

“And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple”



St. Matthew 10:42

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 2, 2023

Holy Communion 10:00 AM

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn *Just As I Am, without One Plea* (ELW) No. 592

*The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

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

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive 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: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

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 Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

*The Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast

(ELW) NO. 140

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Lord of all power and might, You are the author and giver of all good things. Graft into our hearts a love of Your name. Increase in us true faith, nourish us with what is good, and watch over all who are in Your care. Grant this, we pray, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Jeremiah 28:5-9

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalms 119:153-160

¹⁵³Behold my affliction and deliver me, for I do not forget Your law.

¹⁵⁴**Plead my cause and redeem me; according to Your promise, give me life.**

¹⁵⁵Deliverance is far from the wicked, for they do not study Your statutes.

¹⁵⁶**Great is Your compassion, O LORD; preserve my life, according to Your judgments.**

¹⁵⁷There are many who persecute and oppress me,
yet I have not swerved from Your decrees.

¹⁵⁸**I look with loathing at the faithless,
for they have not kept Your word.**

¹⁵⁹See how I love Your commandments!
O LORD, in Your mercy, preserve me.

¹⁶⁰**The heart of Your word is truth; all Your righteous judgments endure forevermore.**

Second Reading

Romans 7:1-13

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

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

* The Gospel

Matthew 10:34-42

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

When Peace Like a River

(ELW) No. 785

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(ELW) No. 188

*The Great Thanksgiving

*The Lord's Prayer

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.

Lamb of God

(ELW) page 146

The Distribution

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

(ELW) No. 471

Prayer/Blessing

Announcements

*The Benediction (*sung response*)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

(ELW) No. 802

*The Dismissal (*response*)

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

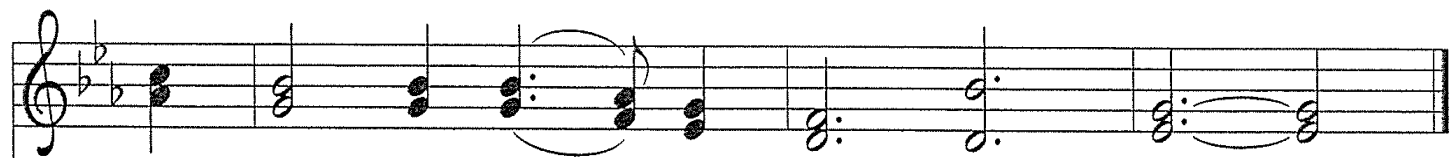
Just As I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



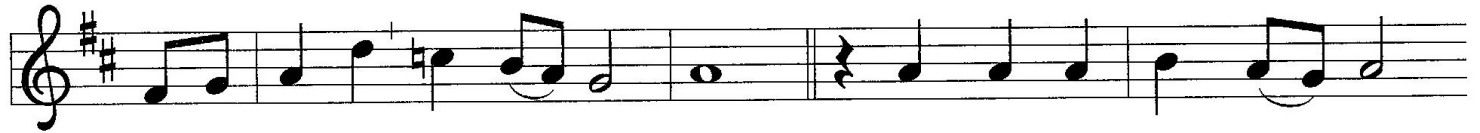
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

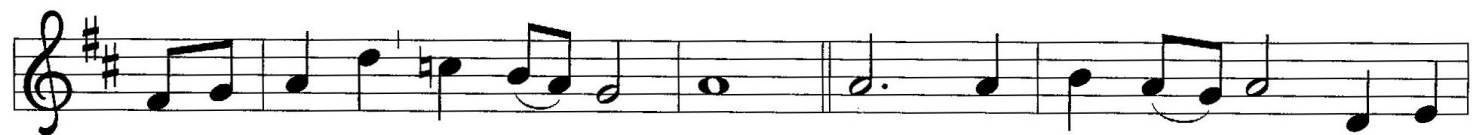


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



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

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

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.

When Peace like a River

It Is Well with My Soul

785

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, corresponding to the three parts.

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, corresponding to the three parts.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

The Refrain section begins with a treble and bass staff. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are arranged in one line.

sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

The final system of music features a treble and bass staff. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are arranged in one line.



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.



First Lutheran Church

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Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God. May God's presence in our lives give us a solemn peace that surpasses all human understanding. Flowers in artificial form placed on altar and monetary donation made toward roof/window fund in lieu of real flowers by the Maust family.

The Lay Reader is Lisa Maust.

Acolytes are Jacin & Trevor Flowers, and Wesley Black

Counters/Greeters today are K. Luketich and S. Berry.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs of infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

Bell Choir Practice on Monday at 6 PM.

The Flower Chart for 2023 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2023. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2023. Please sign up.

Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.
Please consider this as a call to help others in need.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Janet Burke, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, baby Isaac Christian, the Pollana family, Sylvia Sunstrum, Fritz Group, Rosemary Dittman, and Eric Group.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost July 2, 2023

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household.” -Matthew 10:34-36-

In 2021 Voddie Baucham, Jr., a black Baptist pastor, published a book entitled *Fault Lines: The Social Justice Movement and Evangelicalism's Looming Catastrophe*. Baucham's thesis is that a Marxist-inspired social justice movement has invaded evangelical churches and created a latent line of division within them (i.e. a “fault line”). Like a fault line in the earth, the line of division between the two groups will remain latent until conditions are ripe for a cultural earthquake. At this point the two groups will split apart along the fault line, thereby dividing the church.

Of course, division is nothing new. Scripture informs us that world history is a battle between the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent. In this battle the serpent strikes the heel of the woman's seed. But finally the woman's seed crushes the serpent's head (Gen. 3:15).

Although this battle is constant in history, it often remains hidden behind good manners. But it periodically heats up as it did during the American Revolution, the American Civil War, and the internal struggle within the ELCA. In all of these conflicts, churches were divided, and in some cases new denominations were formed.

In light of such conflicts, Jesus tells us that He did not come to bring peace but a sword. These words are actually helpful and gracious, though it seems counterintuitive to say so. They are gracious because they tell us not to fear conflict as if something unchristian is happening. They are also helpful since they give us permission to engage this conflict in a Biblical way.

Jesus tells us that he came to bring a sword, and we know that this sword is his living and active word (Heb. 4:12). Because his word discerns the thoughts and intentions of the heart, it does two things: It softens and hardens hearts. Thus, applying his word will accelerate the coming split by hardening some hearts. But it will also minimize the coming split by softening other hearts, thereby causing many social justice folks to cross the fault line and return to orthodoxy.

The impending split exists because we have ignored these issues and allowed the tension to fester. Therefore, we cannot avoid this split by remaining silent or by suppressing the discussion of “controversial” topics. But we can minimize the coming split by using the sword that Christ has given us. This is actually good news!

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