



# St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Pastor Ryan Cortright

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## Easter 6

*MAY 13, 2012*

### OUR THEME FOR WORSHIP: **CHRIST IS OUR SOURCE OF LOVE**

**W**elcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word.

- **Welcome Worshiper Cards** are located in the book racks. Please fill one out and place it in the offering plate later in the service.
- **Restrooms** are located in the entryway.
- **A Nursery room** is available for parents with small children.

### **PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

Heavenly Father, remind me of your unending love for me today. Help me reflect the love you have shown me by giving me opportunities to love others. On this Mother's Day, I especially thank you for your gift of mothers and the love they show. Amen

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Flowers adorning our altar this morning are given to the glory of God by Milt and Mary Maxheimer in celebration of Milt's birthday and their daughter Robin's birthday, and by the Funk family in celebration of Kendall's birthday.

**Minister:** Pastor Ryan Cortright

**Organist:** Dan Kreger

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**OPENING HYMN**

**Love in Christ Is Strong and Living**  
*Christian Worship #490*

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your un failing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

**PRAYER AND PRAISE**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



At the Lamb's high feast\_\_\_\_\_ we sing      Praise to our vic -  
Might - y Vic - tim from\_\_\_\_\_ the sky,      Hell's fierce pow'rs be -  
Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy!      This a - lone can  
Fa - ther, who the crown\_\_\_\_\_ shall give,      Sa - vior, by whose



to - rious King,      Who has washed us in the tide  
neath\_\_\_\_\_ you lie.      You have con - quered in the fight;  
sin\_\_\_\_\_ de - stroy;      From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
death\_\_\_\_\_ we live,      Spi - rit, guide through all our days,



Flow - ing from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
You have brought us life and light. Al - le - lu - ia!  
New - born souls in you to be. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Three in One, your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** *The children are invited to come to the front.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

**Acts 11:19-26**

<sup>19</sup>Now those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews. <sup>20</sup>Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup>The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

<sup>22</sup>News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch.

<sup>23</sup>When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. <sup>24</sup>He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

<sup>25</sup>Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, <sup>26</sup>and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.



*Refrain*



Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done mar-vel-ous things.

*Psalm Tone*



Sing to the LORD a new song

**For he has done marvelous things.**

The LORD has made his salvation known

**And revealed his righteousness to the nations.**

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel;

**All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

*Refrain*

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,

**Burst into jubilant song with music;**

Make music to the Lord with the harp,

**With the harp and the sound of singing.**

Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.

**He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.**

**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.**

*Refrain*

## THE SECOND LESSON

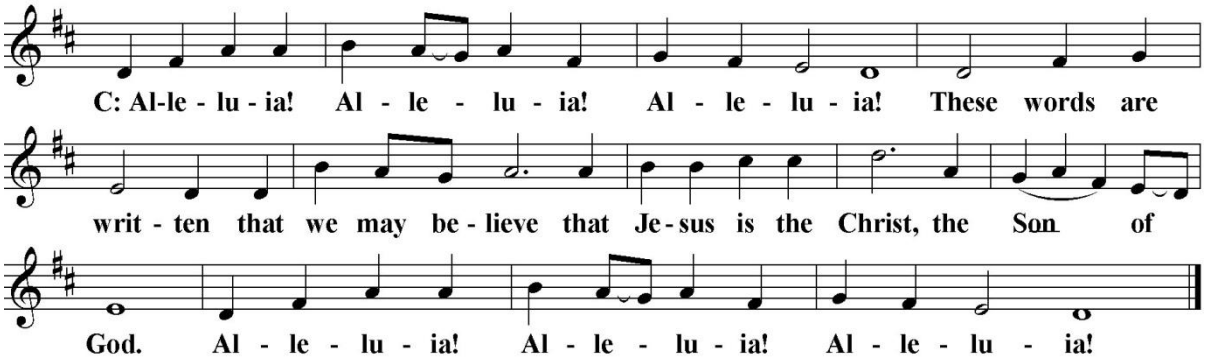
1 John 4:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

<sup>4</sup>You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

## VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! These words are  
writ - ten that we may be - lieve that Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of  
God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

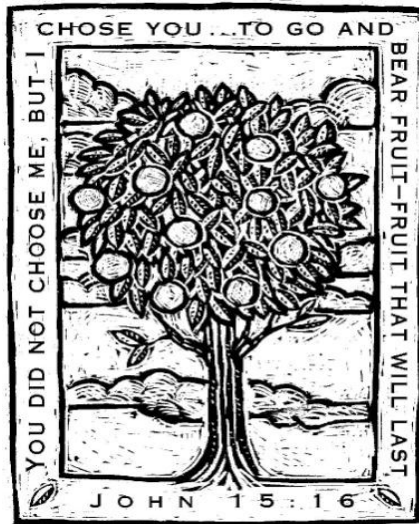
## THE GOSPEL LESSON

**John 15:9-17**

<sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father’s commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup>I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit —fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. <sup>17</sup>This is my command: Love each other.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



HYMN OF THE DAY

The Love of Christ, Who Died for Me

Christian Worship Supplement#749



1 The love of Christ, who died for me Is  
2 My sins I on - ly see in part, My  
3 O liv - ing Lord of life, for whom The



more than mind can know, His  
self - re - gard - ing ways; The  
heav - ens held their breath, To



mer - cy mea - sure - less and free To  
se - cret pla - ces of my heart Lie  
see, tri - um - phant from the tomb, A



meet the debt I owe. He  
bare be - fore his gaze. For  
love that con - quers death, Pos -



came my sin - ful cause to plead; He  
me the price of sin he paid; My  
sess my heart that it may be Your



laid his glo - ries by, For  
sins be - yond re - call Are  
king - dom with - out end, O



me a home - less life to lead, A  
 all a - like on Je - sus laid, He  
 Christ who died for love of me And



shame - ful death to die.  
 died to bear them all.  
 lives to be my friend.

**THE SERMON**

**1 John 4:1-11**

**Authentic Christianity is Marked by True Teaching**

**THE APOSTLES CREED**

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there 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.**

## THE OFFERING

*The members of St, Peter Congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.*

## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Spoken by the minister*

## THE LORD'S 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.**

## HYMN

**Blest Be the Tie that Binds**  
*Christian Worship #494*

## PRAYER AND BLESSING

**M:** Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



## CLOSING HYMN

**What a Friend We Have in Jesus**  
*Christian Worship #411*

On Sunday, **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** we will be having our annual  
Friendship Sunday  
along with our  
Church Picnic.  
Worship will be at  
**10:00am**  
and the picnic will follow.

*Who could you invite to come?*