**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

May 9, 2021

**PRELUDE "There is a Redeemer" by Melody Green**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning you created us in your image

and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,

and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,

you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus’ wounded side,

and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,

for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise

through Jesus Christ our Lord

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN 742 (1,3) "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,

 all our sins and griefs to bear!

 What a privilege to carry

 ev'rything to God in prayer!

 Oh, what peace we often forfeit;

 oh, what needless pain we bear--

 all because we do not carry

 ev'rything to God in prayer!

3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,

 cumbered with a load of care?

 Precious Savior, still our refuge--

 take it to the Lord in prayer.

 Do your friends despise, forsake you?

 Take it to the Lord in prayer.

 In his arms he'll take and shield you;

 you will find a solace there.

**KYRIE**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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 mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

**READING:** 1 John 5:1-6

1Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. 2By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. 3For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, 4for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. 5Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 6This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

**GOSPEL:** John 15:9-17

[Jesus said:] 9“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. 11I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 12“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY 838 (1,4) "Beautiful Savior"**

1 Beautiful Savior,

 King of creation,

 Son of God and Son of Man!

 Truly I'd love thee,

 truly I'd serve thee,

 light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

4 Beautiful Savior,

 Lord of the nations,

 Son of God and Son of Man!

 Glory and honor,

 praise, adoration,

 now and forevermore be thine!

**INTERCESSORY PRAYERS:**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

**P:** Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Today we pray for the Moravian Church, giving thanks for the life and witness of Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

**C:** Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations’ leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

**C:** Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering (*especially*). Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. Be with the dying (*especially*). Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

**P:** Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

**C:** Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives (*especially*). Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O Go, **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**DIALOGUE**

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also 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 our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE**

*The presiding minister continues:*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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.

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.

**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 POSTLUDE "Elements" by Mike Kellogg and Dan Moss**

***PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK***

**M** Psalm 93 **Tu** 1 Timothy 6:13-16 **W** Deuteronomy 11:18-21 **Th** Luke 24:44-53 **F** Luke 6:12-16 **Sa** John 16:4-11 **Seventh Sunday of Easter** Acts 1:15-17m 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

**pastor:** Bob Cheyney, Jr.

**Church Council:** Mary Amick, Marilyn Brodie, Tracy Conner, John Lauby, Ed Montgomery, Doug Nabors, Kelvin Rogers, Sandy Schmelzer, John Smerglia, Lou Stange, Mandi Stephenson and Don Taranowski

**WELCOME VISITORS** Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we welcome you to Advent Lutheran Church. We hope that you will feel comfortable and fulfilled, and that you will be strengthened to meet the challenges of your daily lives. The service is printed in your bulletin. If at first you find it difficult to follow the service, please ask someone near you for assistance; after a few services, we hope it will become easier. **We always welcome** children during worship.

**We encourage you to include the following people in your daily prayers this week:**  Jody Angelone, Ruthanne Ford, Joan Glasser, Karen Koehring, Marcella Wilkerson

**Please consider donating** one or more of the following items to the FISH cupboard in May: *peanut butter, toothpaste*

**Look for the ministry page** for May (on the prayer list table) or contact Becky Popio in you can help with any of the ministry needs. Your help to usher, communion assist, etc is greatly appreciated!

**Walk the Talk** - Our Bible study on 1 & 2 Peter will continue on Monday & Friday mornings from 10:00-11:00 (and these same lessons repeated on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30). Join us outside in the shelter house for a 30 minute Bible study followed by a 30 minute walk around the church’s parking lot.

**Quilting has resumed** on Thursdaymornings at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall.  Masks are required and social distancing will be followed as we spread apart to work on the quilts.  For those that prefer to work from home, kits are available at the church for you to take home to work on.  If you have any questions, please contact Mary Amick.

**The next youth gathering** for everyone in 7th-12th grade will be Sunday, **May 16th** at 6:00 pm. We will meet at the North Canton Swensons (N Main St location) to eat together and talk about our summer activities to come! If you need a ride from the church I can pick you up there at 5:30 pm. Please contact Becky Popio (bpopio@adventuniontown.org) if you are able to go!

**Mark your calendars** for Sunday, June 13th. On that day Advent will have its annual Congregational Meeting. Time and details for the gathering will be forthcoming.