

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Howell, New Jersey
The Reverend Kenneth Fosse, Pastor**

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
9 May 2021**



You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give it to you.

John 15:16

P: In the Name of the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

P: God has chosen us, let us be pure before God.

(reflection)

P: Saving Lord...

C: we keep the Good News, for ourselves, and those most like us, but you give it to all nations and generations, and pour out your Holy Spirit everywhere. We are so confident in our abilities, we do not seek to act in faith, we are not willing to go with God. We have been chosen, and appointed to bear fruit, still we ask of you for our own sake, and not in the name of Jesus Christ. Lord you know what does abide in us, Forgive us for the sins we name, save us from the sins we hide.

(pause for reflection and self-examination)

P: God chooses forgiveness. The Lord is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Jesus Christ lays down his life for us. There is no greater love than this. For Christ's sake and by his authority, I as a called minister of the Church, forgive all of your sins. Our sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

OPENING HYMN

“ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL”

1 All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forthtell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.

2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make,
We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.

3 Oh, enter then His gates with praise; Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, For it is seemly so to do.

4 For why? The Lord our God is good: His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood And shall from age to age endure.

5 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore.

The blessing of the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious grace freely bestowed in the Son, and the power of the promised Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE (spoken)

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

Let us pray..... O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ACTS 10:34-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power.

He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

(ANTIPHON V. 2)

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song,

for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm

have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness

to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen

the salvation of our God.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,

with the lyre and the sound of melody!

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

the world and those who dwell in it!

Let the rivers clap their hands;

let the hills sing for joy together

before the LORD, for he comes

to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,

and the peoples with equity.

**²The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

1 JOHN 5:1-8

A reading from the First Epistle of John

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE

**Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia.
In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.**

JOHN 15:9-17

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SERMON HYMN

“LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVE EXCELLING”

- 1 Love divine, all love excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit; Let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation Perfectly restored in thee,
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,* I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

**The ancient text: the holy catholic and apostolic Church*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray to our victorious Savior on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people.

A brief silence

Lord Jesus, thank you choosing us to love you, to love one another, and to bear your love into the world. The world needs you so much! Make us faithful and fruitful, so our words and actions nourish hearts starved for your love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless your Church with the power and presence of your Holy Spirit. Fill her with your love. Nourish her with Word and Sacrament. Through her, let the world see, desire, and dwell in your love forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the people of this congregation with faith, hope, and charity. Fill us with wisdom and prudence. Through the gift of your Holy Spirit, make us glad to obey your commandments. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give a double portion of your Spirit to all mothers, and to everyone who acts with a mother's love toward your little ones. Renew their spirits, and make them a perpetual blessing to their children. Forgive them when they falter. Comfort all who have lost a child, and all who long to have children but cannot. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill the leaders of the nations with the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, counsel and might. Teach them to love justice; to act with mercy toward the poor and hungry in their lands; and to walk humbly before your Father. Grant to all people the blessings of peace and unity on earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant the refreshment and joy of your life-giving Spirit to all who cry to you for help, especially: {List}. Grant them wholeness of body and mind; a joyful and confident hope in your goodness, and the peace which the world cannot give them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, thank you for choosing, forgiving, and saving the faithful who have gone before us. Grant that in this life, we may bear the fruits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Gather us into your Kingdom, where those fruits will fully ripen and be perfected, to your glory and to the delight of all whom you have redeemed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to us all that is in accordance with your will, dear Jesus, and accomplish your salvation among us; for you are risen from the dead and dwell in majesty with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

“CHRIST IS ARISEN”

Christ is arisen From the grave's dark prison.
So let our song exulting rise; Christ with comfort lights our eyes.
Alleluia!. All our hopes were ended
Had Jesus not ascended From the grave triumphantly.
Our never ending life to be Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
So let our song exulting rise:
Christ, our comfort, fills the skies. Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, who of your tender love for humanity gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, to take our nature upon himself and to suffer death on the cross for our redemption. Assembled in his name and in the communion of all saints, We pray you to send down your Holy Spirit on us, and through him to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, who
On the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,
Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way he took the cup, after supper, and when he had given thanks, gave it to them, saying,
Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
Remembering therefore his whole work of redemption, his conception and birth, his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his glorious coming again, we here present before you the remembrance which your Son commanded us to make, beseeching you graciously to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.
We pray you that so many of us as shall here receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ may be filled with all heavenly benediction and grace. Grant to us, who trust in the multitude of your mercies, our part and fellowship with all the saints, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offenses, through Christ our Lord, by who, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, O Father Almighty, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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, 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.

THE SACRAMENT IS DISTRIBUTED

Let us pray..... Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast, you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life; help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

God, who has prepared for you a city with eternal foundations, bring you, with all the saints, to the eternal and triumphant joy of that city; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“WHAT A FELLOWSHIP, WHAT A JOY DIVINE”

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.

Refrain Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

Copies of this week's bulletin notes are available in the church narthex or on our church website
www.princeofpeacehowellnj.org

THOSE WHO SERVE

Worship Leader: The Rev. Kenneth Fosse

Sunday Service: May 9th at 8:00 a.m.

Elder: Brandon Chornobroff

Sunday Service: May 9th at 10:15 a.m.

Elder: Andrew Tess

Social Media Specialist: Madison Maresca

Organist: Melissa Marsicano

The 10:15am service will also be live streamed through our Facebook GROUP page,
which can be found on our Facebook PAGE

Wednesday Midweek Service: May 12th at 7:00 p.m.

Happy Mother's Day!