

Bethany Lutheran Leaders' Guide – DS I

May 10th, 2026 (0830)

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Piano Prelude- Christ is Our Cornerstone arranged by Jerry van der Pol and Dan Forrest

Ringing of the Bells

Call To Worship & Announcements

Opening Hymn

LSB#556

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice *sts. 1–5*

1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, With exultation springing,
And with united heart and voice And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God has done, How His right arm the vict'ry won.
What price our ransom cost Him!

2 Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay; Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day; In sin my mother bore me.
But daily deeper still I fell; My life became a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.

3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or merit gaining;
Free will against God's judgment fought, Dead to all good remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair Left only death to be my share;
The pangs of hell I suffered.

4 But God had seen my wretched state Before the world's foundation,
And mindful of His mercies great, He planned for my salvation.
He turned to me a father's heart; He did not choose the easy part
But gave His dearest treasure.

5 God said to His beloved Son: "It's time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they
May live with You forever."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt., ext: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *I John 1:8-9*

Please take a moment of silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit (*He enters into*)

From Psalm 119

P Your word is a lamp to my feet

C and a light to my path.

Forever, O LORD, your word

is firmly fixed in the heavens.

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;

you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

By your appointment they stand this day,

for all things are your servants.

If your law had not been my delight,

I would have perished in my affliction.

I will never forget your precepts,

for by them you have given me life.

**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.**

Kyrie (*Lord, have mercy.*)

Mark 10:47

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C ♩ Lord, have mercy.

- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
C ♪ **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** 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.
C ♪ **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C ♪ **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C ♪ **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

- C** ♪ **This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
- Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
- Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
- For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

II Timothy 4:22

- P** The Lord be with you.
C ♪ **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray...O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C ♪ **Amen**

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So 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. ¹⁸Some 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. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For 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. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And 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, ²⁷that 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, ²⁸for

“‘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.’

²⁹Being 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. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because 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.

Choral Gradual- *Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands* by Michael Praetorius

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but 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; ¹⁶yet 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. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸For 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, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because 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. ²¹Baptism, 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, ²²who 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.

Choral Gradual- *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands* by Michael Praetorius

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68

C ♪ **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

(John 14:15-21)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

C ♪ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁵[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even 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.

¹⁸“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever 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

Hymn of the Day

LSB#556

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice *sts. 6–10*

6 The Son obeyed His Father’s will, Was born of virgin mother;
And God’s good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother.
His royal pow’r disguised He bore; A servant’s form, like mine, He wore
To lead the devil captive.

7 To me He said: “Stay close to Me, I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I Myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, and you are Mine, And where I am you may remain;
The foe shall not divide us.

8 “Though he will shed My precious blood, Me of My life bereaving,
All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing.
Life will from death the vict’ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin,
And you are blest forever.

9 “Now to My Father I depart, From earth to heav’n ascending,
And, heav’nly wisdom to impart, The Holy Spirit sending;
In trouble He will comfort you And teach you always to be true
And into truth shall guide you.

10 “What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and teaching;
So shall the kingdom’s work be wrought And honored in your preaching.
But watch lest foes with base alloy The heav’nly treasure should destroy;
This final word I leave you.”

Sermon

Offertory (*From Divine Service: Setting III - p.192*)

C ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

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.

Prayers of the Church

The 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.

Luther's Morning Prayer

1529 A.D.

P Together we pray...

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that you would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

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

C ♫ **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

LSB#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!

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Postlude- *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* arranged by Gordon Young

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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