Our Savior’s Lutheran Church

*Burbank, Illinois*

Worship Folder for May 24, 2020

7th Sunday of Easter

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*n Preparation for this service print out this order of service and bring a lighted candle to your worship place.*

Welcome

The Season of Easter is almost ended. The church calendar is in the in-between times, in between the Ascension of Jesus, 40 days after the resurrection, and Pentecost, the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit. The world is in in-between times too. In between full lock-down and staggering numbers of deaths, and well-being. We are going to be stuck here for a long time. But, Our Savior’s youth, none-the-less have persevered and today we salute our graduates. What can God say to us to keep us grounded and faithful? Jesus is praying for us in these in-between times so that we are not overcome by nay-sayers or disheartened by conflict. The resurrected Jesus is our guide. Welcome to worship at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Burbank, Illinois

Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

♫ I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;

in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the word I was there to cheer you on;

you were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk 'til rising sun.

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In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,

I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

Words and Music by John Ylvisaker

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Invocation

Let us pray.
O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**A reading from portions of the 4th and 5th chapters of Peter’s 1st epistle. (1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11)**

**What would you say to loved ones who are going to suffer persecution? At the time of this letter the infamous Roman Emperor Nero had designated Christians as the scapegoats for the ills of the Roman empire. The author wants the people to be one with Christ so that they are prepared to rejoice in all that God has done for them in Jesus Christ.**

**12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. 5: 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. 8 Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. 10 And after you have**

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**suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. 11 To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.**

**Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.**

**♫** Be Not Afraid

Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

 (repeat)

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community Music: Jacques Berthier

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**The Holy Gospel** **John 17:1-11**

**1 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, 2 since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4 I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. 5 So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 6 "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9 I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11 And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.**

**This is the good news.**

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**Today our guest preacher is Pastor Kathy Nolte, assistant to Bishop Curry**

Sermon

♫ Gather Us In

Here in this place the new light is streaming,

Now is the darkness vanished away;

See in this space our fears and our dreamings

Brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,

Gather us in, the blind and the lame;

Call to us now, and we shall awaken,

We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a myst’ry,

We are the old who yearn for your face;

We have been sung throughout all of hist’ry,

Called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,

Gather us in, the proud and the strong;

Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,

Give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,

Not in some heaven, light years away—

Here in this place the new light is shining,

Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,

Gather us in and make us your own;

Gather us in, all peoples together,

Fire…of love in our flesh and our bone.

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**Prayers**

We gather in our homes and yet are together as one, praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Our response to each request is, “Your mercy is great.”

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♫ Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.

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In this time of troubling separation, we pray to you, triune God, for the unity of your churches. Bind us together in the truth of your gospel. Make us witnesses of your mysterious might. As you blessed the early disciples for their unfolding ministry, bless those who lead and serve our local congregation.

God of unity, hear us:
**Your mercy is great.**

Nurture the life of your creation. Support those who explore the mysteries of your universe. We praise you for all the scientists who have enriched our understanding of creation. Help all online teachers to instruct our children in the ways of nature.

God of unity, hear us:
**Your mercy is great.**

As we prepare for Memorial Day, we pray for peace around the world. Protect all soldiers, and assure them of your never-failing strength. We remember those who have died in service to our country. May their sacrifice always give witness to the values upon which our nation was founded: well-being for all people, responsible freedom and liberty, and equality. Shield the vulnerable who live in paths of violence. We pray especially for the people of Afghanistan and Syria.

God of unity, hear us:
**Your mercy is great.**

Come to the aid of all who suffer. We pray for those who are laden with grief, overwhelmed by anxiety, or struggling without medical care. Uphold all health-care workers who attend to coronavirus patients. Comfort all families and friends who cannot embrace their loved ones at the time of death. We give into your care all the sick, especially those we name here before you…

A brief silence.

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God of unity, hear us:
**Your mercy is great.**

Again, we pray: give the world a vaccine.

God of unity, hear us:
**Your mercy is great.**

Grant your oneness to humankind, so marked by isolation and division. Bring harmony to families, rival gangs, distraught citizens, racial groupings, and members of our legislatures. Give to each individual a wholeness that is birthed in you.  Make us one, as you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are one.

God of unity, hear us:
**Your mercy is great.**

Make us steadfast in the faith, and graciously receive our personal prayers:

God of unity, hear us:
**Your mercy is great.**

To know you is to have eternal life. We praise you for the lives of all who have died in the faith and who now live in you . At the end, bring us with all your saints into your presence.

A brief silence.

God of unity, hear us:
**Your mercy is great.**

P With bold confidence in your love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God of our past, our present, and our future, we place all for whom we pray into your circle of love, now and forever.
**Amen.**

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**Introduction of the Graduates**

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**♫ Find Your Wings**

**It’s only for a moment you are mine to hold,**

**The plans that heaven has for you will all too soon unfold.**

**So many diff’rent prayers I’ll pray for all that you might do,**

**But most of all I want to know you’re walking in the truth.**

**And if I’ve never told you, I want you to know that as I watch you grow,**

 **(chorus)**

**I pray that God will fill your heart with dreams,**

**And that faith gives you the courage to dare to do great things.**

**I’m here for you whatever this life brings.**

**So let my love give you roots and help you find your wings.**

**May passion be the wind that leads you through your days,**

**And may convictions keep you strong, guide you on your way.**

**May there be many moments that make your life so sweet.**

**Oh, but more than memories, Chorus**

**It’s not living if you don’t reach for the sky.**

**I’ll have tears as you take off but I’ll cheer as you fly. Chorus**

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**Blessing**

Before you were even formed, God knew you.

While in your Mother's womb, God named you.

At your birth, God's breath filled you with life.

Today we celebrate what you have become

at this moment in time. In spite of precautions for covid19 you hung in and completed your work in order to come to graduation.

And so we pray,

God of our beginnings,

We thank you for the gifts of these graduates;

their excitement, their awesome wonder and curiosity,

their open speech and encouraging words.

Their contributions have blessed and challenged us,

and we have become a richer

and more diverse community because of them.

As they step forward into the world that awaits,

comfort their fears with the full knowledge of your divine presence.

Strengthen their resolve to walk in the footsteps of Jesus

as modern-day disciples in a world that needs their spirit.

Guide their feet as they move through life,

protecting them from the pitfalls of darkness

while they help to lead future generations

into the warmth and promise of your light.

We ask this blessing upon each of them,

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

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Dear friends, our ministry at Our Savior’s church is not closed. Much of this ministry is taking place out in the community and we gather here for worship to be strengthened for all we need to be doing in the world. Keep safe and hold on. Bring peace and caring to your neighborhoods. It is a very difficult time. Please continue to check the prayer list and as always, thank you for your faithful offerings and contributions to the food pantry. It’s incredible to be able to share so much food with people in great need in our community. Keep those cards and phone calls to our seniors and those isolated coming. Be Christ in the world. If you are in need, call the church office.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord’s resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service, and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
**Amen.**

 Unite us as we pray together

**Our Father, who art in heaven: hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come, they will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

Benediction

♫ Make Us One

One with the Father, one with the Spirit, One with the Son of God.

One with our sister, one with our brother, One fam’ly by the blood.

Make us one, make us one. Your will be done. Make us one.

One heart with heaven, one mind connected, One body unified.

Bind us together now and forever, Jesus be glorified!

Make us one, make us one, Your will be done. Make us one.

Make us one. Make us one. Your will be done. Make us one.

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We confess all our offenses. We confess we’ve been afraid.

We repent of all our pride. Let all the hurt be washed away.

For all the wars and violence against our enemy.

Come heal our land with Your great river.

Restore the family and make us one. Make us one.

Your will be done. Make us one. Make us one. Make us one.

Let Your kingdom come. Make us one. Make us one.

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Alleluia! Christ is risen!
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in Peace. You’ve got this!

**Devotional Music Links:** For your individual or group devotion, you may choose to listen to the following choral recordings made available through Augsburg Fortress:  [“This Is My Song”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69f19S_4xlU&feature=youtu.be);[“Enviado”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5JjcYZzE50&feature=youtu.be); [“I Come with Joy.”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4X3QYTuggs&feature=youtu.be)

**Readings for the Week:**
**Monday** Psalm 99. **Tuesday**1 Peter 4:7-11. **Wednesday**(commemoration of John Calvin, renewer of the church, died 1564) 1 Kings 8:54-65. **Thursday** Psalm 33:12-22. **Friday** (commemoration of  Jiří Tranovský, hymnwriter, died 1637) Romans 8:14-17. **Saturday** (Vigil of Pentecost) Romans 8:14-17, 22-27. **Day of Pentecost**  Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39.

Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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