

TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GLENDORA  
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
May 14, 2023

Identity: God’s and Yours

As We Gather

Who am I? Who are you? Who is God? These are questions surrounding identity—questions we and others wrestle with on and off throughout our lives as we live through life’s chapters that may include being a child, sibling, spouse, parent, employee, employer, hobbyist, or retiree, with the spiritual journey that accompanies them. These identity questions also have added meaning today as the society we live in especially wrestles with one’s identity. When God baptizes us into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we receive our most important identity as a baptized child of God.

PREPARATION

816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies, Let the Creator’s praise arise;  
Alleluia, alleluia! Let the Redeemer’s name be sung  
Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; Eternal truth attends Thy Word.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore  
Till suns shall rise and set no more. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- D 3 All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Whom with the Spirit we adore  
Forever and forevermore: Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences *John 14:19b; Acts 17:28; Romans 6:3–4*

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
P Jesus said, “Because I live, you also will live.”  
C **In Him we live and move and have our being.**  
P Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?  
C **We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.**  
P Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Confession and Absolution

- P Let us confess our sins to God, our Father, seeking His forgiveness through our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.  
C **Heavenly Father, creator of all that was, is, and will ever be, we confess to You that we fall short of the calling that we have received from You, as Your dearly loved children. We have struggled to share the reason for the hope we have in You. We have not always responded to others with gentleness and respect. We have failed to live and share the love we have first received from You. Forgive our sins, for Jesus’ sake, and lead us to live lives that reflect Your indwelling presence.**  
P Our God hears our prayers and forgives our sins because of Jesus’ perfect life, death, and resurrection. At the command of Christ and through the power of the cross and the empty tomb, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace!  
C **Alleluia! Amen.**

WORD

Introit *Psalm 119:89–93; antiphon: v. 105*

- C **Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**  
P Forever, O LORD, Your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.  
C **Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You have established the earth, and it stands fast.**  
P By Your appointment they stand this day, for all things are Your servants.  
C **If Your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.**  
P I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have given me life.  
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

Kyrie C Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

392 God Loves Me Dearly

- 1 God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me. *Refrain*  
*ref Therefore I’ll say again: God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.*
- 2 I was in slav’ry, Sin, death, and darkness;  
God’s love was working, To make me free. *Refrain*
- 3 He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,  
He sent forth Jesus, And set me free. *Refrain*

- 4 Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;  
Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed. *Refrain*
- 5 Now I will praise You, O Love Eternal;  
Now I will praise You, All my life long. *Refrain*

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.  
Ever-living God, in You we live and move and have our being. We praise and thank You for creating us in Your image and for restoring our sin-stained selves to that image through the waters of Baptism. Lead and guide us by Your Spirit, as we live out our days so that others may come to know who You are; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

First Reading *Acts 17:16–31*

<sup>16</sup>While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup>Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup>And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup>For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” <sup>21</sup>Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup>And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup>that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup>for

“‘In him we live and move and have our being’;  
as even some of your own poets have said,  
“‘For we are indeed his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup>Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup>The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

P Christ has risen from the dead.

C **God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.**

P He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

C **He has put all things under His feet.**

Epistle *1 Peter 3:13–22*

<sup>13</sup>Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse *Romans 6:9; John 16:33b*

P Alleluia.

C **We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.**

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *John 14:15–21*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

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

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup>even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children’s Message

821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion, Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation, Has redeemed us by His blood.”
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans, Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received Him, When the forty days were o’er,  
Shall our hearts forget His promise: “I am with you evermore”?
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! Here the sinful, Flee to You from day to day.  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea  
Where the songs of all the sinless, Sweep across the crystal sea.
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary, Earth Your footstool, heav’n Your throne.  
As within the veil You entered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,  
Here on earth both priest and victim, In the eucharistic feast.
- 5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion, Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation, Has redeemed us by His blood.”

Sermon

Apostles’ Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at**

**the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offering

477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

- 1 Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
He who on the cross a victim, For the world’s salvation bled—  
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.
- 2 Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:  
See the ancient pow’rs of evil, In confusion and retreat;  
Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore,  
Jesus Christ, the world’s Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.
- △3 Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:  
Alleluia to the Savior, Who has gained the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity!  
Alleluia, alleluia, To the triune Majesty!

Prayer of the Church

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray with boldness and confidence because we know He hears our prayers because Christ is risen!
- C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P Heavenly Father, we praise and thank You for sending Your Son to die and rise again for the sins of the world. We praise and thank You for sending the Holy Spirit, who calls us by the Gospel, gathers us around Your Word and Sacraments, enlightens us with Your truth, and sanctifies and keeps us in the true faith. Christ is risen!
- C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P Creator God, You have created this world and everything in it, as well as each person who lives in it. In You we live and move and have our being, and You continue to provide for our daily needs of body and life. Lead us as we steward the resources and relationships You generously give us. Guide us to see all people as Your masterpieces. Christ is risen!
- C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P O Jesus, You know intimately the challenges we face and the griefs we bear in this life. Hear us as we pray for those who are hurting and grieving, [especially . . .]. Give them strength and healing according to Your good and gracious will. Christ is risen!
- C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Lord God, You have placed us in a community where there are people who have never known You or who no longer are connected to Your Church. Guide us, as You guided Paul and others, to seize the opportunities to share the reason for the hope we have, doing this with gentleness and respect. Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Almighty God, You are the King of all creation and the fount of all wisdom. We pray for all the world’s leaders and ask that You guide them according to Your will and Your ways as they make decisions for the good of all. We especially pray for our president, vice president, governor, mayor, and all those who work in government. Watch over their lives, and guide them in the decisions they are called to make on our behalf. Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Gracious God, we thank You for making us male and female and for creating families with a loving father and a mother. We grieve for those who do not experience life according to Your design and for those who experience abandonment, abuse, and neglect. We celebrate with those who experience Your love in their families. Today, we especially remember our mothers. We remember those in whose wombs you knit us together. We remember those You have worked through to provide us comfort, wise counsel, care, and discipline throughout the different stages of our lives. We ask Your blessing on all mothers, that they experience Your love and are shaped by it in their parenting. Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

653 In Christ There Is No East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north,  
But one great fellowship of love, Throughout the whole wide earth.

2 With God there is no tribe or race; In Him we all are one.  
He loves us as His children through, Our faith in His dear Son.

3 So, brothers, sisters, praise His name, Who died to set us free  
From sin, division, hate, and shame, From spite and enmity!

4 Join hands, disciples of the faith, Whate’er your race may be;  
Who serves my Father as His child, Is surely kin to me.

5 In Christ now meet both east and west; In Him meet south and north.  
All Christian souls are one in Him, Throughout the whole wide earth.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.  
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