

# Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2021

**Theme:** Paul taught that God's salvation was not dependent on people's ability or willingness to follow Jewish laws. No, God's salvation was a gift for all—no strings attached.

## PRELUDE

### CALL OF WORSHIP

Blessed be the Lord!

**God has shown us favor!**

God has sent a savior

**To deliver us from fear.**

God has shown us mercy,

**and has kept the ancient promise.**

Blessed be the Lord!

**God has shown us favor!**

### GATHERING SONG

*When Peace Like a River*

#785

**When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.**

**REFRAIN: It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,) it is well, it is well with my soul.**

**Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul.**

**REFRAIN**

**He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought; my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!**

**REFRAIN**

**Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul.**

**REFRAIN**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: **O Christ, You have indeed, been raised from the dead. Therefore, let us live as though death no longer holds us hostage, putting our hope in the one who goes before us, both in death and in eternal life, our Savior, Christ, amen.**

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: **Loving God, The only law you demand is the law of love. By your grace, show us the path we are to follow, to spread your message of mercy and live lives of discipleship, after your son Jesus. Amen**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Above All*

## FIRST READING

Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL:

Luke 1:68-79  
The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**  
The reading concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

## SERMON

### SERMON HYMN

*The God of Abraham Praise*

#831

**The God of Abr'ham praise, who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love—  
"I Am the One I Am"--by earth and heav'n confessed;  
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.**

**The God of Abr'ham praise! At your supreme command  
from earth I rise and seek the joy sat your right hand.  
I all on earth forsake--its wisdom, fame, and pow'r—  
and you my only portion make, my shield and tow'r.**

**The God of Abr'ham praise! Your all-sufficient grace  
shall guide me all my pilgrim day sin all my ways.  
You deign to call me friend; you call yourself my God!  
And you will save me to the end through Jesus' blood.**

**Your promise you have sworn; I on your oath depend.  
I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heav'n ascend.  
I shall behold your face; I shall your pow'r adore,  
and sing the wonders of your grace forevermore.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. Faithful God, **Hear our prayer**

Incline your ear to our prayers and fill us with power to begin living out our faith, by the power of your Son our savior, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray...

## 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.**

## BENEDICTION

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN***Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

#367

**Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds:**

**"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"**

**Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here:**

**"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Eternal is the gift he brings, therefore our heart with rapture sings:**

**"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"**

**Now still he comes to give us life and by his presence stills all strife.**

**"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above  
that we conquer through your triumph; grant grace sufficient for life's day  
that by our lives we truly say:**

**"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:**

**"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"**

**Be to the Father, and our Lord,**

**to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**DISMISSAL**

**Go in peace, stay safe and be safe. Share the good news! Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**