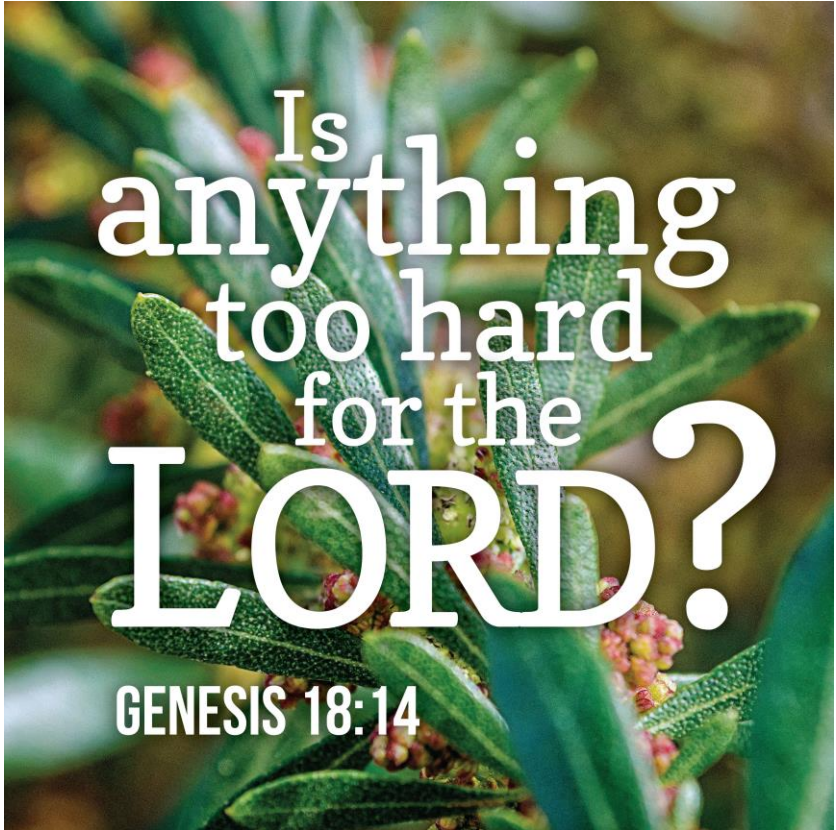


Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 17, 2022

9:30 a.m.



MARTIN LUTHER CHAPEL

444 Abbot Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
Phone: (517) 332-0778
www.martinlutherchapel.org

“Christ- Students- Community Coming Together”

Stay alert! You might be entertaining God! Today we are introduced to people who hosted God in their homes, although they were not always aware of God's presence. God comes close to us--even within us, as Paul exclaims.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

Stand

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

C Amen.

P 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.

C Amen.

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P 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.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

P Most merciful God,

C **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.**

P 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. **C** Amen.

Stand

GREETING OF PEACE As you greet others, please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands. Other options while saying the following greeting are placing your hand on your heart, a head nod or bowing **“Peace be with you. / And also with you”.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN “How Firm a Foundation”

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 “The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
 4 “When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,

Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.

What more can He say than to you He has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign

Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
 Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

continued on next page

5 “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
 My sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
 And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
 Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

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

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, — have mer - cy.

P 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.



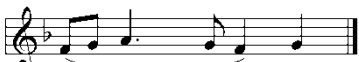
C Lord, — have — mer - cy.

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



C Lord, — have mer - cy.

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



C A - - - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

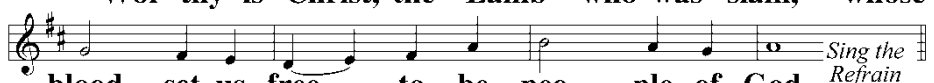


Go to Verses

Verse 1




Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

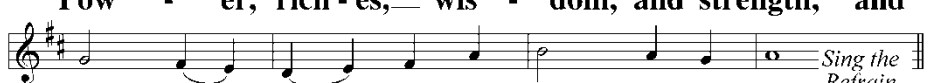


blood set us free — to be peo - ple of God. *Sing the Refrain*

Verse 2




Pow - er, rich - es, — wis - dom, and strength, and

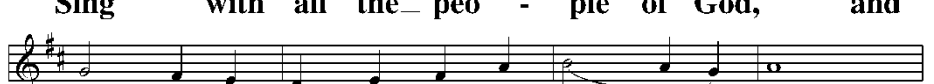


hon - or, — bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Sing the Refrain*

Verse 3



Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - - - tion:

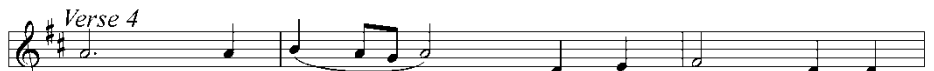


Bless - ing, hon - or, — glo - ry, and might be to




God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - - men. *Sing the Refrain*

Verse 4



For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



gun his — reign. — Al - le - lu - - - ia. *continue below*

Final Refrain



This is the feast — of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**

P O Lord, pour out upon us the spirit to think and do what is right, that we, who cannot even exist without you, may have the strength to live according to your will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** **Amen.**

Sit

FIRST LESSON Genesis 18:1-14

The LORD visits Abraham and Sarah and promises the birth of a child even though they are too old to start a family.

R The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?' The LORD said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?" Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.'

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

SECOND LESSON Colossians 1:15-28

The great mystery of God is "Christ in you." Because Christ is present in his body, the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

R And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.

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

Stand

intro: one chord

has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator 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 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.**

MESSAGE "That's Ridiculous!"

Stand

HYMN "My Soul Rejoices"



1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the



great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He

fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion

bles - sing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and
halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the

ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the

sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring

Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," to which the congregation responds, "hear our prayer." The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** Amen.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

OFFERING

You may contribute online by texting the amount to 517-879-0989 and following the prompts. Alternately, gifts may be placed in the offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.

OFFERTORY SONG AND PRAYER

Stand

introduction



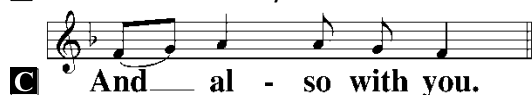
C Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, ' and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer
now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give
us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

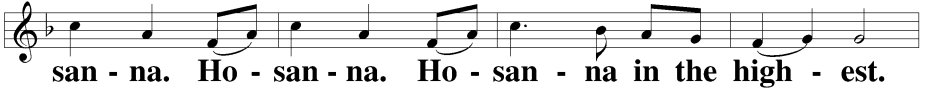
P It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



softer Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the



louder Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

C 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

THE LAMB OF GOD

C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. *(repeat from beginning)* Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION Please approach the altar as space is available. You may receive pre-packaged communion elements, or from the common loaf, along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Pre-packaged Gluten free options are available.

HYMN “Thy Word is a Lamp”

Refrain
 Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.

1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,
 2 I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet My

Still You're there right be - side me. And
 heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.

noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; *And Refrain*

Please be near me to the end.
I will love You to the end.

Stand

THE BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C** **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE AND PRAYER

intro: one chord

C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'-ry-one what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name. He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

- [P] 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. **C** Amen.

- [P] Go in peace; serve the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Je - sus'
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on
3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me
4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I

blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly
then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -

own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

POSTLUDE

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Our Confession about Communion

Our Confession

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible, and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

- a. have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord, and concur in our confession;
- b. are not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.
