

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 2023



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

200 East Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

www.PeaceWithGod.com

Office@PeaceWithGod.com Phone: 610-337-1997

During our pastoral vacancy:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------|
| Vacancy Pastor Rev. Shandor | joshuashandor@gmail.com | 501-251-5898 |
| Elder Roger Huffman | rogerwhuffman@gmail.com | 610-256-5522 |
| Elder Mark Harris | wiscobadger75@verizon.net | 610-563-3371 |
| Elder Jim Dietz | jhdietz@pm.me | 610-247-3783 |
| Elder Keith Clemens | mkclemens@gmail.com | 610-220-6446 |

THE SERVICE – SETTING ONE

THREAD: *The Christian finds rest in Jesus.*

Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

CW 483



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



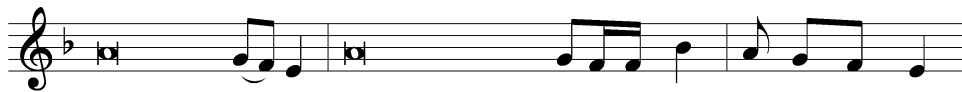
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



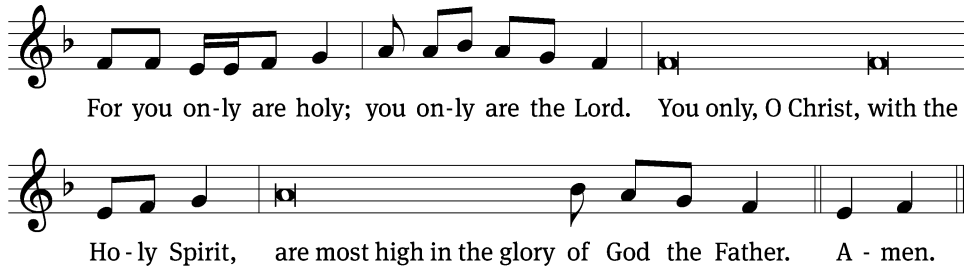
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end, grant us your promised rest and the full joys of your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Exodus 33:12–23

The Israelites, God's people, have sinned with the golden calf incident. Yet we have a God who is moved by our cries. He forgives our sins and reveals his glorious goodness to us. As we make our way through our lives, he promises and gives us rest.

¹²Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favor with me.’ ¹³If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people.”

¹⁴The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

¹⁵Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

¹⁷And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

¹⁸Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

¹⁹And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

²¹Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²²When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Refrain

Rest in God alone, rest in God alone, my soul.

Truly my soul finds rest in God;
my salvation comes from him.

Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

Yes, my soul, find rest in God;
my hope comes from him. **Refrain**

Though your riches increase,
do not set your heart on them.

My salvation and my honor depend on God;
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen. Refrain**

Text: Lectionary for Mass
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Second Reading

Romans 7:15–25a

The Christian life is a battle between the sinful flesh and the new man born in us by the gospel. The old Adam rages constant war. Where can we find rest from this kind of fight? Thanks be to God through Christ our Lord, who came to give rest to weary and burdened souls. These verses are the subject of today's sermon.

¹⁵I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.

²⁰Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²²For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Just before our reading in Matthew, Jesus denounces towns who saw the signs of Jesus' deity but failed to repent. When mankind wants to dictate their relationship with God, they find that the truth is hidden from them. Yet to those who believe in him, he offers words of comfort and rest. In discipleship, he gives us the rest that our souls so desperately need.

²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day: Come unto Me, Ye Weary

CW 706



- 1 "Come un - to me, ye wea - ry, and I will give you rest."
- 2 "Come un - to me, ye wan - d'ers, and I will give you light."
- 3 "Come un - to me, ye faint - ing, and I will give you life."
- 4 "And who - so - ev - er com - eth, I will not cast him out."



O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, which comes to hearts op - pressed!
 O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to cheer the night!
 O cheer - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to aid our strife!
 O pa - tient love of Je - sus, which drives a - way our doubt,



It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, of par - don, grace, and peace,
 Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, and we had lost our way,
 The foe is stern and ea - ger, the fight is fierce and long,
 which, though we be un - wor - thy of love so great and free,



of joy that has no end - ing, of love that can - not cease.
 but thou hast brought us glad - ness and songs at break of day.
 but thou hast made us might - y and strong - er than the strong.
 in - vites us ver - y sin - ners to come, dear Lord, to thee!

Be seated, as directed

How the Christian Struggles on the Inside!

- A. We fail to do the good we want.
- B. Who will rescue us?

*Sermon by Rev. Gregg Bitter, adapted. Used by permission
Ministering Elder: Jim Dietz*

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**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

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture.

Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith.

Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

... Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Offering – *The mail at church is being collected. Offerings may be mailed to:*

Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, 200 E. Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Let us pray:

God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn: How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

CW 541



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds in
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole and
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, my
4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, my



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the heart's un - rest; 'tis man - na to the
shield and hid - ing place, my nev - er - fail - ing
Proph - et, Priest, and King, my Lord, my life, my



heals our wounds, and drives a - way all fear.
hun - gry soul and to the wea - ry, rest.
trea - sury filled with bound - less stores of grace.
way, my end, ac - cept the praise I bring.

- 5 How weak the effort of my heart,
how cold my warmest thought,
but when I see you as you are,
I'll praise you as I ought!
- 6 Till then I would your love proclaim
with ev'ry fleeting breath;
and may the music of your name
refresh my soul in death.

Silent prayer – Announcements

Acknowledgments:

Setting One from Christian Worship

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