

THE BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST OF
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
WELCOME YOU TO THE DIVINE SERVICE!

THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 17, 2020 – 8:00 A.M.



Christ the King Lutheran Church

A member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

Declaring new life in Jesus Christ & encouraging all to take their next step of faith with Jesus!

205-988-5004 -- www.ctkbham.org

611 Riverchase Parkway West

Birmingham, Alabama 35244

***Our vision:** All people will know God personally through Jesus Christ.*

***Our mission:** Inward searching, outward seeking, forward together with Jesus Christ.*

Psalm 139:23--Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

Luke 19:10 – For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Matthew 4:19 – "Come, follow Me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020 -- 8:00 a.m.

All music used by permission, copyright info on file in Church Office.

Welcome! We're glad you're here....

OUR INVITATION: Our family of faith invites you to participate in our mission to share the Gospel (which means “good news”) of Jesus Christ, as we gather to hear the word of God and share the presence of Christ in Holy Communion and Christian fellowship. The Gospel is that Almighty God is for us and with us, and we know this with certainty through Jesus Christ. With your participation, our God-given mission to spread this good news to the world and the surrounding community can only be strengthened. Our pastor and members are here for you!

Prayer requests can be sent to office@ctkbham.org.

Offerings are appreciated at www.ctkbham.org or, for us all to avoid the credit card fee, mail a check to: Christ the King Lutheran Church, 611 Riverchase Parkway West, Birmingham, AL 35244.

Our Mercy Ministry basket today supports Institute of Lutheran Theology

WHEN WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION – NOTES ON THE RED WINE & THE DISTRIBUTION:

Everyone is invited to the Lord's table. *Those who are 5th grade and older, baptized into Christ, and believe Christ's promise that he is truly present with grace and forgiveness as he promised are invited to hold out your hands for Communion. IF YOU BELIEVE BUT ARE NOT BAPTIZED OR INSTRUCTED IN CHRIST, COME TO THE TABLE ALSO AND BOW YOUR HEAD TO RECEIVE A PASTORAL BLESSING. PLEASE SPEAK TO A PASTOR AFTER WORSHIP ABOUT PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM.*

*About the red wine: **Though Jesus himself drank wine, white grape juice is provided in the middle of each tray for those who, for any reason, need it.***

Before you Commune or when you return to your seat after receiving Holy Communion, please 1) consider kneeling for personal prayers and/or 2) reverently sing songs or be silently considerate of those still Communing or praying, i.e. please, no idle conversation.

TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS NOTES: *Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth.*

WELCOME and Announcements:

PASTOR: Christ is risen!

Congregation: He is risen indeed!

PASTOR: Christ is alive!

Congregation: He is alive indeed!

PASTOR: Christ is with us!

Congregation: He is with us indeed!

May Memory Verse: (Underlined is for 3 years & younger)

“Children obey your parents, in the Lord, for this is right.” Ephesians 6:1

BRIEF ORDER for CONFESSION of SIN and FORGIVENESS:

We confess our sinful nature and our actual sins and speak to one another the forgiveness in Jesus' name that the Lord would have us all speak to any who are sorry for their sin.

The invocation and call to confession of sin, then SILENCE FOR SELF-EXAMINATION.

Leader: Let us now confess our sin to God our Father together.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 way to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Leader: Almighty God in his mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of Christ, and by His authority, I announce to you the good news that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen. And to you, upon this your confession and our calling as disciples of Jesus Christ, we announce to you the good news that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

♪ **THE HYMN OF JOY: "Alleluia! Song of Gladness" vss. 1,2,4 (WOV #654)**

1. Alleluia, song of gladness, Voice of joy that cannot die; Alleluia is the anthem Ever dear to choirs on high; In the house of God abiding Thus they sing eternally.

2. Alleluia! Lead our praises, True Jerusalem and free; Alleluia, joyful mother, Bring us to

your jubilee; But by Babylon's sad waters Mourning exiles now are we.

4. In our hymns we pray with longing: Grant us, blessed Trinity, At the last to keep glad Easter With the faithful saints on high; There to you for ever singing Alleluia joyfully.

THE GREETING: 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.**

♪ **THE HYMN OF PRAISE:**

pg.60-61 in Green Book for music

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Women: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Men: Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Women: Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Men: For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

All: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: *(Sung)* The Lord be with you.

C: *(Sung)* **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. *(petition)*

CHILDREN'S TIME: Trust and follow Jesus. He gives you power, love, and self-control.

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 17:22-31

(page 1110 in NAS pew Bible)

The Introduction: *In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

²² So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. ²³ For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'To an unknown god.' Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; ²⁵ nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; ²⁶ and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of

their habitation, ²⁷ that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; ²⁸ for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.' ²⁹ Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man. ³⁰ Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, ³¹ because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

(Lector: "This is the word of the Lord!" then, all, "Thanks be to God!")

♪ **THE PSALM: Psalm 66:8-20**

(Congregation sings verses in bold)

Bless our ' God, you peoples;*

let the sound of ' praise be heard.

**⁹ Our God has kept us a- ' mong the living*
and has not allowed our ' feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have ' tested us;*

you have tried us just as sil- ' ver is tried.

¹¹ You brought us in- ' to the net;*

you laid heavy burdens up- ' on our backs.

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through ' fire and water,*

but you brought us out into a place ' of refreshment.

**13 I will enter your house ' with burnt offerings*
and will pay ' you my vows -**

¹⁴ those that I promised ' with my lips*
and spoke with my mouth when I ' was in trouble.

**15 I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the ' smoke of rams;*
I will give you ox- ' en and goats.**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you ' who believe,*
and I will tell you what God has ' done for me.

**17 I called out to God ' with my mouth,*
and praised the Lord ' with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil ' in my heart,*
the Lord would ' not have heard me;

**19 but in truth ' God has heard me*
and has attended to the sound ' of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not reject ' ed my prayer,*
nor withheld unfailing ' love from me.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 3:13-22

(page 1213-1214 in NAS pew Bible)

The Introduction: *The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

The Reading:

¹³ Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. And do not fear their intimidation, and do not be troubled, ¹⁵ but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; ¹⁶ and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong. ¹⁸ For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might

bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; ¹⁹ in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, ²⁰ who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. ²¹ Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you – not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience – through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

(Lector: "This is the word of the Lord!" then all, "Thanks be to God!")

♪ THE ALLELUIA VERSE:

(pg. 62 in green book for music)

C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:15-21*(page 1078 in NAS pew Bible)*

The Introduction: *In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

♪ *(sung)* C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(The good news of our Lord is read.) P: The Gospel of the Lord.

♪ *(sung)* C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE PASTORAL PRAYER and SERMON:

“Now you see Him! (But there are ways you don’t!)”

♪ **HYMN of the DAY:** **“Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling”** *(WOV #734)*

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling
for you and for me; see, on the portals he's
waiting and watching, watching for you and
for me.

Refrain:

*Come home, come home; ye who are weary come
home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling,
O sinner, come home!*

2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is
pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why
should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me? *(Refrain)*

3. O for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me! Though we have
sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for
you and for me. *(Refrain)*

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: *All who are able are asked to kneel. After each petition, the leader says, "Lord, in your mercy" and all respond, "Hear our prayer."*

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE: *THE OPEN HANDSHAKE celebrates that God has brought us to peace together with Himself through Christ.*

MINUTE FOR MISSION: 1) *We're on Facebook Live Wednesday 11:45am (www.facebook.com/ctkbham)*

2) *Please send us your updated contact info*

and GIVING THANKS to God with His tithes (first 10% income) and our offerings (beyond 10%).

Prayer requests can be sent to office@ctkbham.org.

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♪ **THE OFFERTORY VERSE:** "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen" (tune "Earth & All Stars")

1. Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes; breaking our bread, giving us glory; Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.

Refrain--Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!

THE OFFERING OF PRAYER: P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, 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.

CELEBRATING CHRIST’S PROMISED PRESENCE IN HOLY COMMUNION

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.

♪ **COMMUNION HYMN:** *(page 92 green book for music)*
 Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT: *All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present as he promised are invited to Commune. Children who have not received First Communion instruction and all others who ARE NOT baptized are invited forward to receive a blessing in Christ.*

♪ **Music during Distribution: “Here I Am, Lord”** *by Daniel L Schutte arr Tom Fettle*
 Tom & Maizie Nelson

THE BLESSING, PRAYER, AND BENEDICTION

♪ **HYMN to the WORLD: “What A Fellowship, What A Joy Divine”** *(WOV #780)*

<p>1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.</p> <p><i>Refrain:</i> <i>Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;</i> <i>leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.</i></p> <p>2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,</p>	<p>leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms. <i>(Refrain)</i></p> <p>3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. <i>(Refrain)</i></p>
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THE DISMISSAL: **Pastor:** Go in peace and serve the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God!**

EASTER POSTLUDE CHORUS: “Because He Lives” *William J. Gaither*
 Because He lives I can face tomorrow; Because He lives, all fear is gone.
 Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living just because He lives.

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