

# The Seventh Sunday of Easter

## May 17, 2026

### THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION (10:30) (Please see next page to prepare.)

Preface	p216
“Holy, Holy, Holy” vs. 1-2	#507
Lord’s Prayer	p217
Words of Institution and Pax Domini	p218
Agnus Dei	p198

### PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Because Holy Communion is an expression of our oneness in faith, we request that each person desiring to commune with us examine him/herself on the basis of these points of faith:

I believe that:

- + I am a sinner in need of God’s forgiveness.
- + Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan and death.
- + Jesus Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and
- + The bread and wine I receive are also the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.
- + All my sins are forgiven through this Sacrament.
- + As God enables me, I pledge to thank, praise, serve and obey Him.

Those who hold in common these teachings are invited to join us at the Lord’s Supper. If you are visiting us for the first time, or have questions or reservations about these points of faith, we invite you to speak with the Pastor before the service.

The lighter colored wine is non-alcoholic for those with special needs. Gluten-free wafers are also available on the small table as you approach the railing.

**Hymns during Distribution** — Please join in singing:

- “Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray” #623
- Special Music
- “O Jesus, Blessed Lord” #632

“O Lord, We Praise Thee” v. 1 #617  
Post-Communion Collect p218

### THE BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING HYMN — “Christ the Eternal Lord” vs. 4-5 #829

### THE POSTLUDE

✠ ✠ ✠

**WELCOME!** This Sunday is a bridge between the Ascension of Our Lord and Pentecost. Upon the Lord’s Ascension, the disciples were not left alone. They had the Word of the Lord and the promise of the Spirit to make known to them all that Jesus said and did. With the testimony of God’s Word and the witnesses to the Lord’s resurrection and ascension, the Church learned to trust in what the Lord had accomplished for their salvation and to be bold in witness to the truth of this Gospel. The Lord is still working in us through the testimony of His Word so that we may be His witnesses emboldened by the Spirit.

✠ ✠ ✠

### THE PRESERVICE MUSIC AND PRELUDE

### THE RINGING OF THE BELL AND PASTORAL GREETING

✠ THE PREPARATION ✠

THE OPENING HYMN — “Christ the Eternal Lord” vs. 1-3 #829

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (taken from D.S. V—p213)

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **Who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *Psalm 32:5*

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: **Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS—“All Glory Be to God on High” #947

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

## ✠ THE WORD ✠

### THE FIRST READING – Acts 1:12-26, ESV

Pew Bibles, page 1080

Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) "For it is written in the Book of Psalms, "May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it"; and "Let another take his office."

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

LECTOR: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### THE EPISTLE READING – 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11, ESV

Pew Bibles, page 1206

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

....Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be

watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

LECTOR: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE VERSE OF DOXOLOGY– "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#805

### THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – John 17:1-11 ESV

Pew Bibles p1075

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

"I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

p192

## THE SERMON HYMN – "Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus"

#529

## THE SERMON

### ✠ THE RESPONSE ✠

## THE HYMN OF RESPONSE – "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" v. 1, 4

#821

## THE SHARING OF THE PEACE AND TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

## THE GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS-

(8:00) Special Music

(10:30) Choir Anthem

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (8:00)