



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9, 2021

love all others as you have first loved us. We have struggled to see ourselves as your beloved friends. We have not cultivated our relationship with you. We have looked to our own interests at the expense of others. Forgive us for all the ways that we have not trusted in you or lived according to your will. Yet, in all failures, help us to know the power of your love that continues to support us and lift us up, giving us assurance of your pardon. We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

P: Hear the Good News! While we were yet far off, God chose to bring us into close fellowship. We were chosen in our sinfulness and named forgiven through Jesus, the Christ. Praise be to God, who in love has resurrected us from death and established us forever among the righteous. Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

M: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

(Greatest)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Scripture Lesson

From the Poetry of the Old Testament: Psalm 98

¹ O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

² The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.
⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
⁸ Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
⁹ at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Anthem

“He Loved Me”

(Tom Fettke)

He chose me before the world was known.
He chose me to be His very own.
He made me, then let me find my way
I chose to move away.
He loved me when hope had taken wing.
He loved me when I lost everything.
He bought me, redemption’s work was done.
through Jesus Christ His son.

What shall separate me from the love of God?
Should dreams of tomorrow, pain, or sorrow?
Can the need of food or earthly possessions,
the threat of war or man’s oppression?
In all these things, victory is our reward through
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Of this I am sure, that neither death, nor life, nor
Angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor
things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any creature
shall separate me from the love of God, through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Scripture Lesson

From the Letters to the Church: 1 John 5:1-6

5 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ^[a] has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. **2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. **3** For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, **4** for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. **5** Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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.

Offertory Invitation

Praise God with sacrificial offerings. Return thanks to the Creator, who gives us life and breath. Manifest God's love for the world through your sharing. Reaffirm your baptism as you dedicate your time and talents with the material gifts God has loaned to you.

Offertory

“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go” (Molly Ijames)

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I own,
that in Thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.
O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to Thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in Thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.
O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain,
that morn shall ever tearless be.
O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to hide from Thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red,
life that shall endless be.

Scripture Lesson

From the Gospels: John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants^[a] any longer, because the servant^[b] does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I

My Jesus, I Love Thee

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F B \flat /_F F C \flat /_F F C \flat C F

1 My Je - sus, I love thee, I know thou art mine,
 2 I love thee be - cause thou hast first lov - ed me,
 3 In man - sions of glo - ry and end - less de - light,

B \flat /_F F C \flat /_F F C \flat C F

for thee all the fol - lies of sin I re - sign;
 and pur - chased my par - don on Cal - va - ry's tree;
 I'll ev - er a - dore thee in heav - en so bright;

F/A B \flat F/A C \flat /_G F C/E C F G \flat /_{B \flat} F/C C

my gra - cious Re - deem - er, my Sav - ior art thou;
 I love thee for wear - ing the thorns on thy brow;
 I'll sing with the glit - ter - ing crown on my brow;

F B \flat /_F F C \flat /_F F F/C C \flat Am/_C C \flat F

if ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 if ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 if ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.