

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



Unity Marches Victorious
in Diversity

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 29, 2022

Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

Service Notes For This Sunday



When Jesus' followers gathered together, they comprised a group that was not very diverse. They all belonged to the same ethnic group, grew up in the same culture, and spoke the same language. That would change drastically on Pentecost, when the gospel would be proclaimed in many languages to people from "every nation under heaven" (Acts 1:5). This diversity has always been part of Christ's plan. Rather than eliminating differences among the Church's members, the Church's unity is built on truths that transcends those differences.

The Church truly is a communion of saints. Differences in our world often lead to division. Therefore, when the world sees the unity in diversity that characterizes Christ's Church, it will recognize something unique and special about Christians.

Acknowledgements

British Hymn Tunes from Christian Worship. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

The Service: Setting Five

Welcome

Hymn

881 *Sing with All the Saints in Glory*

Stand

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

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession

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 T 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 to God in the Highest

Tune: HYFRYDOL



1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en, peace to those he
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our



loves so well. On the earth let all his peo - ple speak his
sin a - way, now with him in tri - umph seat - ed— for your



grace, his won - ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your
mer - cy, Lord, we pray: Je - sus Christ, most high and



glo - ry, might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; hear our
ho - ly, Sav - ior, you are God a - lone in the



joy - ful ad - o - ra - tion and ac - cept the thanks we bring.
glo - ry of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

Text: Michael A. Perry Text: © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 16:6–10

The ascended Lord directs Paul to leave Asia and preach the unifying gospel in diverse places.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

732 *In Unity and Peace*

Please join to sing the refrain

Refrain

How good it is and how pleas-ant to live in u-ni-ty and peace.

How good it is and how pleas-ant to live to-geth-er in one Lord.

(Last time only)

to live to - geth - er in one Lord.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, agree in everything you say.
May there be no divisions among you, but be united in one mind.
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all. **Refrain**

Live a life that is worthy of your call, be humble, gentle, and patient.
Bear with each other in ways that are loving, preserve the unity of faith.
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all. **Refrain**

Share the love that has joined us as one, unite in spirit and ideals.
Never be rivals, do not be conceited, but look to others in their need.
For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all. **Refrain**

Text: James J. Chepponis, b. 1956. Tune: James J. Chepponis, b. 1956. Text and tune: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

Second Reading

Revelation 22:12–17, 20

All the saints, no matter where they are from, are united under Christ's robe of righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:18

Alleluia! I will not leave you as orphans;
I will come to you. Alleluia!

Gospel

John 17:20–26

Jesus prays that all his followers might be one, just as he and the Father are one.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

446 *Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense*

Sermon

Stand

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.

Be seated

Connect Card

Please take a moment now to fill out a Connect Card.

Prayer of the Church

Loving Lord, your Son, Jesus, has given gifts to the Church in the form of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. According to your will, raise up more workers and send them into harvest fields in our land and around the world.

By the power of your gospel, strengthen them so that they do not become discouraged.

Pour out your wisdom, Lord, on all who train and prepare those who proclaim the everlasting gospel in their own communities and cultures. Through the power of the Spirit lead them to rely on the authority of your Word and to look for success in the witness of your love.

Let them find support as we work together with others around the world.

Spare those who serve your people far away from infections and injury. Provide medical facilities to diagnose and treat disease. Give help and comfort to all the sick in every land.

Bring healing and health according to your will.

Lord God, King of the universe, direct the governments of the world so that your people may live quiet and peaceful lives. Let freedom of religion flourish that the gospel may be freely preached throughout the world. Cast down rulers who oppress their people.

Bring relief to Christians who are persecuted.

Special prayers and intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Wherever we go, move us to share the gospel with eagerness and joy. Plant in the hearts of your people a deeper desire to share the gospel with their lips and their gifts so that many more may come to know and believe the love of your Son.

Grant it for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



Musical Offering

Hymn

697 *May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill*

Stand

Almighty 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 T give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

861 *Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head*

Special Prayers This Week:

- Pam Williams is having jaw surgery on June 3.
- Kathy Gear is recovering from surgery following a fall.
- Barb Matthews received tough news regarding her cancer prognosis.
- Emma Schroeder is having surgery on June 9.
- The school shooting in Texas
- Memorial Day – Those who have died while serving in the armed forces
- For those graduating school or college
-
-



Take Home Questions

1. This Sunday focuses on biblical diversity within the Holy Christian Church. However, we may not see much of that diversity at our congregation in central Wisconsin. For what reasons can we be thankful for our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), as we highlight this diversity?
2. John 17 is called Jesus' High Priestly Prayer. In these verses, he is praying not only for the 12 disciples but for all believers after them—you and me. Reread verses 20-26 and insert your name wherever it says they/them/these/those, noting Jesus' personal care for you.
3. In Acts 16, by traveling to Macedonia Paul was bringing the gospel from present-day Asia to present-day Europe for the first time. How did Jesus intervene in these verses to accomplish this fact? Although not with the same means, how does knowing that Jesus is still actively intervening in your work to spread the gospel give you comfort and confidence?
4. Revelation 22:14 reveals the principle which unites everyone in the Church. What is true of all those who enter into God's holy city? In what ways is this the closest bond human beings can share?

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study: Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up? The Mystical Friend

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM
For the google meet link, contact a pastor.

Hello Shakespeare & Kids Praise

June 1 | 6:30 PM

Our school students invite you to a night of entertainment. Kindergarten-4th grade will present the musical, "Kids Praise," about a songbook, who travels around the world telling kids about how much God loves them. The 5th-8th grade will present "Hello, Shakespeare." This fast-paced comedy is an entertaining introduction to the world of Shakespeare. Come and support our students on June 1st!

Friday Family Fun

June 10 | 6:00 PM

Young and old alike are invited for some Friday Family Fun on June 10. Bring a board game, some cards, or a snack to share. The gym will be open, and pizza will be served.

Call Meeting

June 12 | 9:15 AM

At our voters' meeting in April, we set our staffing level for 2022-2023. On Sunday, June 12, we will extend a provisional call to Mrs. Kellie Jensen to serve as our 3K teacher. We will also renew Mr. Randy Pahl's one year call to serve as our staff minister. The call meeting will begin at 9:15 am. We expect the meeting to be brief, therefore we will have our regular Sunday morning bible study afterwards.

Help at the Farmers Market

June 16

We are reaching out to the community with at Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Farmers Market on Thursday, June 16. There will be a simple activity for the children to attract people to our booth. If you would like to help, please contact Todd Ferkey at 715-421-2848.

Ride to the Brewers Game with St. Peter's

July 8

If you would like to attend WELS Night at the Brewers on Friday, July 8, you can catch a ride with St. Peter's Lutheran Church of Schofield. They have booked a motorcoach for the trip and will make a stop in Plainfield, where you can board. The price will be about \$52-65 per person depending on how many sign up. Contact at 715-359-2829 by Thursday, June 2 to ride the bus. If prefer driving yourself, discount tickets are available through June 10 at brewers.com/wels.

- Sunday** 8:00 AM Worship
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 9:15 AM Catechism Class in the West Wing
 10:30 AM Worship
- Tuesday** 6:45 AM Men’s Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 9:45 AM Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
- Wednesday** 8:55 AM School Chapel Service
 6:30 PM **School Entertainment Night**
- Thursday** 7:00 AM Men’s Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
 6:30 PM **School Closing Service and Graduation**
- Sunday** 8:00 AM Worship
 9:15 AM Bible Study in the cafeteria
 10:30 AM Worship

Attendance & Offering Report

Last Week’s Attendance: 211

Anticipated offerings YTD: \$ 709,700

Actual offerings YTD: \$ 686,746

YTD giving to the Organ Fund: \$ 122,114

Upcoming Events

June 3 ~ Last Day of School at St. Paul’s

June 6-7 ~ District Convention

June 9 ~ VBS Planning Meeting

June 10 ~ Friday Family Fun

June 16 ~ St. Paul’s at Farmers Market

June 26 ~ Church in the Park



Save the Date
Church in the Park
June 26 | 10:30 AM
AT ROBINSON PARK





311 14th Ave S | Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 | 715-421-3634 | churchoffice@stpaulswr.org
Pastor Lucas Proeber | 989-780-3184 | pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org
Pastor Peter Plagenz | 920-689-3036 | pastorplagenz@stpaulswr.org