

**Seventh Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day
May 12, 2024**



Thought: Mother's Day is not a religious observance which is why no particular Bible text is given. Having said that several thoughts: When Jesus was upon the cross, he looked down saw his mother and disciple From John 18:25-28 *Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.*

Family, love and relationships have a focus in mothers or those who fill that role. Thanks be to God for their nurture and desire to keep a family together.

Prelude – Jill Rimington

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

P: May we all share the peace that provides strength and nurture in our communities, families and world. Peace be with you!

C: And also with you.

Call to Worship

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

C: May all that is within us bless God's holy name.

L: Let us praise God with our heart and mind and voices.

C: And come into God's presence with joy and gladness.

L: God's steadfast love endures forever.

C: May all that is within us bless God's holy name.

Opening Hymn – “Our Father, by Whose Name”

ELW #640

<https://youtu.be/lbjKcg1zbgQ>

by John David Edwards

Mother's Day Liturgy



P: Lord, on this day set aside to honor and remember mothers, we give you thanks for our mothers. We are grateful that you chose to give us life through them, and that they received the gift of life from your hands and gave it to us. Thank you for the sacrifices they made in carrying us and giving us birth.

We thank you for the women who raised us, who were our mothers in childhood. Whether birth mom, adopted mom, older sister, aunt, grandmother, stepmother or someone else, we thank you for those women who held us and fed us, who cared for us and kissed away our pain. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us, and that they would be pleased to be called our moms.

L: We pray for older moms whose children are grown.

C: Grant them joy and satisfaction for a job well done.

L: We pray for new moms experiencing changes they could not predict.

C: Grant them rest and peace as they trust you for the future.

L: We pray for pregnant women who will soon be moms.

C: Grant them patience and good counsel in the coming months.

L: We pray for moms who face the demands of single parenthood.

C: Grant them strength and wisdom.

L: We pray for moms who enjoy financial abundance.

C: Grant them time to share with their families.

L: We pray for moms who are raising their children in poverty.

C: Grant them relief and justice.

L: We pray for step-moms.

C: Grant them patience and understanding and love.

L: We pray for moms who are separated from their children.

C: Grant them faith and hope.

L: We pray for moms in marriages that are in crisis.

C: Grant them support and insight.

L: We pray for moms who have lost children.

C: Grant them comfort in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

L: We pray for moms who gave up their children for adoption.

C: Grant them peace and confidence as they trust in your providence.

L: We pray for adoptive mothers.

C: Grant them joy and gratitude for the gift you have provided.

L: We pray for girls and women who think about being moms.

C: Grant them wisdom and discernment.

L: We pray for all women who have assumed the mother's role in a child's life.

C: Grant them joy and the appreciation of others.

L: We pray for those people present who are grieving the loss of their mother in the past year.

C: Grant them comfort and hope in Christ's resurrection.

P: Prayer of blessing: Lord, we thank you for the gift of motherhood. We thank you for the many examples of faithful mothers in scripture, like Sarah, Hannah, Elizabeth, and Lois. Hear now the first names of other women who have inspired us by their motherly examples . . . We are mindful this day of all these women, and especially Mary the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, who had the courage in faith to say "yes" to your calling. May these women gathered here today emulate these examples of faith. And may they model for all the rest of us what it means to be your disciple. Bless them on this special day; in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: 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 and Amen.

Hymn of Praise – "Dearest Jesus, at Your Word" ELW #520 vss. 1-3

https://youtu.be/4VNmJU_bGzw

by Salem Lutheran in MD

Prayer of the Day

L: Gracious and glorious God, you have chose us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil.

C: By your Spirit transform us and your beloved word, 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.

Preparing for the Word

L: Isaiah 66:13 – *As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you.*

C: Isaiah 49:15 – *Can a mother forget her nursing Child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne?*

L: Proverbs 31:25 – *She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.*

The Word

First Reading – Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Adding to the eleven – Matthias

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 139:1-18

Mother and Child in God's hands

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

² You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

³ You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

⁵ You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

⁷ Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me,

¹² even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

Second reading – Colossians 3:12-17

Clothe yourselves with love

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord^[a] has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ^[b] rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ^[c] dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.^[d] ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Holy Gospel – John 17:6-19

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=8b04k7AEKBI&si=5X3w6Digg66LsaUw>

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you O Lord.**

Not out of the world, but I ask you to protect them

[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.**

Children of God Time

https://youtube.com/watch?v=315F989a6E&si=L06MeMM9fII7q_-i

Message – “Easier Said Than Done”

https://youtube.com/watch?v=tw0uupRnzPw&si=jpqE_ae8RV2W3_I8

Hymn of the Day – “All Are Welcome” ELW #641

<https://youtu.be/FhPnjA7wslY>

by Joy Everingham

Apostles’ Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead,
on the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

L: You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons (*especially*) to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction (*especially*). Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith (*especially*). Inspire us by their witness. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

Offering/Offertory Hymn – “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”
ELW #631 vss. 1&4

Offertory Prayer

L: Heavenly Father, through the suffering, death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ,

C: We have been bought with a price.

L: We do not belong to the world.

C: We are yours.

L: Accept these offerings –

C: they are gifts to you from your own people.

L: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

Consecration

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.

Distribution

Communion Music – Jill Rimington

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

L: Lord Jesus Christ, we have shared your one bread,

C: your one body,

L: with all Christians, everywhere.

C: Unify your people. Make us one –

L: one in you. You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction from Numbers 6 – Pastor

Sending Hymn – “Day by Day” ELW #790

<https://youtu.be/cZyC5b6S6Ls>
by Fountain View Academy

Dismissal

L: As family in the Lord through the Love of God in Christ, may we continue to build that love in each other. Family, extended family and all the different ways a family can be made strong in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude – Jill Rimmington

