
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 9, 2021

WELCOME

HYMN: "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" (LSB #493)

**A hymn of glory let us sing!
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**"You see Him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky."
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**"Here after Jesus you shall see
Returning in great majesty."
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
And be our future great reward.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Then, throned with You forever, we
Shall praise your name eternally.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to You let earth accord:
Alleluia, alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

(Text C.1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission LSBHymnLicense.net#100014389)

INVOCATION

ASCENSION READING: Acts 1:1-11

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ⁶So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore



the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

CONFESSION OF SINS: *(Spoken together)*

Heavenly Father, we confess our sins to You. Although we are not worthy of Your presence, we ask for Your forgiveness and love in Jesus' name. Cleanse our hearts and renew our lives for the sake of what Jesus has done for us as the Savior whom You sent, that all we do might be to the praise and honor of Your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE:

Pastor: Having paid for our redemption with His own blood,

People: Jesus promises all who trust in Him forgiveness and eternal life.

Pastor: As Jesus ascended into glory,

People: We look forward to the time of our ascension into His glorious kingdom and eternal presence.

Amen.

HYMN: "On Christ's Ascension I Now Build" *(LSB #492)*

**On Christ's ascension I now build
The hope of my ascension;
This hope alone has always stilled
All doubt and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there as well
I know His members are to dwell
When Christ will come and call them.**

**Since Christ returned to claim His throne,
Great gifts for me obtaining,
My heart will rest in Him alone,
No other rest remaining;
For where my treasure went before,
There all my thoughts will ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.**

**O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,
Recalling Your ascension,
That I may serve You faithfully
In thanks for my redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease,
Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.**

(Text/tune C. 1941, 1976 Concordia Publishing. Used by permission LSBHymnLicense.net#100014389)

EPISTLE READING: 1 John 4:1-11

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. ⁴You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood. ⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

GOSPEL READING: John 15:9-17

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

CHILDREN’S LESSON

HYMN: “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” (LSB #467)

**Awake, my heart, with gladness,
See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness,
Comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid
Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light
Our spirit wings its flight.**

**Now hell, its prince, the devil,
Of all their pow’r are shorn;
Now I am safe from evil,
And sin I laugh to scorn.
Grim death with all its might
Cannot my soul affright;
It is a pow’rless form,
How e’er it rave and storm.**

**Now I will cling forever
To Christ, my Savior true;
My Lord will leave me never,
Whate'er He passes through.
He rends death's iron chain;
He breaks through sin and pain;
He shatters hell's grim thrall;
I follow Him through all.**

**He brings me to the portal
That leads to bliss untold,
Whereon this rhyme immortal
Is found in script of gold:
"Who there My cross has shared
Finds here a crown prepared;
Who there with Me has died
Shall here be glorified."**

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SERMON: Acts 11:19-30 "Why Help Another?"

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *(Spoken together)*

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death, that I may be his own and live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

OFFERING

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

BLESSING

HYMN: "See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph" (LSB #494)

**See, the Lord ascends in triumph;
Conqu'ring King in royal state,
Riding on the clouds, His chariot,
To His heav'nly palace gate.
Hark! The choirs of angel voices
Joyful alleluias sing,
And the portals high are lifted
To receive their heav'nly King.**

**Who is this that comes in glory
with the trump of jubilee?
Lord of battles, God of armies,
He has gained the victory.
He who on the cross did suffer,
He who from the grave arose,
He has vanquished sin and Satan;
He by death has crushed His foes.**

**He has raised our human nature
On the clouds to God's right hand;
There we sit in heav'nly places,
There with Him in glory stand.
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
Man with God is on the throne.
By our mighty Lord's ascension
We by faith behold our own.
(Public Domain)**

**Start saving your items
for the 2021**



**Rummage
Sale**

HOLY EMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
201 EAST 104TH STREET
Thursday September 10th
Friday September 11th
Saturday September 12th.

HOLY EMMANUEL Please do not bring items to church until the last week of August Thank you! FAITH WORKERS

Happy Birthdays



Today, May 9th there will be cake in the narthex for Stan Chervený's 90th birthday. Happy birthday Stan!

**We're thankful
for you!**

Thank You to Jen Oline for enriching our services with music the last 2 weeks. your talents are a blessing!



**Mateo Xavier VanVleet
Born May 1st, 7 lbs, 1 oz**

Talking Points with Pastor Lucas: Family matters

“But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. ”
— Genesis 2:20-25 (ESV)

In God’s creative act, He establishes a natural order and outcome for His creation. One man and one woman who would become one flesh, and from that one-flesh sexual union they would create life. In the beginning, we then also hear God’s first great command: “Be fruitful and multiply” (Genesis 1:28). Male and female were defined. Marriage was instituted. The family was ordained. God’s command was spoken. If we are to reclaim the virtue of family in our chaotic society today, we must begin with God’s Word and firmly stand upon it for the sake of the family.

As a church, we must not simply declare the things we stand *against*, but we must also robustly proclaim the things we stand *for*. This includes being for the family—being for faithful husbands and fathers, being for faithful wives and mothers. In a culture that has redefined what a family is, what marriage is, and even what it means to be male and female, it is important that the church stands for the family and the wonders of God’s created order.

a wonder of creation.

One of the wonders of creation is the way God designed the woman’s body to give birth. It’s an absolute wonder. With six children, my wife and I have experienced this wonder multiple times. And it reminds me how the vocation of mother is much deeper than men tend to realize. Comedian Jim Gaffigan makes me crack up when he describes it:

“Whatever a pregnant woman is doing, she is also at the same time growing a baby inside of her. I think this is where women get their incredible ability to multitask. They can talk on the phone, cook supper, tend to the children, and grow a baby all at the same time. Even when they are sleeping, they are multitasking. Often times I’m not even tasking.”

Indeed, women are a marvel!

God’s design of a woman’s body is truly amazing. A woman can grow a baby inside her body. Then a woman can deliver the baby through her body. Then, by God’s design, a woman can feed a baby with her body. Again, Jim Gaffigan cracks me up with his description:

“Guys, let’s be honest, when you compare that to the male’s contribution to life, it’s kind of embarrassing, really. As a father I’m like, ‘Hey, I helped, too.’ For like five seconds. Doing the one thing I think about twenty-four hours a day... Well, enjoy your morning sickness. I’m gonna eat me a chili dog. Mmmm! Smell those onions.”

reclaiming family virtue.

All joking aside, reclaiming family virtue begins quite simply with men and women, as well as pastors and parents, identifying and celebrating the God-ordained vocations within the family—including the vocations of being male and female. Whether you are single or married, the family is still the origin of your being.

Now, as ever, Christian men of our day must reclaim what it is to be godly men, godly husbands, and godly fathers—to be gentlemen of virtue, to be providers and protectors, to act as the heads of the household, to have hands of discipline and patient love and playfulness and compassion, and especially, to recognize that our role is not simply a five-second contribution but a lifetime of prayer and active involvement in the formation of our children.

Now, as ever, Christian women of our day must reclaim what it is to be godly women, godly wives, and godly mothers—to be women of virtue, to nurture and encourage, to lead and to follow, to cultivate their homes as a haven, and to know their value is infinitely more than the dollar amount attached to any job, especially if they choose to stay home as a mother.

Reclaiming family virtue begins with you and me having caring conversations with our children, our grandchildren, our students, and our parishioners about how God . . .

1. **Creates** the family through the one-flesh union
2. **Orders** the family through the vocations of being male and female, husband, wife, and children
3. **Sustains** the family through the vocations of father, mother, and siblings

These are three things I know we can be confident about and be prepared to do. As congregations in the Minnesota South District, I pray we continue equipping and encouraging our parents and our families to stand on the Word of God and to stand up for the family as God created it to be.

After all, our Lord Jesus Christ had an earthly family. He had the vocation of being male and being a son. He understood the wonders of the God-created family. He grew up in the care of an earthly family, and even while hanging on the cross, He made sure His mother would be cared for (see John 19:26-27). To be sure, Jesus understood the wonders of creation because He was the Word that was there creating these wonders in the beginning (see John 1:1-3). But He is also the Word that gives us the confidence and boldness to uphold the family and stand for the family today.

In the joy of Jesus,

Pastor Lucas

Rev. Dr. Lucas V. Woodford

President

Minnesota South District, LCMS

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Morning at 10:45 in the Sanctuary

LOOKING AHEAD IN OUR SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS: “The End and Revelation!”

To access via Zoom.

Topic: Holy Emmanuel - Sunday Bible Study

Time: This is a recurring meeting Sunday's 10:45am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://fielding-edu.zoom.us/j/3033135695>

Meeting ID: 303 313 5695

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,3033135695# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,3033135695# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)

Missional Living Learning Group:

Wednesday check the bulletin for dates at 6:00PM

Our goal will be to continue the discovery process as to what missional living means; or, how do we become more Christ like in our own zip code. In the meantime, if you have any questions please let me know. Blessings, Chuck Squires (612-799-5315 Cell) or squir008@msn.com

¹⁹ Now those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews. ²⁰ Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. ²¹ The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. ²² News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. ²⁴ He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. ²⁵ Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶ and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. ²⁷ During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸ One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) ²⁹ The disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea. ³⁰ This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

1. When might we start to wonder about the help we give others?
2. What moved the Christians in Antioch to help those in Judea?
3. Why might mothers come to mine when we think of others who have helped us?
4. Why are so many of us willing to do something nice for our mothers?
5. Who received the credit for the new believers in Antioch?
6. How did the Christians in Antioch show their love to the Triune God?
7. How does Jesus want us to worship him?
8. What are we really doing when we help others?