

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11 & 14, 2023

He Lives and Calls Me to Live for Him

Opening Hymn619, “Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him”

Order of Service (**From Supplement**) Gathering Rite on the Word of God, Page 11

Prayer of the Day: O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING

Psalm of the Day (**On Insert**)..... Psalm 66C

SECOND READING

Gospel Acclamation Verse: Alleluia. *If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you.* Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Hymn of the Day 520, “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

(Thursday) - **TIME OF GRACE VIDEO**

(Sunday) – **EXAMINATION OF CONFIRMANDS**

Offering Hymn 750 v. 1, “We Give Thee but Thine Own”

Apostles’ Creed Page 20

Prayers/Lord’s Prayer

Hymn 502, “Children of the Heavenly Father”

Closing Prayer/Benediction

Closing Hymn 617, “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

To the people of Athens St. Paul proclaims that living as the offspring of the one true God means living a life of repentance and obedience.

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. 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. “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. 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. 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. 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. ‘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.’ “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. Although God overlooked the times of ignorance, he is now commanding all people everywhere to repent, 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.”

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

St. Peter teaches that love for God means obedience to his commands even if that obedience brings suffering into our lives.

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you should happen to suffer because of righteousness, you are blessed. Do not be afraid of what they fear, and do not be troubled. 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. 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.

Indeed, it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil, 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, in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. 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. 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. He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

Jesus explains that those who love him will obey his teaching. Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit who gives us the power to live for Christ.

“If you love me, hold on to my commands. I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. 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.

“I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 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.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEAD USHERS: Lyle Moldenhauer/Chris Zwygart; next Sunday: Don Koch/Doug Schulz

THE EXAMINATION of this year's eighth grade confirmation class will take place on **Sunday (TODAY)**. They will be confirmed at the **Sunday, May 21**, worship service. This year's confirmands are: Sidney Daley, Hunter Lang, Gavin Moldenhauer, Luke Stern, Preston Taylor, and Janel Youngbeck.

In addition, Kimberley Callies will also be confirmed at the May 21 worship service. Kimberley has studied the Christian faith with Pastors Drake, Kesting, and Mose through the Trinity Community Center classes and will be examined with those students at St. Paul's, Neosho.

ALTAR OFFERING: This year's altar offering will be taken on **Sunday, May 21**. The money received has been designated as follows: 100% to the Church Refurbishment Fund. Please look for the special envelope marked **Altar Offering** in your envelope packets.

AREA ASCENSION SERVICE: This year's Area Ascension worship service will be held on **Thursday, May 18**, at **6:30 PM** at **St. John's, Lomira**. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this special worship service. Because of this service, there will be **no** Thursday evening worship service at St. Matthew's that night.

WALL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT: Our school will be hosting this year's WALL Softball Tournament on **Friday – Saturday, May 19-20**, at the Iron Ridge Firemen's Park. All are invited and encouraged to come down and cheer our team on as well as enjoy the concessions which will be served throughout the tournament. If you would be willing to help in any way (i.e. working concessions, grilling, providing donations, setting up, cleaning up), please speak with Kevin Lorge as soon as possible. We need all the help we can get with this big of an endeavor! There will be 11 teams involved and all their families in attendance!

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY: No one has signed up to host the fellowship hour which would take place immediately following the worship service on **Sunday, May 28**. If this is something you or a group of you would be willing to do, please sign up on the sheet hanging on the church bulletin board or speak with Pastor Mose today. Thank you!

GRADUATION/RECOGNITION NIGHT: The graduation of St. Matthew's eighth grade class will be held on **Thursday, May 25**, at the **7:00 PM** worship service. Immediately following the Graduation worship service, Recognition Night festivities will take place in the gym.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL INTEREST: We would like to gauge interest in St. Matthew's hosting a Vacation Bible School program this summer. It would likely be held just a few nights. VBS would be open to children aged 3-1/2 to Gr. 6. Older children who may wish to participate could be volunteer helpers. You can sign up for that as well. If you are interested in your children participating, please sign up on the sheet located on the church bulletin board. Also, if there are adults who would be willing to teach and/or help out, please also sign up.

WE THANK the adult choir for beautifying our Sunday worship service with their song!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! We wish all our mothers a happy and blessed Mother's Day on Sunday (TODAY)!

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Attendance: Thursday: 20; Sunday: 93

Offerings: \$5,510.78

(Budget Amount Needed Each Week: \$6,889.00)

Special Funds: Debt Retirement: \$310.00

OUR WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Sunday: Worship Service (**Examination Sunday**) 9:00 AM
Mother's Day

Thursday: *AREA Ascension Service (@ St. John's, Lomira) 6:30 PM*

NO Thursday Evening Worship Service @ St. Matthew's!!

Adult Choir Practice & End-of-Season Pizza
Party 8:00 PM

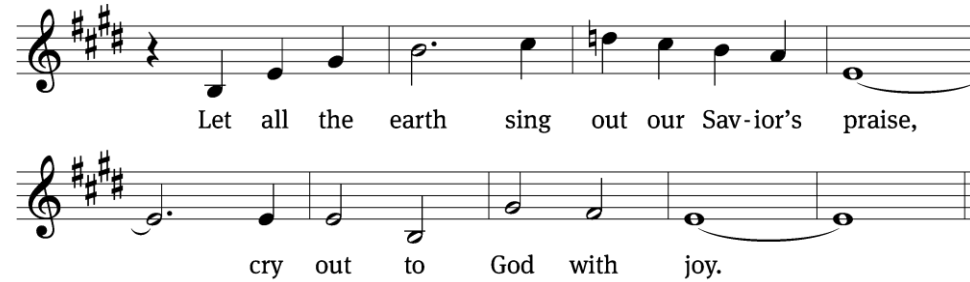
Fri. – Sat.: WALL Softball Tournament (@ Iron Ridge Firemen's Park)
Friday begins at 4:00 PM
Saturday begins at 9:00 AM

Sunday: Communion Worship Service (**Confirmation**) 9:00 AM
ALTAR OFFERING

66C Let All the Earth Sing Out

Psalm 66C

Refrain



Let all the earth sing out our Sav-ior's praise,
cry out to God with joy.

Tone



Shout for joy to God, / all the earth!

Sing the glory of his name; make his praise / glorious.

Praise our God, all / peoples,

let the sound of his / praise be heard;

he has pre- / served our lives

and kept our feet from / slipping. *Refrain*

Come and hear, all you who / fear God;

let me tell you what he has / done for me.

If I had cherished sin / in my heart,

the Lord would not have / listened;

but God has surely / listened

and has / heard my prayer.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Tune: David Haas

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