

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

# **OPENING HYMN**

Saline, Michigan

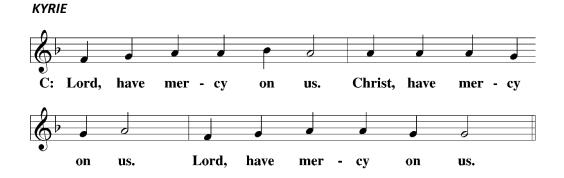
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# INVOCATION

- M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

# **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

- M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

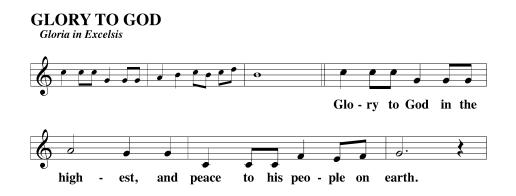


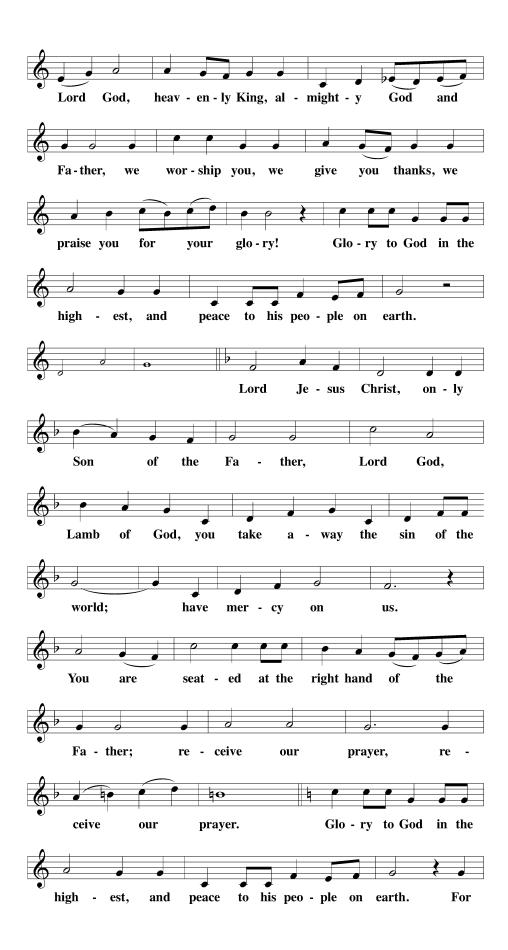
M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

# C: Amen.

# **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.







#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

### M: Let us pray:

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# THE WORD

#### **FIRST LESSON**

#### Acts 17:22-31

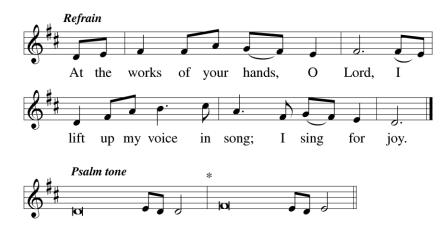
<sup>22</sup>Then Paul stood up in front of the council of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I was walking around and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, 'To an unknown god.' Now what you worship as unknown—this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

<sup>24</sup>"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made with hands. <sup>25</sup>Neither is he served by human hands, as if he needed anything, since he himself gives all people life and breath and everything they have. <sup>26</sup>From one man, he made every nation of mankind to live over the entire face of the earth. He determined the appointed times and the boundaries where they would live. <sup>27</sup>He did this so they would seek God and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'Indeed, we are also his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup>"Therefore, since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by human skill and planning. <sup>30</sup>Although God overlooked the times of ignorance, he is now commanding all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has set a day on which he is going to judge the world in righteousness by the man he appointed. He provided proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

# **PSALM**

Psalms 66



# Refrain

Shout with joy to God, all the earth!\*

Sing the glory of his name; make his praise <u>glo</u>rious! Praise our God, O <u>peo</u>ples,\* let the sound of his <u>praise</u> be heard. He has pre<u>served</u> our lives\* and kept our feet from <u>slip</u>ping. **Refrain** Come and listen, all you who <u>fear</u> God;\* let me tell you what he has <u>done</u> for me. If I had cherished sin <u>in</u> my heart,\* the Lord would not have <u>lis</u>tened; but God has surely <u>lis</u>tened\* and heard my <u>voice</u> in prayer. **Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son\* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it,** 

# as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,\* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

# Refrain

# THE SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 3:15-22

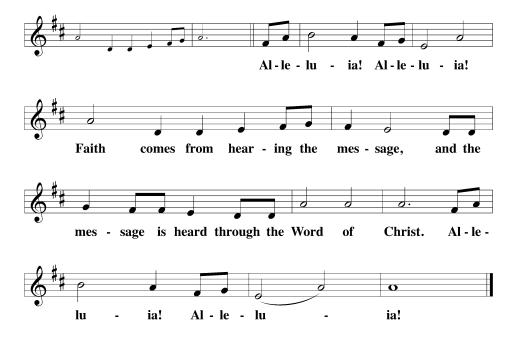
<sup>15</sup>But regard the Lord, the Christ, as holy in your hearts. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you. <sup>16</sup>But speak with gentleness and respect, while maintaining a clear conscience, so that those who attack your good way of life in Christ may be put to shame because they slandered you as evildoers.

<sup>17</sup>Indeed, it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil, <sup>18</sup>because Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive

in spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. <sup>20</sup>These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God's patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. <sup>21</sup>And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup>He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

# **VERSE OF THE DAY**

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia.



# THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 14:15-21

M: The Gospel according to John 14:15-21

# C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

<sup>15</sup>"If you love me, hold on to my commands. <sup>16</sup>I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see him or know him. You know him because he stays with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>The one who has my commands and holds on to them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and show myself to him."

# After the Gospel:

- M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

#### My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 382 My built hope is noth - ing less Than Je sus' 1 on -2 Who 3 His When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his cov - e oath. nant and blood Sup - port me -4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I blood and right - eous - ness; I dare to make no oth 'ry his high un - chang - ing grace; In ev and storm in the rag - ing flood; When ev \_ 'ry earth - ly prop then found, Clothed in his right - eous - ness in him be 6 tə claim But whol - ly lean Je sus' name. er on gale My an chor holds with - in the veil. у He then all hope gives way, is my and stay. lone, Fault - less to stand be - fore his throne. а -) stand; On Christ, the sol \_ id rock, I All

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

**SERMON** 

1 Peter 3:15-22

# "AN EVERLASTING HOPE"

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

DUET"

"In Christ Alone"

# THE PRAYER

# 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.

# BLESSING

- M: 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.
- C: Amen.

# **CLOSING HYMN**

CW #476

# 476 Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower



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