly Spir - it; giv - ing, in His hand; bow down, is our God,	s.
2 and a great       kin         3 and His hand       for         5 and to the       for         5 and to the       Ho         1 Let us come into His presence with thanks         2 The deep places of the earth are         3 O come, let us worship and         4 For He	ng a - bove all gods med the dry land - ly Spir - it; giv - ing, in His hand; bow down, is our God,	s.
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2 and a great kin   3 and His hand for   5 and to the Ho   1 Let us come into His presence with thanks 2 The deep places of the earth are 3 O come, let us worship and 4 For He 5 as it was in the be -	ng a - bove all gods med the dry land - ly Spir - it; giv - ing, in His hand; bow down, is our God, gin - ning, Him with songs of praise	s. 1.

P

# SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

• And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will.

- Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;
- through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **G** Amen. <u>(please sit)</u>

# FIRST READING Acts 11:1-18

(The apostles rejoice that the Spirit has been given to Gentiles.)

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, <sup>3</sup>"You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them." <sup>4</sup>But Peter began and explained it to them in order: <sup>5</sup>"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. <sup>6</sup>Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup>But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' 9But the voice answered a second time from heaven. What God has made clean, do not call common.'<sup>10</sup>This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. <sup>11</sup>And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea, <sup>12</sup>And

the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup>And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' <sup>15</sup>As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup>If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" <sup>18</sup>When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### GRADUAL adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

- P Christ has risen from the dead.
- **G** God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.
- P He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;
- **G** He has put all things under His feet.

## EPISTLE Revelation 21:1-7

## (God and His people will live together in the new Jerusalem.)

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saving. "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup>And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup>The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

# (please stand)

## HOLY GOSPEL John 16:12-22

(When the disciples see Jesus again, their joy will be full.)
The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>12</sup>[Jesus said:] "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, for he will

take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

<sup>16</sup>"A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me."

(continued...)

<sup>17</sup>So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" <sup>18</sup>So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about."

<sup>19</sup>Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? <sup>20</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but Easter 5

your sorrow will turn into joy. <sup>21</sup>When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. <sup>22</sup>So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

<u>(please sit)</u>

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" LSB 700, sts. 1-4

5

**SERMON** "ARE WE JUDGE, JURY, AND EXECUTIONER OR ???" (*Text: Acts 11:1-18*) The Rev. Peter Gueldner

**CANTICLE HYMN** "All Glory Be to God on High" LSB 947, sts. 1-4

#### TITHES AND OFFERING

<u>(please stand)</u>

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

 I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

(continued...)

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.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for ourselves, the church around the world, and all people in their various conditions.

For ourselves, that the faith within us be evident to the people around us, that they will want to find out more about our risen Savior.

In thanksgiving may they sing a new song with us!

For those who call out to God for relief from poverty, discrimination, and injustice, that God provide relief so that they live peaceful and fruitful lives.

In unbounded joy may they sing a new song with us!

- For those who are ill and those who care for them, [*including . . .*], that God would restore them to health and provide the strength they need.
- In their relief may they sing a new song with us!
- For all who carry the Gospel in far-flung lands, that God open doors of opportunity for the spread of the Gospel.
- In all corners of the earth may they sing a new song with us!
- These and any other things God would have us ask of Him, that He grant them for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- **O**h sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

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.

#### BENEDICTION

C Amen.

#### (please sit)

- HYMN "Jerusalem, My Happy Home" LSB 673, sts. 1-6
- **P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God!

# \* \* \* TO GOD BE THE GLORY \* \*

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# Joint Consolidation Informational Meeting & Prayer Service at Trinity, Sunday, May 18, 2:30 p.m.

Trinity's Consolidation Voters' Meeting Monday, May 19, 6:30 p.m.