



May 17, 2026

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

## Prelude

## Preschool Commencement

### Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“How Great Thou Art”

- ♪ O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;  
~Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
- ♪ When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; ~Then sings...
- ♪ But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin; ~Then sings...
- ♪ When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” ~Then sings....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 801—Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989; Text: © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust, admin. EMI CMG and Hope Publishing Co.

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## Invocation

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

*Matthew 28:19b*

**Amen.**

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

**That whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**

*John 3:16*

And this is eternal life, that they know You the only true God,

**And Jesus Christ whom You have sent.**

*John 17:3*

## Confession and Absolution

Holy and gracious Lord, the earth was made to be filled with Your glory. Despite Your love and care, we have not lived lives worthy of being called Your people. *A Time of Silence*

Forgive our sins and shortcomings. Overcome our inability and inaction. Replace our selfish and faithless nature with hearts that glorify You.

**O Lord, be gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Amen.**

Having accomplished the work given Him to do, Jesus Christ has paid for all of your sins, has risen for your justification, and has claimed His seat at the Father’s right hand to intercede on your behalf. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

- ♪ All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.
- ♪ Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God, Who from His altar call;  
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown Him Lord of all.  
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown Him Lord of all.
- ♪ Ye seed of Israel’s chosen race, Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
- ♪ Hail Him, ye heirs of David’s line, Whom David Lord did call,  
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.  
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.
- ♪ Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget The wormwood and the gall,  
Go, spread your trophies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.  
Go, spread your trophies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.
- ♪ Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe, On this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.
- ♪ Oh, that with yonder sacred throng We at His feet may fall!  
We’ll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all.  
We’ll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 549—Text (sts. 1–5): Edward Perronet, 1726–92, alt.; (sts. 6–7): A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.; Text: Public domain

## Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 36:24–27

<sup>24</sup>I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. <sup>25</sup>I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. <sup>26</sup>And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle

1 Peter 4:12–19, 5:6–11

<sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that

you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup>But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup>Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup>For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup>And

“If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

<sup>19</sup>Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good....

<sup>6</sup>Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, <sup>7</sup>casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. <sup>10</sup>And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Gradual Hymn**

“Blessed Assurance”

♪ Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

~This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

♪ Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of glory now burst on my sight;

Angels descending, bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. ~This is...

♪ Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;

Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. ~This is....

*The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration, Hymn 345-Text: Fanny J. Crosby 1820-1915;  
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### **The Holy Gospel *Please Stand***

John 17:1–11

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

**Glorify to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup>“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. <sup>8</sup>For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And I

am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Apostles' Creed**

### **Children's Message** *Please Be Seated*

## **The Hymn**

“Jesus Loves Me”

♪ Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong; They are weak but He is strong.

~Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

♪ Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide.

He has washed away my sin, Lets His little child come in. ~Yes, Jesus loves me....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 588-Text: Anna B. Warner 1820-1915:Public domain

## **Proclamation of the Word**

“New!”

Ezekiel 36:24–27

## **Offering and Musical Offering**

### **Prayer of the Church** *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

## **Benediction**

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 + give You peace.

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**Amen.**

### **Recessional Hymn** *Please Be Seated*

“On Eagles' Wings”

♪ You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life,

Say to the Lord: “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”

~And He will raise you up on eagles' wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn,

Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand.

♪ The snare of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear;

Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. ~And He...

♪ You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day;

Though thousands fall about you, Near you it shall not come. ~And He...

♪ For to His angels He's given a command To guard you in all of your ways;

Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. ~And He....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 727 - Text & Tune: Michael Joncas b. 1951; © OCP Publications; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386

## **Postlude**