

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

*Abide  
in my love*

JOHN 15:9



MAY 5, 2024 ~ 10:00 am

**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
HAGERSTOWN, MD

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
601 Washington Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740  
Pastor Brian McClinton, Senior Pastor  
Telephone: 301-733-7550 Website: stmarkslc.org

+ *Congregation please stand if able*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE - *Jesus Loves Me***

**Gordon Young**

+ **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ **GATHERING HYMN - "*Come, We That Love the Lord*"**

**ELW 625**

1 Come, we that love the Lord,  
and let our joys be known;  
join in a song with sweet accord,  
join in a song with sweet accord  
and thus surround the throne,  
and thus surround the throne.

2 Let those refuse to sing  
who never knew our God;  
but children of the heav'nly king,  
but children of the heav'nly king  
may tell their joys abroad,  
may tell their joys abroad. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

We're marching to Zion,  
beautiful, beautiful Zion:  
we're marching upward to Zion,  
the beautiful city of God.

3 The hill of Zion yields  
a thousand sacred sweets  
before we reach the heav'nly fields,  
before we reach the heav'nly fields,  
or walk the golden streets,  
or walk the golden streets. *Refrain*

4 Then let our songs abound,  
and ev'ry tear be dry;  
we're marching through Immanuel's  
ground,  
we're marching through Immanuel's  
ground,  
to fairer worlds on high,  
to fairer worlds on high. *Refrain*

+ **GREETING**

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

+ **KYRIE**



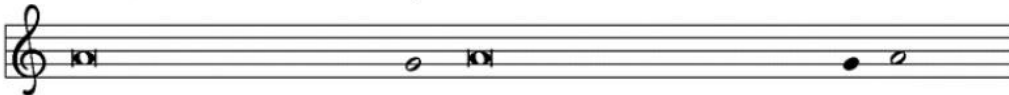
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

+ ***THIS IS THE FEAST***

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

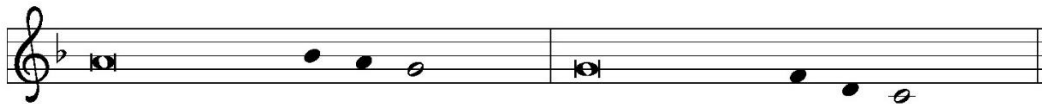
### + **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **FIRST READING - Acts 10:44-48**

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 98



<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made | known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

<sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;  
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD | with the harp,  
with the harp and the | voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>**With trumpets and the sound | of the horn  
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,  
the world and those who | dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>**Let the rivers | clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the  
earth.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peo- | ples with equity.

## **SECOND READING - 1 John 5:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

+ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

+ **GOSPEL - John 15:9-17**

The Holy Gospel according to John 15th chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.” The gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON**

**Pastor Brian**

+ ***HYMN OF THE DAY - "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"***

**ELW 742**

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
oh, what needless pain we bear--  
all because we do not carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake  
you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.

+ ***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 into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, 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 THE CHURCH***

*Response:* Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

+ ***SHARING OF THE PEACE***

***OFFERING***

***MUSIC OFFERING - Elevation***

**Alexandre Guilmant**



**+ OFFERTORY - "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**+OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**+ GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

**+PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

+ *SANCTUS*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

+ *THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE*

+ *THE LORD'S PRAYER*

**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.**

+ *INVITATION TO COMMUNION*

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Thanks be to God.**



+ **CLOSING HYMN - "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"**

**ELW 389**

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises  
ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never  
die.
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching ev'ry place and time.
- 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,  
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the  
more,  
and lives, where even hope has died.
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,  
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
and find the way, the life, the truth,  
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love, and  
praise.

+ **DISMISSAL**

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

**POSTLUDE - Jubilation**

**John Leavitt**



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