

PLATTVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
5475 Bell Road  
Minooka, Illinois 60447

The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
of Easter  
May 15, 2022

O, COME LET US WORSHIP THE LORD!

9:15 a.m.

\* Indicates that the congregation will stand.

PREPARATION Enter to worship

THE PRELUDE/BELL RINGING

Announcements

\*The CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

p. 94

\*The OPENING HYMN

"He Came Down"

#253

\*The APOSTOLIC GREETING

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\*The KYRIE

p. 98

PRAYER AND PRAISE

\*The HYMN OF PRAISE

p. 99

\*The PRAYER OF THE DAY

p. 102

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The FIRST LESSON Acts 11:1-28

The PSALMODY Psalm 148 (Insert)

The SECOND LESSON Revelation 21:1-6

The ALLELUIA VERSE

p. 102

\*The HOLY GOSPEL John 13:31-35

SERMON

\*The HYMN OF THE DAY

"Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

#719

\*The APOSTLES' CREED

p. 105

\*The PRAYERS

\*The SHARING OF THE PEACE

The OFFERING

\*The OFFERTORY

#186

\*The OFFERTORY PRAYER

p. 107

\*The LORD'S PRAYER

p. 112

BACK INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF LIFE

\*The BENEDICTION

\*The CLOSING HYMN

"Praise the Lord! O Heavens"

#823

\*The CHIMES/POSTLUDE

Depart to serve

Pastor

Bret L. Reedy

475-4127

Ministers

All Members

Organist

Betty Reedy

Lector

Janelle Bols

Head Ushers

Darrell Hansen

Bob Bols

Bruce Knudson

Church Office

475-7220



# Celebrate

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

*Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.*

## Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

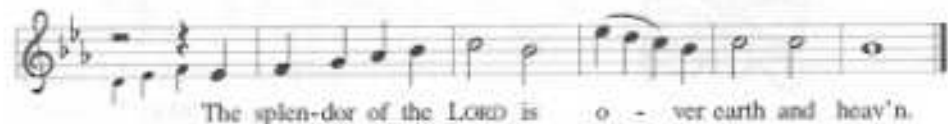
## First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

*In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.*

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasis of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup>But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup>But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup>This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup>At

that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup>He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."



- Hallelujah! Praise the LORD <sup>1</sup> from the heavens;  
 praise God <sup>1</sup> in the heights.
- <sup>2</sup>Praise the LORD, <sup>1</sup> all you angels;  
 sing praise, all you <sup>1</sup> hosts of heaven.
- <sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, <sup>1</sup> sun and moon;  
 sing praise, all you <sup>1</sup> shining stars.
- <sup>4</sup>Praise the LORD, heav- <sup>1</sup> en of heavens,  
 and you waters a- <sup>1</sup> bove the heavens.
- <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
 who commanded, and they <sup>1</sup> were created,
- <sup>6</sup>who made them stand fast forev- <sup>1</sup> er and ever,  
 giving them a law that shall not <sup>1</sup> pass away. **R**
- <sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD <sup>1</sup> from the earth,  
 you sea monsters <sup>1</sup> and all deeps;
- <sup>8</sup>fire and hail, <sup>1</sup> snow and fog,  
 tempestuous wind, do- <sup>1</sup> ing God's will;
- <sup>9</sup>mountains <sup>1</sup> and all hills,  
 fruit trees <sup>1</sup> and all cedars;
- <sup>10</sup>wild beasts <sup>1</sup> and all cattle,  
 creeping things and <sup>1</sup> flying birds;
- <sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth <sup>1</sup> and all peoples,  
 princes and all rulers <sup>1</sup> of the world;
- <sup>12</sup>young <sup>1</sup> men and maidens,  
 old and <sup>1</sup> young together. **R**
- <sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
 whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over <sup>1</sup> earth and heaven.
- <sup>14</sup>The LORD has raised up strength for the people  
 and praise for all <sup>1</sup> faithful servants,  
 the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD.  
<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! **R**

*John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

## Gospel

## John 13:31-35

*After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.*

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and

as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'

<sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us (*local natural areas may be named*). Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress (*especially*). As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Give us a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of each person's identity, and bless us with a shared identity as your children, kindred of Christ. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior,  
**Amen.**

## Preparing for Next Week

**Monday** Psalm 133, **Tuesday** Acts 11:27-30, **Wednesday** (commemoration of Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, 1160) Leviticus 19:9-10, **Thursday** Psalm 67, **Friday** Proverbs 2:6-8, **Saturday** (commemoration of Helena, mother of Constantine, c. 330) Proverbs 2:9-15, **Sixth Sunday of Easter** Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5; John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9.

**CELEBRATE** May 15, 2022

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## PARISH CALENDAR

May 15, 2022 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Today: 9:15 a.m. Worship

May 22: Affirmation of Baptism

May 23: 9:30 a.m. Quilting

May 29: Memorial Day observation at cemetery after service

No Circle Bible study at church this month

Supply donations needed for VBS: old cowboy hats, cowboy boots, wagon wheel, roping, hay bales, horseshoes, large tin cans (soup), paper towel rolls.

Baby kit items needed (in clean and good condition)

2 cotton receiving blankets (between 36" & 52" square), 2 gowns or sleepers w/o feet (6 mo - 2 yr), 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with hood or hat, 2 cotton t-shirts (6 mo - 2 yr), 4 cloth flat fold diapers and 4 diaper pins, 2 pr socks, 2-3 bath size bars of gentle soap, 1 hand towel, darker color

*"What you are is God's gift to you; what you become is your gift to God"*

## We Are Found

As Jesus in today's gospel prepares the disciples for his imminent departure, he tells them that they will look for him but won't be able to join him where he is going. It will not be long before the women are at the tomb in the early morning, only to find it empty.

We also look for Jesus, but perhaps we don't know that we are engaged in the search. We are constantly seeking purpose and answers, turning to self-help books, inspirational videos, exercise programs, and new ways of organizing our stuff. Billboards and magazine covers highlight our flaws while offering the next best solution to make us happy and well.

These opportunities can be compelling, and some of them will prove successful in managing some aspects of life. But these solutions don't turn up what we're really looking for: to be truly loved and known, secure and whole. We find this security only in the love of God. Yet, in this Easter season we are reminded that we do not need to seek Jesus; rather, Jesus seeks out and finds us. We cannot go where Jesus goes, leading the way through death to new life, but Jesus ultimately finds us wherever we are, even when we are most lost. The women found an empty tomb, but Jesus is not gone. The resurrected Jesus finds them!

In finding us, Jesus also directs our searching by giving us a commandment: "Love one another" (John 13:34). In seeking to love one another, we are reminded again and again that the great love of God has already found us.