

# *Seventh Sunday of Easter*



*Senior Recognition  
May 21, 2023 | 9:00 a.m.*

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church  
308 North Third Street  
Milan, Minnesota*

# RDER OF SERVICE

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*Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church...* In John 17, Jesus prays that his Father will protect and unify his followers. In confidence that God binds us together as Christ's family, let us join in worship.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN** "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" (vs. 1-2, 5) ELW #392

## INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

*In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

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

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** With all the angels and saints, O God,  
we give you thanks and praise with shouts of joy.

**C** **Our God has called us to a rich hope and a glorious inheritance.**

**P** We praise you, O God, with songs of joy.

**C** **We draw near to you with thankfulness. You have made us one family  
on the face of the earth and opened to us the gates of heaven.**

## \*\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Brothers and sisters, *1 Pet. 5:7*  
God not only desires our repentance, but longs to offer us forgiveness.  
Therefore, cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you eternally.

**C** **Loving God,  
we confess that we do not always bring honor and glory to your name.  
We are rebellious and weak; we flee before your goodness.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us by the grace and mercy of Christ,  
that we may rise up again in peace to love and serve your world. Amen.**

P Sisters and brothers, *1 Pet. 4:14; 5:6-10*  
the Spirit of God is resting on you, to restore, support, and strengthen you.  
Therefore, be at peace in the One who forgives and loves you;  
rise up and give God thanks. Amen.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**                    “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”                    ELW #393

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.

**C 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, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**LESSON: Acts 1:6-14**

*Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.*

**PSALM 68:1-10, 32-35**

L <sup>1</sup>Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

**C <sup>2</sup>As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

L <sup>3</sup>But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
let them also be merry and joyful.

**C <sup>4</sup>Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

L <sup>5</sup>In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans,  
defender of widows;

**C <sup>6</sup>you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

L <sup>7</sup>O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,

**C <sup>8</sup>the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

L <sup>9</sup>You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

**C <sup>10</sup>Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

L <sup>32</sup>Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

C <sup>33</sup>**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

L <sup>34</sup>Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel;  
whose strength is in the skies.

C <sup>35</sup>**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

**LESSON: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

*Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: John 17:1-11**

*On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.*

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" (vs. 1-2, 4-5) ELW #579

**RECOGNITION OF SENIORS**

**SENIOR BLESSING**

P May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May the Lord watch over you and keep you safe.  
May the Lord guide your every step.  
May you always know of our unending support for you.

C **Amen.**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

page 105

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilot,  
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

**P** Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers are concluded with these words:*

**P** Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

### **SHARING THE PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE** "We Give Thee but Thine Own" (vs. 1-2) ELW #686

### **\*\*OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** Glorious God, everything that is given to us  
rains forth out of the abundance of your love,  
even Jesus Christ our Lord. Bless these gifts and our lives together  
that all we are and all we offer give glory to you;  
in the name of Christ, who is the way, truth, and life.

*Ps. 68:9;  
John 17:1-17*

**C** **Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

page 154

**C** **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.**

## COMMISSION AND BLESSING

P As people of faith, we have gathered for worship.

**C As people of faith, we now return to the world.**

P Go out to share the story of faith, the story of life, with the world around you.

**C We share the faith in word and in deed, in speech and in action.**

P As you go out to give a living witness, as you go out to testify to God's love active in the world, go knowing that God goes with you, sharing the hope, the fears and the tears.

**C Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN** "Crown Him with Many Crowns" (vs. 1-4) ELW #855

## DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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