

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus' Business Is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours

May 5, 2024





4651 Kernan Blvd S, Jacksonville, Florida 32224 904-642-8900

Worship at 8am and 10:30am

Bible Class and Youth Sunday School at 9:15am

victorylutheran.org







Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube



Victory is affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Welcome to Victory!

- Thank you for choosing to worship the Triune God with us. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as we join together in worship.
- We prepare for worship by quietly meditating on the theme for the day and respectfully listening to the music chosen and prepared by our musicians.
- If you are looking for a church home, we would be thrilled to serve your spiritual needs. Our name comes from 1 Corinthians 15:57: <u>"Thanks be to God! He gives</u> <u>us the VICTORY through our Lord Jesus Christ!"</u>
- Our mission as a Christian congregation is to: "Win souls for Christ and coach Christians for life."
- Please sign the Connection Card inside the worship folder to give us a record of your visit, and so we can properly thank you for joining us!
- Restrooms are located in the hallway to the right as you enter the front doors. Changing tables are available in both the women's and men's restrooms.
- A Quiet Room for children who need a quiet moment with a caretaker is located on the right before entering the sanctuary.

TODAY'S WORSHIP:

The entirety of God's Word can be summed up in one word: love. God's Law is all about love. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart..." and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37,39). The gospel is all about love: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son..." (John 3:16). From his compassion for the sick and broken, to his sacrificial death on the cross, to the peace he provided after his resurrection, Jesus was the perfect embodiment of love. Love is his business. Therefore, love is our business too. The resurrection reality is that with the same supernatural power by which God raised Jesus from the dead, God now enables us to live a new life—one marked by radically selfless love. The motivation and ability to do this comes from seeing the endless love Christ has for us. We love only because he first loved us.

Current Sermon Series: Resurrection Reality

St. Paul writes, "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Big word: indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of Jesus' resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fairy tale. The resurrection is not a legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. On time's infinite line, Jesus' resurrection is the punctiliar moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and a failure. But Christ has indeed been raised. So the reality: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is Jesus' resurrection proves that "all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life right now! The greatest theologian of the early church, Augustine, called the season of Easter "a joyful week of weeks" — seven wonderful weeks, each seven glorious days long. In this glorious season, let us meditate on the breathtaking implications of the resurrection reality!

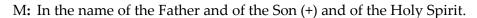


May 5	Jesus' Business is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours
May 12	Christ's Ascension Means He Is Closer Than Ever
May 19	Christ Has Not Left Us Alone (Pentecost)

THE SERVICE: SETTING TWO

OPENING HYMN He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

Christian Worship 461



C: Amen.

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty and merciful Father,

We have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have failed to love you, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

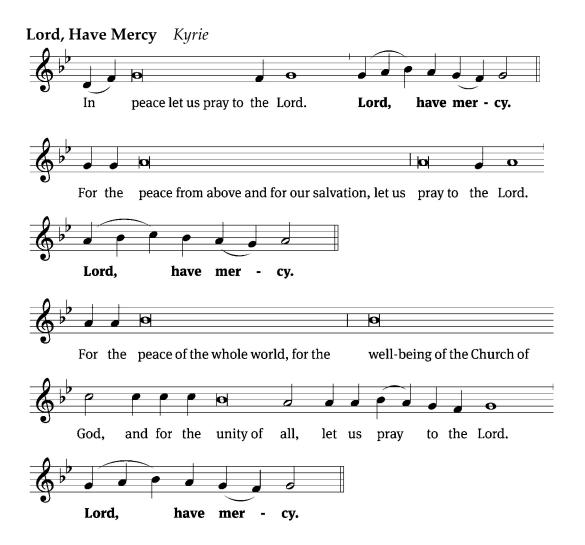
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

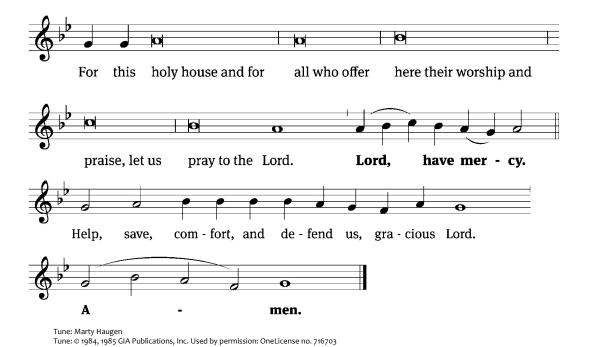
Silence for meditation and reflection



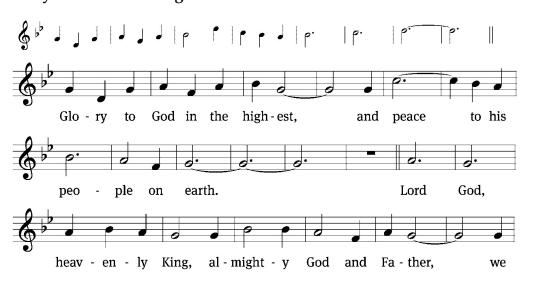
M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. In the greatest, most selfless act of love, he sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. We have been empowered and motivated to make love our business, because Jesus made it his.

C: Amen.



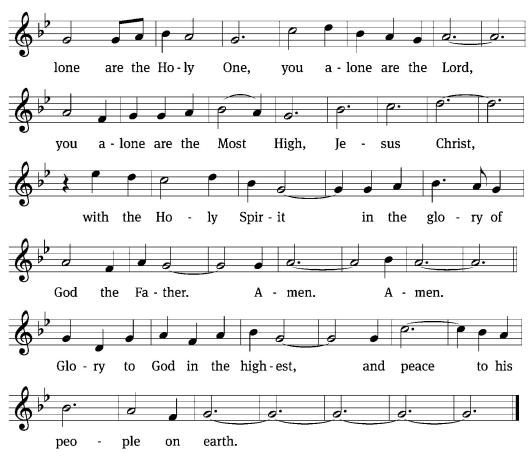


Glory to God in the Highest Gloria in Excelsis





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Tune: Marty Haugen
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THE WORD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

M: O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-42

The love of Christ in action

³⁶In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

³⁹Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴²This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-11, 19-21

Since God so loved us, let us love one another

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

9

¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

Jesus' command: Love one another as I have loved you!

9"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children are invited to join Pastor Troy at the front of the sanctuary for a message based on today's sermon, specifically designed for them! If children would feel more comfortable, an adult is welcome to come up with them.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (10:30am Service)

Children ages 3-5 can be dismissed to the 3K/Kitchen classroom for Children's Church. Children will return from Children's Church to the sanctuary after the conclusion of the sermon.



HYMN OF THE DAY This Is My Will

Christian Worship 728

SERMON......Pastor Troy Schreiner Text: 1 John 4:7-11, 19-21

The Love Cycle

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

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He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.
- C: Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today. Move us by your love that we would serve each other and display your love to others in meaningful ways.
- M: Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.
- C: Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.
- M: Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.
- C: Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.
- M: Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.
- C: Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

- M: Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.
- C: Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.
- M: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.
- C: Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

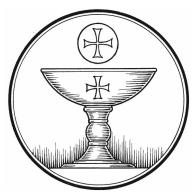
Special prayers and intercessions may follow

- M: Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.
- C: In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

OFFERING

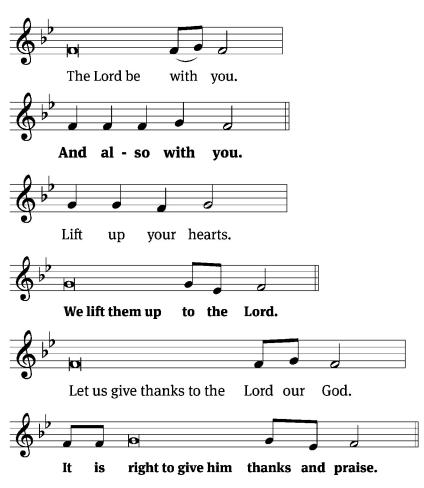
<u>Guests:</u> This is the moment in our worship when members and friends of Victory Lutheran respond to God's good news with gifts to support his saving work in the Jacksonville community and beyond. If you are our guest today, you are welcome to participate in this offering, but don't feel forced to! You can also give an online thank offering by using the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR code.

Please also fill out the Connection Card found inside your worship folder. You can hand it to an usher, or drop it in the basket on the back table as you exit worship.



THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE



Tune: Marty Haugen
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M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name, and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY Sanctus



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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ. Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty.

He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory. Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you— the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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.

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: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD Agnus Dei





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DISTRIBUTION

<u>Guests please note:</u> Scripture teaches that when Christians partake of the Lord's Supper together, they are expressing their unity of faith. Through this act they are confessing that they agree on all the teachings of Scripture. We do not wish to put our guests in the position of making such a confession without knowing our teachings. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Victory or another WELS or ELS congregation come to receive communion at this time.

If you desire communion fellowship with us, please speak to our pastor. We are eager to help anyone take this step!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

Christian Worship 557

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: His mercy endures forever.

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN
Oh, How Good It Is
Christian Worship 731

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SERVING AT VICTORY

Ushers

This Week (5/5): (8:00) N. Baker

(10:30) Rev. J. Huebner & P. Schultz

Next Week (5/12): (8:00) G. Johnston

(10:30) G. Fisher & L. Waldek

Counters

This Week (5/5): S. Lawson & C. Milk

Next Week (5/12): M. Weideman & D. Rollins

Sunday Fellowship Snacks

This Week (5/5): Volunteer needed

Next Week (5/12): Volunteer needed

Media Booth

This Week (5/5): 2 volunteers needed

Next Week (5/12): 2 volunteers needed

Altar Guild

May: Karen Krull

Sunday School/Youth Bible Study

This Week (5/5):

Pre-K to 1st: L. Mielke

Children's Church: L. Mielke

2nd to 6th: B. Nordin

Next Week (5/12):

Pre-K to 1st: C. Nordin

Children's Church: C. Nordin

2nd to 6th: L. Baker

Pastor Call Extended

At the call meeting on Sunday, April 21st, our congregation extended a call to Pastor Joel Voss to serve as pastor at Victory. Pastor Voss currently serves as Emanuel Lutheran Church in Lansing, MI. Pastor Voss and his wife Lauren have 4 children. Please keep the Voss family in your prayers, as they now deliberate where they can



best serve in God's Kingdom, whether here at Victory, or to continue serving in Lansing. Pastor Voss has welcomed your comments and feedback about the needs of Victory, and his fit in filling those needs. You can email him: joel.a.voss@gmail.com or text or call him: 517-575-5281.



- May 6-10— **Teacher Appreciation Week**
- May 12th— Ascension /Mother's Day Celebration
- May 17th— **VPK Graduation (10am)**
- May 18th— Preschool Moving Day
- May 19th— Pentecost/Preschool Expansion Dedication
- June 2nd Confirmation Sunday
- June 23rd—Pastor Troy final service/Schreiner Family Farewell



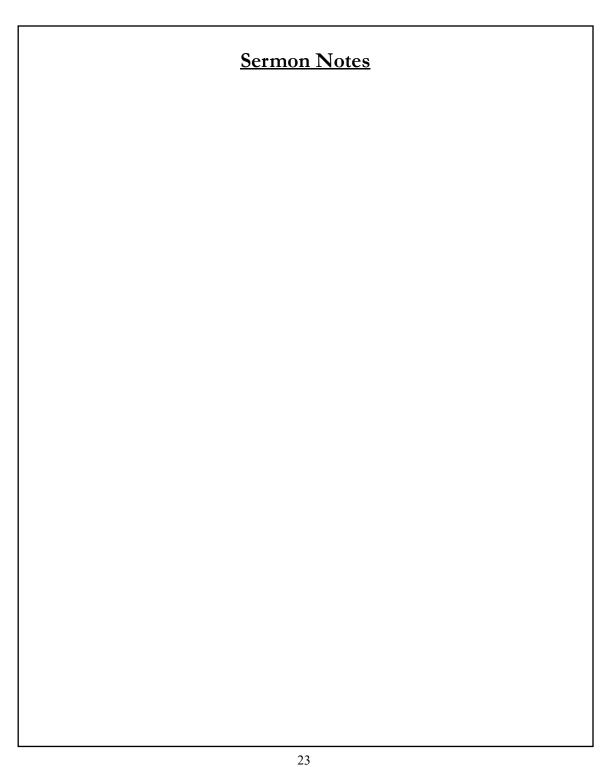


My Worship Notes



For children to use during worship.

NAME:	Date:
What is the name of the church sea	ason or special day today?
What is the color of the church today	ay? Circle one:
Blue White Purple Re	ed Green
This is in the: Old Testame	nt
What was the sermon about?	
	1y favorite song today was:
Did we have a Sacrament today?	Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:
Baptism? Communion?	
☐ Yes ☐ Yes ☐ No	
What did you learn about God toda	ay:





VICTORY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

Office: office@victorylutheran.org; 904-642-8900

Troy R. Schreiner, Pastor — 904-400-2993 pastorschreiner@victorylutheran.org

Anne Grotefend, Preschool Director — 904-955-1926 director@victorypreschool.org

Jarrett Mielke, Staff Minister — 941-735-6962 jmielke@victorylutheran.org

Victory is a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), headquartered in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

