

As a mother comforts
her child, so will I
comfort you.

Isaiah 66:13



Sunday, May 14, 2023
Fifth Sunday in Easter / Mother's Day

Service Theme

He Lives and Blesses me through His Bride: the Church

On the day our nation celebrates motherhood, we remember our spiritual mother: the Church, whom the LORD lovingly calls his heavenly Jerusalem. She is the bride of Christ. Through her Gospel ministry of Word and Sacrament, the Holy Spirit has granted us a new spiritual birth, washes us clean from all sin, clothes us with Christ's righteousness, and preserves us in our faith until the Day Christ comes to take us to our everlasting home with him in paradise. Let us, therefore, thank God for our Spiritual mother, the Church, through whom our living Saviour richly blesses us.



1 Lord of the home, the Son you love
 2 Help us, O Lord, our homes to make
 3 We pray that all who with us dwell
 4 Teach us to keep our homes so fair
 5 Lord, may your Spir - it sanc - ti - fy



Re - ceived a moth - er's ten - der care,
 Your Ho - ly Spir - it's dwell - ing - place;
 Your love and joy and peace may know.
 That, were our Lord a child once more,
 Each house - hold du - ty we ful - fill.



A fa - ther's strength like yours a - bove,
 Our hands and hearts' de - vo - tion take
 And while our lips your prais - es tell,
 He might be glad our hearth to share
 May we our Sav - ior glo - ri - fy



A home with warmth and kind - ness there.
 To be the ser - vants of your grace.
 May faith - ful lives your glo - ry show.
 And find a wel - come at our door.
 With glad o - be - dience to your will.

Opening Prayer

M: In the name of Jesus our Lord and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we call on you, dear heavenly Father:

C: Hear us for Your name's sake.

M: We approach you confidently at the beginning of this day, for we rely on Jesus, our Redeemer, for the full forgiveness of sins:

C: Receive our thankful worship for His sake.

M: By the Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of You and of Your will for our lives. Fill our hearts with joy and peace into eternity:

C: In You, O Lord, have we taken refuge; never let us be ashamed.

M: O Lord, our Rock and our Fortress, assure us that because you live, we shall live also:

C: In You we hope: Our praise is for You. Amen

M: Let us pray:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we commend to your care all the homes where your people live. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, moderation, patience, and goodness. Bind together in enduring affection those who have become one in marriage. Let children and parents have full respect and affection for one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 66:10-14 (NIV84)

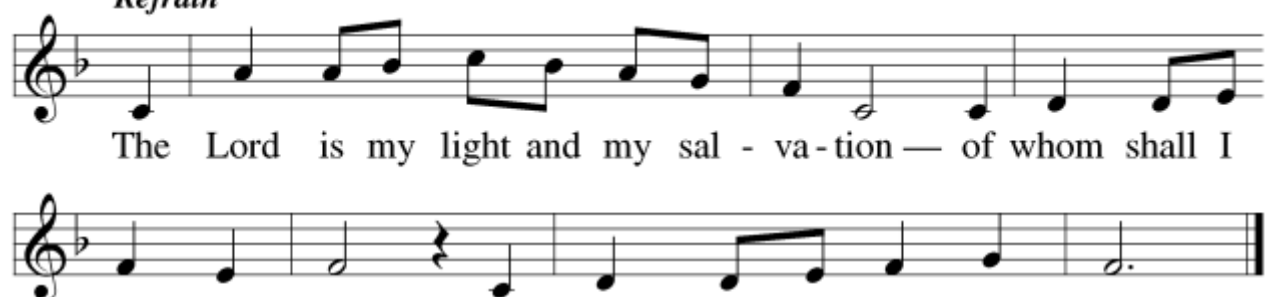
Jerusalem (the Church) is described as our spiritual mother through whom the LORD spiritually nourishes and blesses us.

¹⁰ "Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice greatly with her, all you who mourn over her. ¹¹ For you will nurse and be satisfied at her comforting breasts; you will drink deeply and delight in her overflowing abundance." ¹² For this is what the LORD says: "I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be

carried on her arm and dandled on her knees. ¹³ As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem." ¹⁴ When you see this, your heart will rejoice and you will flourish like grass; the hand of the LORD will be made known to his servants, but his fury will be shown to his foes.


Psalm 27
(page 75)

Refrain



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion — of whom shall I
be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

Psalm tone



*

Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;*
be merciful to me and answer me.

Do not hide your face from me,*
do not turn your servant away in
anger;
you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,*
O God my Savior.

Refrain

Though my father and mother forsake
me,*
the LORD will receive me.

I am still confident of this:*

I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD;*

be strong and take heart and wait for
the LORD.

**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

Epistle

Revelation 21:9-11, 22-27 (EHV)

Jerusalem symbolizes the Church. She will be revealed as Christ's glorious bride on the Last Day in and through whom Jesus blesses believers with his presence forever.

⁹One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls that were filled with the seven last plagues came and spoke with me. He said, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

¹⁰He carried me away in spirit to a great and high mountain, and he showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹It has the glory of God. Its radiance is similar to a very precious stone, like crystal-clear jasper...

²²I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³The city does not

need the sun or the moon to shine on it, because the glory of God has given it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵There is no day when its gates will be shut, for there will be no night in that place. ²⁶They will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. ²⁷Nothing that is unclean and no one who does what is detestable or who tells lies will ever enter it, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia! Alleluia! The LORD says, "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!" Alleluia. (Isaiah 49:15)

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!

Gospel

Mark 3:31–35 (EHV)

Jesus declares all believers his spiritual family.

³¹Then his mother and his brothers arrived. While they were standing outside, they sent word to Jesus, calling for him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him. They began to tell him, "Look, your mother and your brothers are outside looking for you."

³³He replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴He looked at those who sat around him in a circle and he said, "Look, my mother and my brothers! ³⁵For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Praise be to you, O Christ!

530 Hark! The Church Proclaims Her Honor



1 Hark! The Church pro - claims her hon - or, And her
2 He his Church has firm - ly found - ed; He will
3 Frail and fleet - ing are our pow - ers, Short our
4 Though we here must strive in weak - ness, Though in
5 On - ward, then, with - out de - spair - ing! Calm we



strength is on - ly this: God has laid his choice up -
guard what he be - gan. We, by sin and foes sur -
days, our fore - sight dim. We con - fess a choice not
tears we of - ten bend, What his might be - gan in
fol - low at his Word, Thus through joy and sor - row



on her, And the work she does is his.
round - ed, Build her walls as best we can.
ours: We were cho - sen first by him.
meek - ness Shall a - chieve a glo - rious end.
bear - ing Faith - ful wit - ness to our Lord.

Sermon Text & Theme

Isaiah 66:10-14 ... Find Joy in your Mother's Arms.

- 1) Drink her spiritual milk.
- 2) Enjoy the blessing she offers.
- 3) Receive the comfort God gives through her

The Apostles' Creed

(Melody: CW 365 "Love Divine, All Love Excelling")

I believe in God the Father, Maker of the heav'n and earth. And in Jesus Christ, our Savior, God's own Son, of human birth. Virgin born, the Lord incarnate, whom the Spirit did conceive, suffered under Pontius Pilate; He's the God whom I believe.

Crucified, was dead and buried; Down to hell in victory; From the dead He rose the third day; Up to heaven triumphantly. There at God's right hand He's ruling, by his will the world is led. He will come to judge the nations, both the living and the dead.

I believe in God the Spirit; in His Church, His chosen band. They are joined in sweet communion; Holy in his sight they stand. I believe in sins forgiven; I believe I'll rise again; I believe in life eternal. Amen! Amen! Amen!

Offertory Prayer

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Please stand)

M: My fellow disciples, in the Lord's Supper, Jesus is coming to us in a very special way: as we receive the bread and the wine of communion, Jesus is present to give us his actual body and blood, and to personally pronounce forgiveness to each one of us. Because of the Lord's presence and his forgiveness in communion, the Apostle Paul wrote, "*A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.*" (1 Corinthians 11:28) Therefore, before the Lord comes to meet with us, let us honestly ask ourselves before God who knows our hearts:

1) Do you confess that you have sinned against God and deserve his anger and punishment? If so, then answer, "I do confess!"

C: I do confess!

M: It is good for you to confess, because God's word says, "*When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.*" (Psalm 32:3)

2) Are you sorry for the sins you have committed against God by things you have done, said and thought, and by the things you have failed to do? If so then answer, "I do repent!"

C: I do repent!

M: It is right for you to repent, because God's Word says, "*If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not within us.*" (1 John 1:8)

3) Do you now believe that God will forgive you and save you for the sake of Jesus' perfect life and redeeming death? If so then answer, "I do believe!"

C: I do believe!

M: It is right for you to believe because Jesus himself says, "*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*" (John 3:16)

4) Do you now promise by the power of the Holy Spirit to make every effort to turn away from sin and live for your Lord? If so then answer, "I do so promise!"

C: I do so promise!

M: It is right for you to promise, because God's Word says, "*Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.*" (Matthew 3:8)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: As repentant and forgiven sinners, we now come to meet with our Lord.

Preparation Hymn

CW 317:1-2 "O Lord, We Praise You"
(See next page for lyrics)

DISTRIBUTION

Hymn of Thanksgiving

CW 317:3 "O Lord, We Praise You"
(See next page for lyrics)



1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, In thanks-
 2 Your ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en, Life to
 3 May God be - stow on us his grace and fa - vor To please



giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your bod - y
 win for us in heav - en. No great - er love than
 him with our be - hav - ior And live to - geth - er



and your blood you nour - ish Our weak souls that they may
 this to you could bind us; May this feast of that re -
 here in love and u - nion, Cher - ish - ing our blest com -



flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy! May your bod - y,
 mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy! Lord, your love and
 mu - nion. O Lord, have mer - cy! Let not your good



Lord, born of Mar - y, That our sins and sor - rows
 kind - ness did move you; Let your sup - per move us
 Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that heav'n - ly - mind - ed



did car - ry, And your blood for us plead In all
 to love you. All our debt you have paid; Peace with
 he make us. Give your Church, Lord, to see Days of



tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 God once more is made. O Lord, have mer - cy!
 peace and u - ni - ty. O Lord, have mer - cy!

THANKSGIVING

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God, we praise and honor your holy name for your numerous acts of love and mercy on behalf of your people. We especially thank you for the gift of your one and only Son, who has ascended into heaven and sits at your right hand. We rejoice in the knowledge that he is our advocate before your throne and that he intercedes for us in all our needs.

Send your Holy Spirit to enlighten our minds with understanding and knowledge of your heavenly truths. Give to all who serve your holy Church a full measure of your grace that Christ may be confessed, his cross uplifted, and his gospel declared as the only way to eternal life.

Bless all parents that they may be wholesome examples to their children. May they teach their children to love you, to practice virtue, to desire to pursue instruction in your Word, and to serve your Church and all people.

Hear the prayers of all who are afflicted. In the quiet hour of the night, when they are weighed down with pain, loneliness, and anxiety, bring them strength and hope by assuring them that your love endures, your power overcomes, and your presence remains constant.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Heavenly Father, you are the source of life, wisdom, and all Good things. Look with favor on all mothers who have given life to their children and who nurture them with loving concern and faithful instruction. May their children honor them and call them blessed. When they become weary, sustain them with physical and spiritual rest. Hear us for the sake of your Son, Jesus, who cared for his earthly mother and in whom you are well pleased. Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

As we leave this hour of worship, we give all glory to Jesus. To him be praise and honor and glory and power now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

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Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and
2 Oh, may this boun - teous God Through all our
3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther



hands and voic - es, Who won - drous things has done,
life be near us, With ev - er - joy - ful hearts
now be giv - en, The Son, and him who reigns



In whom his world re - joic - es, Who from our
And bless - ed peace to cheer us And keep us
With them in high - est heav - en, The one e -



moth - er's arms Has blessed us on our way With
in his grace And guide us when per - plexed And
ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore! For



count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
free us from all ills In this world and the next.
thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Announcements

Church Cleaners:

May 21 – John // May 28 – Simon

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (14)	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:45 am 3:00 pm	Sunday School and Bible Class Worship with Communion Coffee Hour Worship & Communion in Poltimore
Tu (16)	4:30 pm 7:00 pm	Confirmation (D) Elders Meeting
<i>Pastor will be out of town from May 18-22</i>		
Su (21)	10:30 am 11:45 am	Worship & Communion with Pastor Lindke Coffee Hour
Th (25)	6:30 pm	Confirmation (W)
Fr (26)	3:00 pm	Online Women's Bible Study
Su (28)	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:45 am 12:00 pm	Sunday School and Bible Class Worship with Communion Coffee Hour Evangelism



Divine Word

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