

Worship in the Home

Sunday after Easter



"Come...Be a Part of Peace!"

2600 Atlantic Avenue, Fernandina Beach FL 32034

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May 16, 2021

In this time of world-wide crisis, we are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer. Use this resource as an aid for prayer in the home. As with our prayers in the gathered assembly for worship.

Prelude

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness



In the name of the Father, and the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel or be seated for confession.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE RESURRECTION PROCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.



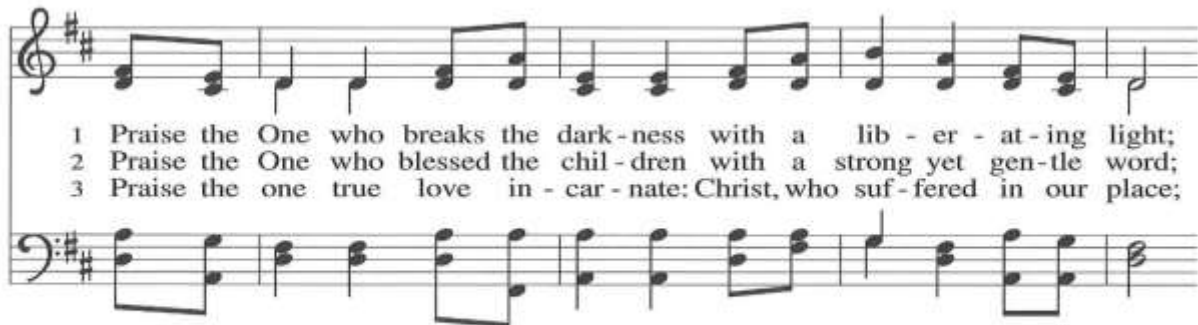
Devotional Music

You might now sing or read "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

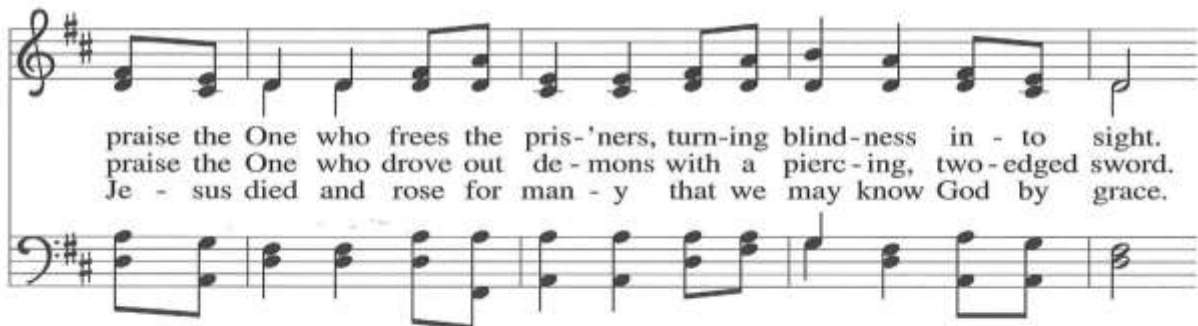
Or, click the following link for audio presentation -

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Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness 843



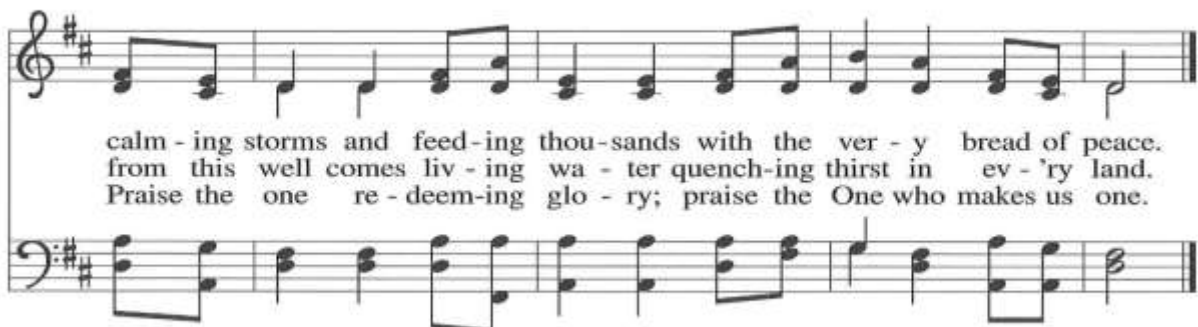
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Kyrie

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

*For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.*

*For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
And for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.*

*For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
Let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.*

*Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.*

The Prayer of the Day may be prayed.



Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.



Then the first reading for this Sunday may be read, as follows.

FIRST READING: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 1

To be read in responsively.



¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel [|] of the wicked,

nor lingered in the way of sinners,

nor sat in the seats [|] of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law [|] of the LORD,

and they meditate on God's teaching [|] day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,

with leaves that [|] do not wither;

everything they [|] do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so [|] with the wicked;

they are like chaff which the wind [|] blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when [|] judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council [|] of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way [|] of the righteous,

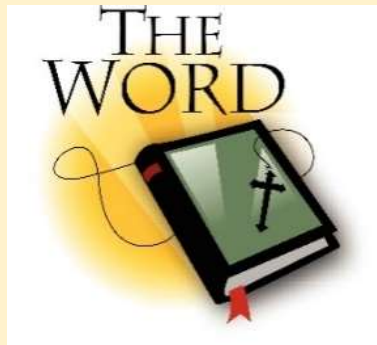
but the way of the wicked shall [|] be destroyed.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:9-13

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Then the gospel reading may be read, as follows.

Gospel: John 17:6-19

The holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] 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. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for 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. ⁹I 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. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And 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. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON—Pastor Ida Iverson

“JESUS PRAYS FOR US”

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Our gospel lesson we have today is called “The High Priestly Prayer”. In the gospel of John, we do not have the telling of the Last Supper, but Jesus is with his disciples on that night, and he is telling them what is about to transpire over the next few days and beyond. In our three-year lectionary, this pray is split up into three parts. In the first part, Jesus is praying for himself; in the second, which we have today, it is for his disciples who are with him, and the third is for those who are yet to come...you and me.

It is not easy to listen to because it seems to go round and round in circles saying the same thing, but as I have said before when something is repeated it is because it is important and needs to be emphasized. So as his disciples are hearing this, they might not have been paying attention the first time or even the second time, but as it is repeated their ears perk-up and they get what he is saying. They understand how he has made the Father known to them, how they have kept the Father’s Word, and how it is that they are not only his but the Father’s as well as they stay in the world. Jesus is telling them that they will continue what he had started and that just as he had been sanctified they too will be sanctified. Sanctified, which like the word abide, is one of those church words that most of the time we hear it, but do we understand what it means? To be sanctified is to be made holy or to be set apart. What that means for you and me is that we are to be set apart to do God’s work just as Jesus was set apart to do God’s work. This is what Jesus is praying in this prayer for his disciples, that they are to be set apart to do God’s work in his stead.

As Jesus is repeating himself in this prayer that his disciples are hearing, I thought about the statistics on how many times a person must invite another person to come to worship with them. Now, I do not know if the number has changed recently or not, but it was twelve several years ago. When I came out of seminary it was said that a Lutheran will invite another person once every twenty-five years. I will let you do the math on that one.

I wonder how any one of us would have felt if we had been listening to Jesus praying for us in such a way. Would we even believe what he was saying true? Would we wonder if we could continue and do what he is saying we are to do...to continue his work in the world? After all this is some lofty stuff Jesus is saying to his Father about them, and they are just some ordinary people like you and me. I remember after I had arrived at my first call out of seminary, as I was leaving the church with the choir director one night and she said to me, "You are my spirit leader now." I panicked. I did not feel that I had any qualifications to be anybody's spiritual leader, let alone this woman who I had only known a short amount of time but had already come to respect her and knew that we would work well together. But her spiritual leader? That felt like quite a reach. So, I can imagine what the disciples were thinking; "Sure, Jesus, we are going to carry on from where you left off."

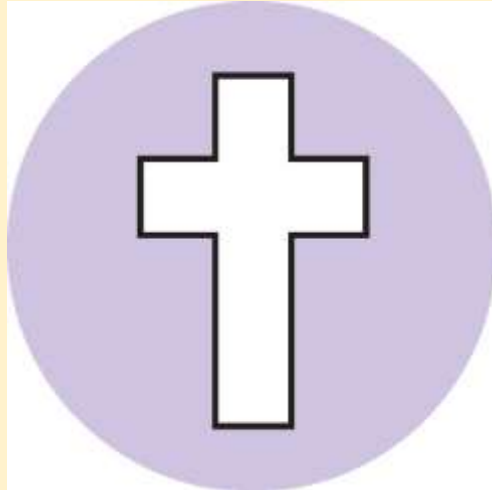
The reality is that they did carry on where Jesus left off. It was not always easy for those first few as they were ridiculed, rejected, and persecuted, but they were not the only ones that persevered after the ascension of Jesus. Over the centuries there have been many, and there are still many and into the future there will still be others as well who will persevere and carry on.

What is happening as Jesus is praying for his disciples here? He is praying for them as a community. He is praying "them" and "they". It is not to be a singular endeavor, but a community of believers working together.

Here today, do you and I think of ourselves as being sanctified, made holy and set apart for God's use? Well, do we? Are we just here because our friends are here or are we here because together, we can make a difference in the world? It is in knowing and sharing the truth that Jesus did not come into the world to condemn the world but to save it. That is the message of the Word that we are to keep telling anyone who has ears to hear.

We can also learn lessons from the Old Testament. Today in our Psalm...which is the first of the Psalms, it gives us a way to also look at Jesus praying for his disciples as preparation for them as they are set apart to continue when he is no longer with them physically. It says that those who find joy in life are those who delight in the law of the Lord and meditate on God's teaching day and night. The law, of course, refers to the Ten Commandments. When we look at them as being instructions from God, for his people and that includes you and me, they teach us how to be in relationship not only with God but each other. The wicked that the Psalm talks about scoff at the instructions, they scoff at God's teachings, many are

angry and unwilling to grow. You could say they become stagnate and alone because who would want to be around them? This is not what God wants or what Jesus wants. No, instead it is to be in community to grow, and find joy in the life each of us has been given, being sanctified in truth together. I would say it is impossible to find joy as a solitary person. It is in the company of others that we grow. Remember that vine from a few weeks ago? What happens to the branches that become detached? They withered and died and are burned. The same happens with the chaff because it holds no life. It is when you and I become “we” along with the “they” and “them”, that Jesus’ prayer is answered and we are sanctified as a community...set apart for God’s use in Jesus’ name alone, where the truth of the Word can be lived out, and joy made complete. Amen.



Hymn of The Day

You might now sing or read "Son of God, Eternal Savior"

Or, click the following link for audio presentation –

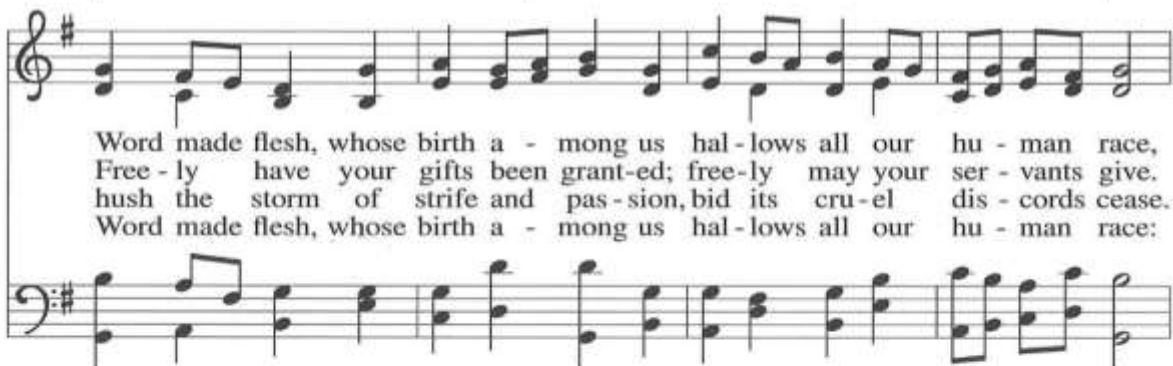
https://youtu.be/VXDjkXe_btA

Son of God, Eternal Savior


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1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Then read the prayers of intercession, as follows.

Prayers of Intercession

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Holy God, in Christ Jesus the joy of the church is made complete. Root the church in your Word and unify us as Christ's body. Send us into the world as your loving in people ready to testify to your Spirit at work.

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Mighty God, the world is your handiwork, displaying your creative impulse. Seas teem with life, forests reach up to praise you, and the mystery of life lies deep in the soil. Guard and keep this world for the well-being of all your creatures.

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Gracious Sovereign, those who follow your ways are like trees planted near streams of water. Establish the leaders of nations and all in authority in your grace and truth. Strengthen them, so that the people they serve will have abundant life.

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Generous Savior, you befriend those who are suffering, poor, lonely, outcast, rejected, or sick. Giving them tangible signs of your steadfast love and grant healing and love to all in need. We ask you to especially guard and keep these we name before you either silently or aloud: Nick Ivanovic, John Mandrick, Paul Iverson, Baby William, Allan Johnson, Don Weiss, Zoia Foster, Donna Cormier, Clay Chaffee, Lucy Creel, Dennis and Shirley Sewell, Tammy & Greg Olive, Claudia Willette, all those who serve in the military, any dealing with the Covid,

We give thanks for all the prayers you have answered by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Creator God, here in this community we share the gift of praying, learning, and supporting one another. Give us thankful hearts as we claim the gifts that are unique to us and keep us from being envious of others with different gifts.

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Life giving God, you bring joy of life, be with George Pester, Ann Pittman and Nick Ivanovic as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Saving God, your wonderful promise is the gift of eternal life in Jesus. Through the witness of those who have died in you, strengthen us now in this gift of life. We cherish the memory of your saints who have gone before us.

Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy.

Amen



Let us pray as Jesus taught us,



Lords 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.**

Blessing

Then speak the Blessing:

The blessing of the living God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
surround and sustain you,
keep you from harm,
and fill you with courage.

Amen.



Sending Hymn

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Click the following link for audio presentation that includes the verses to sing

<https://youtu.be/4NOrc6doudc>

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Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died,
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

DISMISSAL

Jesus said, You will be my witnesses
to the ends of the earth

I chose you and appointed you
to bear fruit that will last.

Remember, I will be with you always,
to the end of time.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Readings of the Week:

Seventh Sunday of Easter Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, 1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19

Pentecost Sunday Acts 2:1-21, Romans 8:22-27, John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Reflection material: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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IN NEED OF PRAYER

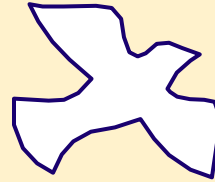
We give thanks to you, O Lord, for all the prayers you have heard and answered and the peace you have given, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Osprey Village

Jane Cotner - Room 3106
Katherine Holmberg- Room 101

Savannah Grand

Jo Krueer - Room 332
Mary Jordan- Memory Care Unit



At Home

Emmy Lou Sorum / Michele Pester / Clay Chaffee / Dorothy Schwager/ Lloyd Cotner /
Orv Lind / Lucy Creel / Gertie Schreffler / Blake Carter / Allan Johnson / Nick Ivanovic /
John Mandrick

Family of Lloyd Cotner at his death.



Luke Ellison, Army National Guard, Syria (nephew of Mark & Susan Foutz)
Lt. Tim Cassel, Coast Guard, Valdez, AK (son of Glen & Norma Beyer)
Lt. J.G. Eric Strommel, Kings Bay, Subbase, GA
Lt. Col. Laura Laskowski, Air Force Intelligence, stationed in Maryland at Ft. Meade
(daughter of Sue Whitman)

Components of an Effective Prayer

<u>"A"</u>	ADORATION	Worship of God, First for who He is, Second for all His benefits
<u>"C"</u>	CONFESSION	If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive and cleanse us from unrighteousness
<u>"T"</u>	THANKSGIVING	Gratitude to GOD for His blessings
<u>"S"</u>	SUPPLICATION	Expressing our petitions to GOD for individual and specific needs and desires

Keeping Our Prayer List Up to Date ...

*Call our Church Office to add friends and family to our prayer list.
We often can all use as many prayers as we can get.*