

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

06/02/2024

Greg Fetzer, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P 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.

C **Amen**

P 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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage 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**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

C **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN [ELW#607 "Come, Ye Disconsolate"](#)

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: [This is the Feast](#)



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



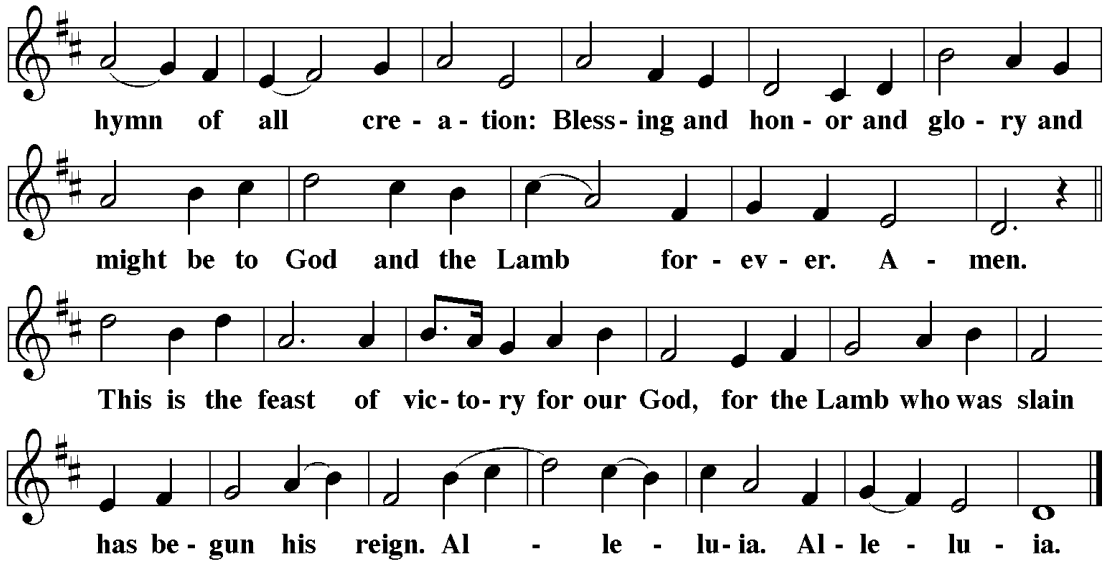
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and
 might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
 has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Gracious God, in Jesus, all of your plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in him. Give us the wisdom to know the power and hope of the risen Christ in our own lives.

C **Amen**

Please be seated.

EPHESIANS 1

L A reading from Ephesians: ¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to

the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF THE DAY [ELW#416 "At the Name of Jesus"](#)

SERMON: [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#)

Please stand, as you are able.

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

L We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

L Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach your faithful people to be attentive to the weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible acts of mercy and justice. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Provide wholeness and respite to all who struggle in any way and those who care for them. We pray for Beth, Heidi Brackbill, Parker Brennan, Rebecca Brennan, Michelle

Drayson, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Mary Goehring, Mark Hughes, the Johnson family, Robert Karner, Charles Larsen, Charlotte Leer, the McNamara family, Donna Mayhew, Wendy Neumann, Julie Obie, Peter Olsen, Dottie Reitz, Robert Reitz, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, Jack Smith, MaKenzie Snyder, the Spiegler family, Tom, Chuck Trautwein, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

L Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries and Little Free Pantries. Open both our hearts and our tables. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

L We remember the communion of saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

L Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

C Amen

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING*: ([On-Line giving Link](#))

The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.

RESPONSE: ["Create in Me"](#)

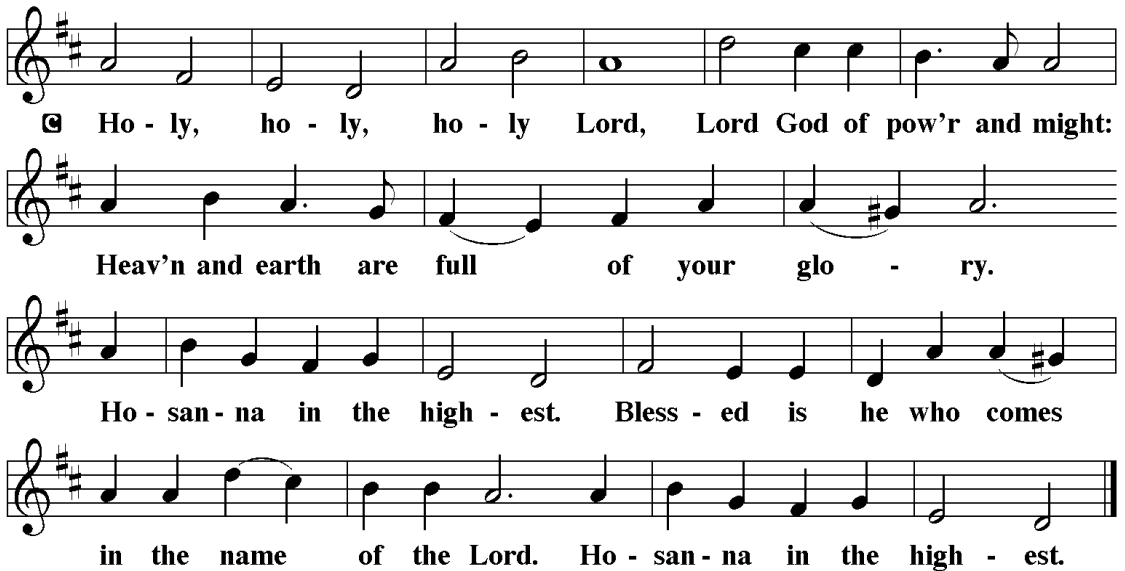
C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
 it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
 joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface; the congregation responds:



♩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on

the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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**

P The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for the table is now ready.

C Thanks be to God.

After all have communed, the following is sung:

RESPONSE: ["Lamb of God"](#)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please stand, as you are able.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

G Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

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 + give you peace.
C Amen

SENDING HYMN [ELW#660 "Lift High the Cross"](#)

P Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

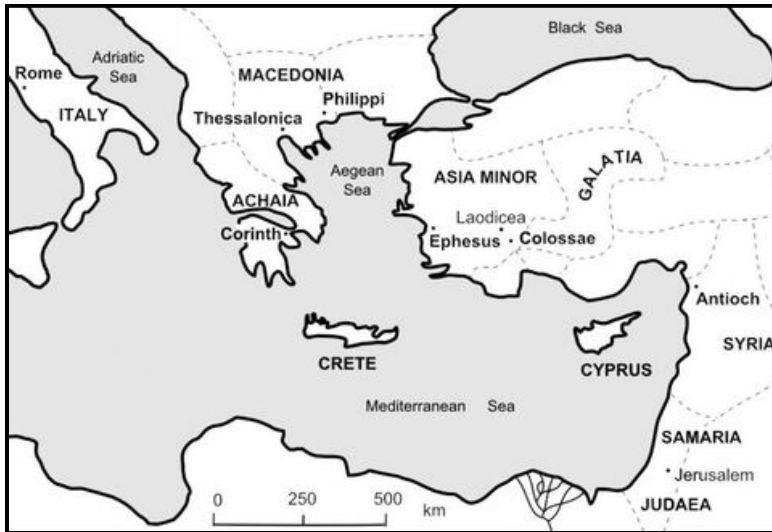
ANNOUNCEMENTS and Upcoming Events

- Sunday, June 9 at 10:30am: Spring picnic to honor the years of service and commitment of Dr. Robert "Bob" C. Hardy
- Sunday, June 16 at 9:30am: Outdoor Worship
- Sunday, July 14 at 9:30am: Outdoor Worship
- Sunday, August 11 at 9:30am: Outdoor Worship

*Offering to be sent to
Robert Brackbill
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church
9122 Sybert Drive
Columbia Hills
Ellicott City, MD 21043
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291



'Ephesians' has something for everybody. You got your epic, over-the-top, poetic hymn of praise for God's almighty work in Jesus Christ (chapters one and two). You got your "gospel in a nutshell" (Eph 2:8-10; worth memorizing). You got your "Christ the cornerstone" (Eph 2:19-22). You got your "one body... one Spirit... one hope... one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all" (Eph 4:4-6). You got your vision for "equipping the saints for the work of the ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ" (Eph 4:11-16). You got your wives and husbands submitting themselves to each other (Eph 5:21-23; read it carefully). And you got your "whole armor of God": belt, breastplate, shoes, shield, helmet, and sword. That is, you got one big, slicin'-'n'-dicin' sword of the Spirit, a.k.a. the word of God. That's what you got. So, again, Ephesians has something for everybody. That's why it was probably crafted for circulation among many congregations, rather than for one specific congregation. One more thing: You also got some language that's similar to the language in letters that were written by Paul, as well as some language that suggests another hand. But if Ephesians was apostolic enough for those early Christians, then it's apostolic enough for us!' from Rolf Jacobson, et al. *Crazy Book: A Not-So-Stuffy Dictionary of Biblical Terms, Revised and Expanded Edition*. Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2019.



Upcoming Preaching Texts

June 9	3 Pentecost	Ephesians 2
June 16	4 Pentecost	Ephesians 3
June 23	5 Pentecost	Ephesians 4
June 30	6 Pentecost	Ephesians 5
July 7	7 Pentecost	Ephesians 6



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