

# WHEN OUR ***PLANS*** FALL THROUGH



A SERIES FOR THE EASTER SEASON

**UNDERSTAND SCRIPTURE  
UNDERSTAND GOD'S PLAN**

*Seventh Sunday of Easter  
9:00 & 10:15 am May 24, 2020*



# ROCK OF AGES

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### **Welcome to our guests!**

- It is our prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace which only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Large print service folders and hearing assistance devices are available.
- Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.
- Bible study groups are not meeting today but may resume soon.
- Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from nursery in entry area.
- If you are new here please leave your contact information with our pastor so that we might be able to alert you in case the spread of illness is detected.
- We are part of a world-wide Christian ministry and support the gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. You can also visit [wels.net](http://wels.net)





# Morning Praise

*Morning Praise is based on the historic service called "Matins." Joined to Christ, our risen Lord, we glorify God as we rise to the activities of this new day.*

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## Greeting

## The Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Rite

*Christian Worship 183 with responsive readings*

♪ **Holy Spirit, Light divine,  
Shine upon this heart of mine;  
Chase the gloom of night away;  
Turn the darkness into day.**

Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead,  
**and Christ will shine on you.** (Ephesians 5)

We join with the saints before us as we confess our sins to our merciful God:  
**Lord, the great and awesome God, we have sinned and done  
wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned  
away from your commands and laws. We have not listened to you as  
we ought. Forgive us all our sins. We do not make requests of you  
because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy.** (Daniel 9)

♪ **Holy Spirit, Love divine,  
Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;  
In your mercy pity me;  
From sin's bondage set me free.**

The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him.

**He sent his only Son, Jesus the Christ, to live and die in our place.**

By his wounds, you are healed. By his holy blood shed on the cross you are set free from sin's curse. By his resurrection you are declared innocent. By the washing with water and the Spirit you have been clothed with righteousness. Jesus your redeemer now lives forever. Born again in your baptism and connected to Christ through faith all your sins are forgiven; everlasting joy, life, and peace are yours.

♪ **Holy Spirit, Joy divine,  
Cheer this saddened heart of mine;  
Fill me with your heav'nly peace;  
Let it grow and still increase.**

Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
**and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Do not cast me from your presence  
**or take your Holy Spirit from me.**

Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
**and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

♪ **Holy Spirit, Pow'r divine,  
Dwell within this heart of mine;  
Cast down ev'ry idol throne;  
Reign supreme and reign alone.**

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price.

**Therefore honor God with your bodies.** (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God

**This is true and proper worship.**

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—

**his good, pleasing and perfect will.** (Romans 12)

♪ **See, to you I give my heart;  
Cleanse my life in ev'ry part;  
Your own temple I would be  
Now and for eternity.**

## Response of Praise

O Lord, open my lips.

**And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

Hasten to save me, O God.

**O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

♪ Christ is risen, let us worship him.

## Psalm 95

Come, Let Us Worship And Bow Down -*Venite*



Come, let us wor-ship and— bow down, let us



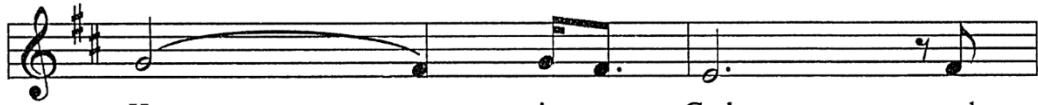
kneel before the Lord, our God, our Mak - er.



Come, let us wor-ship and— bow down, let us



kneel before the Lord, our God, our Mak - er. For



He \_\_\_\_\_ is our God, and



we are the peo - ple of His pas - ture, and the



sheep \_\_\_\_\_ of His hand, just the



sheep \_\_\_\_\_ of His hand.

## First Lesson

Acts 1:1-14

*Jesus outlined his plan for his Church before he ascended into heaven.*

I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching <sup>2</sup>until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me. <sup>5</sup>For

John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup>So when they were together with him, they asked, “Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

<sup>7</sup>He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

<sup>9</sup>After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. <sup>11</sup>They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.

<sup>13</sup>When they entered the city, they went to the upstairs room where they were staying. Peter and John were there, also James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. <sup>14</sup>All of them kept praying together with one mind, along with the women, with Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 143

*Christian Worship page 118*

*Refrain*

Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.



O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;  
**in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.**

Do not bring your servant into judgment,  
**for no one living is righteous before you.**

My spirit grows faint within me;  
**my heart within me is dismayed.**

♪ **Lord, let our mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

Answer me quickly, O LORD;  
**Do not hide your face from me**

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,  
**for I have put my trust in you.**

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;  
**may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**

**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.**

♪ **Lord, let Your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

## **Second Lesson**

1 Peter 4:12-17; 5:6-11

*For a time, we may be humbled, but God's plan is to lift us up.*

Dear friends, do not be surprised by the fiery trial that is happening among you to test you, as if something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>Instead rejoice



whenever you are sharing in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

<sup>14</sup>If you are insulted in connection with the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. <sup>15</sup>Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup>But if you suffer for being a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God in connection with this name. <sup>17</sup>For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God. Now if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who disobey the gospel of God?

<sup>6</sup>Therefore humble yourselves under God's powerful hand so that he may lift you up at the appointed time. <sup>7</sup>Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

<sup>8</sup>Have sound judgment. Be alert. Your adversary, the Devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him by being firm in the faith. You know that the same kinds of sufferings are being laid on your brotherhood all over the world.

<sup>10</sup>After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who called you into his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will himself restore, establish, strengthen, and support you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

## Children's Message

*All children 5th grade and under are invited to come to the front area. Helpers or parents are welcome to join them.*

## Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

*God opens our minds to understand his plan written in the Scriptures.*

He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He said to them, "This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

<sup>50</sup>He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup>And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup>They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

## Seasonal Response

The Lord is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Death has been swallowed up in victory.

**Alleluia!**

## Hymn of the Day

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

*Christian Worship 171:1-3*

*This seventh century hymn focus on Jesus' Ascension*

♪ **A hymn of glory let us sing!**

**New songs throughout the world shall ring:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Christ, by a road before untrod,**

**Ascends unto the throne of God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**2. The holy apostolic band**

**Upon the Mount of Olives stand,**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And with his followers they see**

**Their Lord ascend in majesty.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**3. To them the shining angels cry,**

**"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**"This is the Savior," thus they say.**

**"This is his glorious triumph day."  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**4. "You see him now, ascending high  
Up to the portals of the sky."**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**"Hereafter Jesus you shall see  
Returning in great majesty."**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **Sermon**

Luke 24:44-53

### What Do We Do When Our Plans Fall Through?

Apr 19: When we're locked in a room. (Jn 20:19-31)

Apr 26: When all we can do is go for a walk. (Lk 24:13-35)

May 3: When we don't want to listen. (Jn 10:1-10)

May 10: When our hearts are troubled. (Jn 14:1-12)

May 17: When we're feeling isolated and alone. (Jn 14:15-21)

May 24: **When our minds don't understand God's plans.** (Lk 24:44-53)

## **Confession of Faith**

We Praise You, O God

*Te Deum Laudamus*

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;  
**all creation worships you, Father everlasting.**

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim, sing in  
endless praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full  
of your glory.**

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

**The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.**

The white robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:

**Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

**When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.**

You overcame the sting of death

**and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.**

You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

**We believe that you will come to be our judge.**

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood,

**and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting. Amen.**

## Offerings Gathered

*Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our national church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

### Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*



**M:** In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



C: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## 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.**

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Special Prayers

*Special prayers are spoken concluding with ...through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.*

**Amen**

## Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Closing Doxology**

*Jude 24-25*

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault, and with great joy, to the only God, our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority through Jesus Christ, our Lord before all ages, now and forevermore.

**Amen.**

## **Hymn of the Day**

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

*Christian Worship 171:5-6*

**5. Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,  
And be our future great reward.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Then, throned with you forever, we  
Shall praise your name eternally.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**6. O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
All praise to you let earth accord.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**You are, while endless ages run,  
With Father and with Spirit one.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"**

**Please take this service copy home with you today**

## **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Remember with Prayer**

- Chuck Hintze, who was hospitalized last week with an infection in his pancreas and is now returned home; that God continue to strengthen him.
- Don Olsen, who had a heart valve replacement and received a pacemaker this past week; thanks to God for a successful procedure; that he continues to bless Dan and provide a good result. *(Dan and Jacque Olsen will be joining us soon as members at Rock of Ages soon.)*
- Mary Strong as she begins her treatment plan for cancer; that God sustain her and strengthen her through the difficult days ahead.
- Merle, friend of Don Ascoli, that God bless him with his new pacemaker.
- Thanks to God for the passing of the first round of the pandemic and providing safety for our community and congregation; that he graciously continues to keep us all in his care.
- Thanks to God for those who have died helping to protect us and preserve peace.

### **Attendance**

5/17 Sunday Worship: 51 (park and worship)

5/20 Youth Discipleship: 2

**Received in May:** \$10,429.32 *(to date)*

### **Healthy Habits**

Thank you for respecting your fellow worshippers by practicing social distancing habits. You are encouraged to socialize in the sanctuary area or outside rather than causing a crowded area in our narthex. Volunteers are sanitizing all shared touch points between services.

### **Contact Tracing**

If you are new here please leave your contact information with our pastor so that we might be able to alert you in case the spread of illness is detected.

## **CALENDAR**

*rockofages-payson.com/calendar*

### **Sunday, May 24 Easter 7**

9:00am Worship

10:15am Worship

### **Tuesday, May 26**

10:00am Youth Starting Point

### **Sunday, May 31 Pentecost**

9:00am Worship

10:15am Worship

### **Monday, June 1**

"Making Music" Program begins (9 weeks)

### **Serving This Week**

Flowers: *(sign-up in narthex)*

Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Barthel

Ushers: *(sign up in narthex)*

### **Lord's Supper**

After today we will be returning to our normal schedule for the Lord's Supper. We will celebrate Holy Communion the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. Special instructions will be given for our new method of distribution.

### **Teacher Installation**

Our student teacher for the summer, Sydney Peterson will be installed next Sunday in both services. She will serve as the main teacher for our 2020 Music Program. Sydney is studying music instruction at Martin Luther College.

### **Acknowledgments**

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