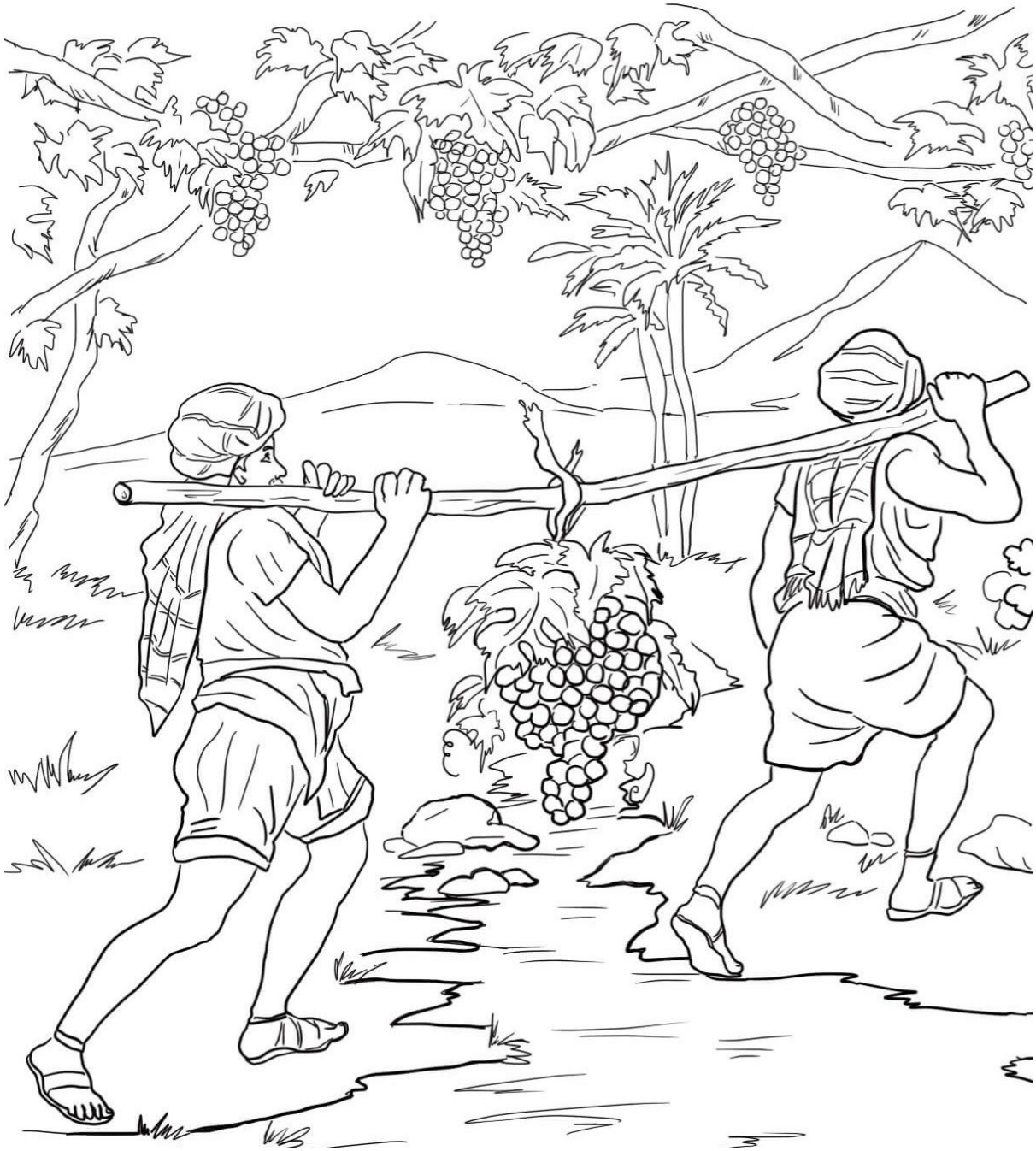


† Easter VII †



**“They Will Possess the Land”
Isaiah 61:1-11**

✠ The Divine Liturgy ✠

“Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus”
Saint Luke’s Lutheran Church | May 24, 2020

† Baptism — The Way of Faith †

(stand)

Invocation

Father, Creator of heaven and earth, ✠ **we thank you for your daily love and care.** ✠ Son Jesus, servant of all, ✠ **we follow your example.** ✠ Holy Spirit, presence of life, ✠ **rule and dwell in our hearts and communion.** ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ✠ **we surrender our minds, bodies, and whole lives to you.**

(we make the sign of the cross, touching forehead, heart, and shoulders)

Into your loving hands ✠ **we place our worries, stresses, and burdens.** ✠ In stillness and patience ✠ **we wait on you in all things.**

(the Christ candle is lit to remind us that Jesus is present among us)

♪ *Our Father, bring your Rule and will to earth. Give what we need for worry-free rebirth. Bring peace among us and forgive us too, as we forgive and love in all we do. ♪ Protect us from all things that will mislead. Keep us from selfishness, violence, and greed. We place our lives into your hands this day. Teach us to listen and to walk your Way. Amen. ♪ (tune: LSB 637)*

Ascension Litany

Jesus has ascended to the Father! ✠ **He is Lord of all creation! Alleluia!**

All authority in heaven and earth ✠ **has been given to Jesus!**

He is now present throughout creation! ✠ **He will be with us always!**

We are his Church, ✠ **his Body on earth!**

We wait for his coming! ✠ **He will return through his Spirit!**

We wait for his coming! ✠ **He will judge and restore all creation! Alleluia!**

Song ✠ *LSB 512 “At the Name of Jesus”*

♪ *At the name of Jesus ev’ry knee will bow, ev’ry tongue confess him King of earth right now. It’s the Father’s desire we should call him Lord, who from the beginning was the mighty Word. ♪*

♪ *At his voice creation sprang at once to sight. All the seas and forests, all the stars of light, all plants and animals, rivers on their way, creatures all big and small, in their great array. ♪*

♪ *In your hearts enthrone him, there let him subdue, all that is not holy, all that is not true. Look to him your Savior, in temptations’ hour, let his will embrace you, in its light and pow’r. ♪*

♪ *Christians this Lord Jesus has not come in vain, through his Father’s Spirit he does truly reign. For all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow, and our hearts confess him King of mercy now. ♪*

Remembering Our Baptism Journey

Our heavenly Father makes us his children through Baptism as he puts to death Civilization's Way of fear and control within us and then raises us to Jesus's Way of faithful obedience. We pray that he continues and completes this work of Baptism within us, as we daily leave everything behind to find true life in the word and story of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. ✠ **Amen.**

♩ Lord, baptize us and wash away our sin. Lord, baptize us and change our hearts within. Lord, baptize us and grow our discipline. Lord, we praise you, for all that you do! ♪ Lord, baptize us to never be afraid. Lord, baptize us to love all you have made. Lord, baptize us to share your help and aid. Lord, we praise you, for all that you do! ♪ (tune: LSB 677)

Prayer of the Day

The Lord Jesus be with you. ✠ **And also with you.** ✠ Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, strengthen us in the hope that we will live in harmony with the land again. In the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

(sit)

Preparing to Listen

We gather at the feet of our Lord Jesus, listening to his word and allowing it to change and shape our minds, decisions, and lives. ♪ *Listen to what Jesus teaches, listen to him every day. Listen as you walk and follow, listen also as you pray. Listen to him every moment, listen with an open mind. Listen to find peace and patience, listen so you will be kind.* ♪ (tune: LSB 770)

Remembering the Saints & Martyrs ✠ Flavia Domitilla

Father, we give you thanks for your Spirit-filled saints and witnesses who have gone before us and have embodied the Way of Jesus. Today we remember Flavia, the niece of Emperor Domitian, who was banished and exiled on an island for her faith in Jesus and then was brought back by Emperor Trajan only to be burned alive for refusing to sacrifice to idols in 98 AD. Help us learn from her faith and example, **Amen.**

Chanted Psalm ✠ *Psalm 27*



*♪ The Lord is my light and my | salvation.
* There is nothing | I will fear.
One thing I have asked | from the Lord:
* that I may live in his presence | all my life.
I will see the goodness | of the Lord
* in the land of | the living.
Be strong and let your heart | take courage;
* Yes, I will always wait | for the Lord. ♪*

Law & Prophets ✠ Isaiah 61:1-11

The Prophets reading comes from Isaiah 61. ✠ **We listen with open hearts.**
This is the word of our Creator. ✠ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

Epistle ✠ Colossians 1:24—2:5

The epistle reading comes from Colossians 1. ✠ **We listen with open hearts.**
This is the word of our Creator. ✠ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

(stand)

✠ Holy Gospel ✠ Matthew 6:1-18

We stand for the word of Jesus. ♪ *Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.* ♪ (tune: LSB 156)

The holy Gospel comes from Matt 6. ✠ **Jesus, we listen, ready to follow you.**
This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus. ✠ **We will trust and obey.**

(sit)

Message

† Repentance — The Way of Hope †

Confronting Our Past

Let us reflect on how the word of Jesus is speaking into our lives this day.

(silence for reflection)

For serving the false gods of self, family, and nation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
For trusting the technology and works of human hands, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**
✠ For being hypocrites who misrepresent your name, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
For not living in restful harmony with land, animals, and each other, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
For not listening to and caring for our fathers and mothers in Christ, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
For being violent to our bodies and your creation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
For not keeping our sexuality within marriage, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
For trying to possess and control your creation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
For not being vulnerable and truthful with others, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
For competing with others and not being content with our lives, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠
Father, turn us back to walking in your Spirit. ♪ *Lord Father we have wandered and hidden from your face. Rescue your whole creation with your almighty grace. From trust in wealth and weapons and blindness to your Way, save us and all creation with your own hands, we pray.* ♪ (tune: LSB 449)

Will you turn away from the Way of Civilization and reaffirm the Creator's claim upon you through your Baptism into the Way of Jesus? ✠ **Yes, I renounce the Way of Civilization and pledge my full allegiance to Jesus.** ✠
Will you release all debts and grudges that you hold against anyone—including yourself and those in this place? ✠ **Yes, I forgive all those**

who have hurt me, frustrated me, or owe me anything. ✠ Our heavenly Father heals all those who return to his loving arms. You are forgiven and set free from all slavery to live life in the Way of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!
✠ Amen.

(stand)

Song ✠ *LSB 493 “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”*

- ♪ *A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! ♪*
- ♪ *The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand. Alleluia, alleluia! And with his faithful followers see their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! ♪*
- ♪ *To them the shining angels cry, “Why stand and gaze upon the sky?” Alleluia, alleluia! “This is the Savior,” thus they say, “This is his glorious triumph day!” Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! ♪*
- ♪ *“You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky.” Alleluia, alleluia! “Hereafter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty.” Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! ♪*
- ♪ *Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, and be our future great reward. Alleluia, alleluia! Then, throned with you forever, we shall praise your name eternally. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! ♪*
- ♪ *O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia, alleluia! You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! ♪*

Waiting on the Creator

♪ *Hear us, Father, now today, listen to us while we pray. Father, let your will be done, please conform us to your Son. ♪ (tune: LSB 783)*

(incense is lit to symbolize our prayers ascending to God and as its smell fills this space we are reminded of his presence among us)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪

Our Father in heaven, make your name holy, bring your Rule, make your will be done—on earth as in heaven. ✠ Father, heal your creation that we have harmed and destroyed by bringing heaven—your presence and rule—to earth through Jesus and your Spirit. Open our hearts, so we may trust and obey the word of Jesus. Bring your loving discipline, judgment, and peace upon us and all creation. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Give us this day our daily bread. ✠ Father, be our provider and protector. Take care of us and heal our brokenness. Especially, we remember Charlene Sargent, Jack Wagner, Yvonne Brown, Georgia & Jamey Story, Maggie Belcher, Judy Kurth, COVID-19 victims, the Disciple Garden, and those we name in our hearts... Give us exactly what we need this day and teach us to be content with that. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Forgive us our debts as we forgive those in debt to us. ✠ Father, forgive us

and free us from all that enslaves us. Help us to walk away from our addictions to Civilization's Way so we may walk in Jesus's Way. Empower us to forgive the debts and sins of all who repent, even our enemies, in the same way you have forgiven us. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ✠ Father, grow our trust in you and keep us from being tested when we are not yet ready. Free us from fear, self-indulgence, competition, ownership, and violence. Comfort us in the hope that your creation and children will be renewed and raised from the dead. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

For all authority, power, and glory are yours—now and forever. ✠ Father, we thank you for all that you give—life, daily provision, and salvation from death and slavery. Empower us to celebrate your love through a life of patient courage, self-discipline, humility, generosity, and kindness. Help us to let go of being in charge so we might entrust our lives fully into your hands, trusting that you work all things to the good of those who love you. ✠ **Amen.**

† Communion — The Way of Love †

Sharing the Lord's Peace

We prepare to be united as one Body and communion at the Lord's table by sharing with each other the peace and love our Father has freely given to us.

(sit)

Offering

Everything belongs to our Father and is to be used to love each other in the same way Jesus has loved us. Therefore, we offer our entire lives as a living sacrifice to him while also offering gifts to support this communion.

(stand)

Pledge of Allegiance

♪ We come before you, Lord, to bow. We lay our lives at your feet now. All things are yours, we own nothing! Our lives are in your hands this day. Give what we need, O Lord, we pray. Please protect us, provide for us! Watch over us, ever with us, always love us! ♪ (tune: LSB 816)

Lord Jesus, we pledge our obedience and every part of our lives to you...

I pledge allegiance to God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I pledge allegiance to Jesus the Christ, who is God's only Son and my Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. The third day he rose from the dead. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. He is coming to judge the living and the dead.

I pledge allegiance to the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,

and life with God, now and always. Amen.

Thanksgiving

The Lord Jesus be with you. ✠ **And also with you.** ✠ Lift up your hearts! ✠ **We lift them to the Lord!** ✠ Let us give thanks to our Creator! ✠ **It is right to give him thanks and praise!** ✠ Praise and thanks are due to you, Father, ✠ **for you provide, protect, love, and renew us and all creation!** ✠ We stand in awe as you bring heaven and earth together through Jesus and his love for all creation: ♪ *Let all creation be humble and rejoice in awe and fear. We give thanks to our Lord Jesus who brings heaven to us here. He is giving himself to us and his presence has come near.* ♪ (tune: LSB 621)

† Words of Our Lord Jesus †

On the night before our Lord Jesus was crucified, he revealed his Way of rescuing all creation from the Way of Civilization. Before supper, Jesus humbly washed the feet of his students and enemies. He said, "Follow my example. Love each other in the same way I have loved you." During supper, Jesus then took the bread and broke it. He gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is being given for you. Do the same for each other in my memory." After supper, Jesus then took the cup and gave thanks. He said, "This is my blood which is being shed for you, for the forgiveness of all of your sin. Do the same for each other in my memory." ♪ *When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death Lord Jesus. So as we share this feast may we, remember your love for us. Help us now to follow your Way, and to walk in your goodness. Always make us one in you.* ♪ (tune: LSB 384)

Invitation to the Table

We gather around Jesus's table, trusting that he is truly giving his whole self to us through this bread, wine, and communion. We invite all the Baptized, who give their undivided allegiance to Jesus and are at peace with their brothers and sisters in Christ, to join us in this mysterious communion of heaven and earth. ♪ *Oh come, Lord Jesus, come and dine, and give yourself through bread and wine. Feed us so we may have new birth, and bring your rule ov'r all the earth. Come now! Come now! Our Lord Jesus, and bring your healing love to us!* ♪ (tune: LSB 357)

(sit)

Sharing the Bread & Wine

(stand)

Sending

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the bread of life ✠ **your body, given for us.** ✠ You free us with your love and compassion ✠ **your blood, shed for us.** ✠ Now help us to spread this life of new creation, ✠ **by giving our own bodies and shedding our own blood as we lay down our lives for each other.** ✠ Lord, fill us with your Holy Spirit and strengthen us for this task! ✠ **Amen.** ♪ *If Christ*

still lay within the tomb then death would be the end, and we should face our final doom with neither guide nor friend. But now the Savior is raised up, so when a Christian dies we mourn, yet look to God in hope—in Christ the saints arise! ♪ (tune: LSB 444)

Blessing

May the Father bless you and hold you in his hands. May the Son empower you to love others in the way he has loved you. May the Holy Spirit fill your body and give you a peace that is free of all anxiety. ✠ **Amen.**

Song ✠ *LSB 832 “Jesus Shall Reign”*

♪ *Jesus will reign where'er the sun, does its ongoing journeys run. His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons will wax and wane no more.* ♪

♪ *People and tribes of ev'ry place, dwell on his love the sweetest grace. And all of the earth will proclaim, all their allegiance to his name.* ♪

♪ *Blessings abound where'er he reigns, the prisoners leap to lose their chains. The tired find eternal rest, and all the poor and weak are bless'd.* ♪

♪ *Let ev'ry creature rise and bring, the highest honors to our King. To him who does now raise the dead, give honor as you crown his head.* ♪

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Disciple Garden Fundraising - Please help us raise our last \$6,000, almost done!
- 1 & 2 Peter Bible Study - Join us on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in June and July. Let Pastor Luke know if you will be joining.
- Table Talk - Join us on Mondays at 6:00 pm starting June as Kevin will be leading us in our table talk discussions.
- Annual Meeting - After worship on July 5 we will have our annual church update along with appointing our new Stewards to the Council.
- Online Giving Option - During this time remember that the church has a Venmo account if you want to use that.

Weekly Calendar | May 24 - 31, 2020

Sun May 24	8:30-9:10 am	Individual Confession & Forgiveness
	9:30 am	The Divine Liturgy "They Will Possess the Land" Isaiah 61:1-11
	10:45 am	Text of the Day Study
Mon May 25	8:30-11:30 am	Pastor Luke's Office Hours
Tues May 26	8:30-11:30 am	Pastor Luke's Office Hours
Wed May 27	8:30-11:30 am	Pastor Luke's Office Hours
	6:00 pm	Scripture Study: Romans
Thurs May 28		
Fri May 29		Pastor Luke's Sabbath
Sat May 30		
Sun May 31	8:30-9:10 am	Individual Confession & Forgiveness
	9:30 am	The Divine Liturgy "They Won't Labor in Vain" Isaiah 65:17—66:2
	10:45 am	Text of the Day Study

Thought of the Week

"We should be obedient to God rather than those who have arrogantly made themselves leaders. We will bring great danger upon ourselves if we surrender ourselves to the purposes of men." (1 Clement)

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