

6th Sunday in Easter
May 22, 2022

Rev. Joy Gonnerman



Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

(*please stand as you are able)

(Congregation reads **bold** print)

Welcome & Announcements

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;

You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.

Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.

You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

You nourish us and enclose us in safety.

You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us.

You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.

Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,

our Shepherd and Lamb,

be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.

***Hymn** "All Are Welcome" #641

***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day**

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 67

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

²**Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶**The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Second Reading: Revelations 21:10, 22–22:5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

¹⁰And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1}Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation -- p. 142**

*The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord**

Gospel: John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

²³Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than

I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day "Light Dawns on a Weary World" #726

***Apostles Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace (*especially*). Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people (*especially*). Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died (*especially*) when we meet together at your river of life. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

***Peace**

May the peace of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Offering

***Doxology #884**

***Offering Prayer**

Living God,

you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together
in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table.

Reach out to us through this meal,
and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

***Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 144

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer** p. 145

***Invitation to Communion**

The risen Christ dwells with us here.
All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

Communion (continuous)

Come forward in the center aisle, distancing as desired. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Move to the right or left to receive the wine. Return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available in the container in front of the font.

Those who wish to be served at their seats or use the individual pre-packaged elements at their seats may stand to hear the words for individual distribution.

Distribution Hymns: #785-"When Peace Like a River" #623 "Rock of Ages"

***Prayer after Communion**

We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen.

***Blessing**

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✚ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***Sending Hymn** "My Life Flows on in Endless Song" #763

***Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
Thanks be to God.

Baptized believers sent into God's world to share God's love and grace.

Liturgy is from Sundays & Seasons, reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000556. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Permission to print/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737358. All rights reserved.

Welcome! May you be blessed as we worship together!

Pr. Kelley can be reached at 402-750-9944 (cell). He will be back on Wednesday, May 25.

Derek DeWitt, Ben Erdmann, and Kassie Bain are all currently deployed. We are collecting items to send in care packages. They are currently in need of skincare products (cleanser, moisturizer, lotion, sunscreen, etc.), good ground coffee, Gold Bond powder, and eye drops. **Please have your items in by Wednesday, May 25.**

Let Your Light Shine--The 34th Annual Convention of the Western Iowa Synodical Women's Organization will be held June 18, 2022 at First Lutheran Church, Milford, IA. There are copies of the registration and further information on the usher's table for those interested.

Vacation Bible School is preparing for this year's activities. If you would like to donate, they are looking for monetary donations or a donation of 70 plastic spoons or 100 gallon Ziploc bags. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated!

If you would like something included in the June newsletter, please have it in to the office by Wednesday, May 25.

This Week's Events: May 23-29

Mon.		Office Closed
Tues.	7:00pm	AA Meeting (Contact person is Larry S., 712-251-4207)
Wed.	10:00am	Adult Bible Study
Wed. May 25		June newsletter articles and donations due
Sun. May 29	9:00am	Seventh Sunday of Easter Sunday

Worship Assistants for May:

Organist: Ruth Chartier & Jacob Martin	Altar Guild: Patti & Dave Christiansen
Scripture Reader: Lisa Rippke	Offertory Accountants: Lisa & Steve Rippke
Tech Assistants: Casey & Jill Stratton	
Acolyte: Lexi Gilbert	Crucifer: Alyssa Orlando

Worship Assistants for June:

Organist: Ruth Chartier & Jacob Martin	Altar Guild: Janna Brandt & Marcia Kuehl
Scripture Reader: Janna Brandt	Offertory Accountants: Dave & Patti C.
Tech Assistants: Casey & Jill Stratton	
Acolyte: Alyssa Orlando	Crucifer: Lexi Gilbert

Birthdays: 22 – McKenna Peters; 23- Randy Kuehl; 24 – Lisa Gilbert; 25 – John Huecker; 26 – Rodney Lindgren; 27 – Kenzie Cross, Ann Rogers; 28 – Braden Coulter

Anniversaries: 24 – Carrie & Chris Stamm

Prayers

For those battling cancer: Denise Arpino-treatment; Doug Dahlke-Cancer has returned and seems to be spreading, waiting and hoping for a spot in a Car T cell transplant; Brad Pautsch (Cindy Ploen's brother)-In Remission.

We pray for Norma Thies; Carla Boggs; Jon Kleemeier-rehab at home; Barb Kunkel; Ed Kunkel (Barb's son)- was hospitalized with Covid, now home but still dealing with problems; Drake Malm; Tucker Malm (10-yrs old)-Crohn's, in remission!; Kelly Martin; Jan Reese-improving from broken hip; Sherry Beaver- fell at home and fractured her C1 in 2 places, will need to wear a

neck brace for 4-6 months; Derek DeWitt, Ben Erdmann, and Kassie Bain- deployed; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of COVID-19, extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.

On Ushers' Table:

- Children's bulletins
- Lutheran Disaster Response - US Wildfires information, Haiti earthquake relief
- 2022 April-June Devotional (large and small print available)
- Seminal sheets for confirmation students
- Lakeside Bible Camp flyers (for anyone interested in going or being a counselor)
- May Newsletter

God's Work. Our gifts. Thank you to all who support our ministry!

Electronic giving	\$ 130.00
Vacation Bible School	\$ 100.00
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>\$ 625.00</u>
Total	\$ 855.00

P.O. Box 239 Merville IA 51039 873-3327

Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Church, Merville

Email: tlchurchmerville@gmail.com OR tlchurch@wiatel.net

Website: www.trinitylutheranmerville.org

YouTube: Trinity Lutheran Church, Merville IA