

POWER & PERSECUTION: LEARNING FROM THE FIRST CHRISTIANS



The Sixth Week of Easter
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023



Welcome to Church of the Savior

If You Are Visiting: We'd love to meet you! Please connect with Fr. Kevin and Mtr. Karen after the service, to introduce yourself and learn more about Church of the Savior.

About Our Worship: We use an Anglican liturgy. Liturgy simply means that everyone gets to participate, so please join in as you feel comfortable.

Children's Worship: Nursery is available for children 6 months through 4 years. Children's Worship classes are available for children Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, and 3rd to 5th Grade. You may choose to keep children with your family, and coloring pages will be available to all. The Fireside Room will be open for anyone who needs extra space.

Assisted Listening: Pick up a loop in the livestream booth (the door to the right of the fireplace in the Fireside Room). An usher can guide you there.

Tonight begins the Sixth Week after Easter, as we near the end of the seven-week celebration of the Resurrection called Eastertide. During this season, we end our services with a blessing used in the Anglican Church in Kenya; in this blessing, we are reminded to send all of our problems and all of our worries to the cross of Christ and to set our hopes on the risen Christ. The blessing reminds us that the power of the cross and the hope of the resurrection are not abstract ideas but true realities that weave throughout our daily life.

Want to Stay in Touch? Let us know how at Friends Of The Savior.org/visitor

THE WORD OF GOD

Please enjoy a few moments of silence during the prelude as we quiet our minds and prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

You may stand.

Praise To The Lord The Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near; Praise Him in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth! Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him! Let the amen sound from His people again; Gladly for all we adore Him.

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Officiant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear Our Praises

May our homes be filled with dancing, May our streets be filled with joy; May injustice bow to Jesus, As the people turn and pray.

From the mountain to the valley, Hear our praises rise to You; From the heavens to the nations, Hear our singing fill the air.

May our light shine in the darkness, As we walk before the cross; May Your glory fill the whole earth, As the water over the seas.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Children from kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the acolyte to Children's Worship during the next song.

GLORIA



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 17:22-31

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴ "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'[a] As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM PSALM 66:7-18

⁷ Bless our God, you peoples; * make the voice of his praise to be heard;

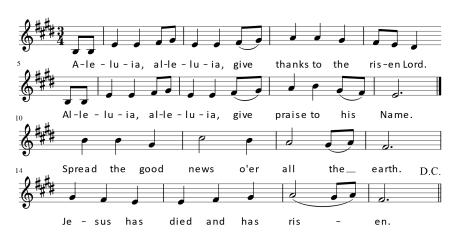
- ⁸ Who holds our souls in life, * and will not allow our feet to slip.
- ⁹ For you, O God, have proved us; * you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- You brought us into the snare; * you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; * but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- ¹² I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, * which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- ¹³ I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *I will give you oxen and goats.
- ¹⁴ Come and listen, all you who fear God, * and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- ¹⁵ I called out to him with my mouth, * and his praise was on my tongue.
- ¹⁶ If I had found evil in my heart, * the Lord would not have heard me;
- ¹⁷ But in truth God has heard me; *
 he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- ¹⁸ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, * nor withheld his love from me.

¹³ Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." 15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. 17 For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. 18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. 19 After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— 20 to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, 21 and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

You may stand.



Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁵ "If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ALLELUIA

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Living as God's Children

Sarah Lindsay Pastor of Adult Formation You may stand.

All: 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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; 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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The Psalm is taken from The Book of Common Prayer, public domain.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

The celebrant concludes the Prayers of the People.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please sit or kneel for a time of silence.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

At this time, parents should pick up their children from the nursery and children's worship.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please be seated.

Celebrant: Let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.

THE OFFERTORY

Speak O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You To receive the food of Your holy word. Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in Your likeness, That the light of Christ might be seen today In our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us All Your purposes, for Your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise,
Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us. Truths unchanged from the dawn of time That will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built And the earth is filled with Your glory. You may stand.



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-







THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Celebrant: Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus



Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body of your Son, the holy food of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

All: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us:



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please join us for Communion: all who are baptized and seeking to follow Jesus are welcome. If that doesn't describe you, simply say "Blessing," or cross your arms, and the minister distributing bread will pray a short prayer for God's favor on your life. The first tray contains wine; the second contains grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Ushers will release you row by row, beginning with the Fireside Room. If you would like to receive prayer, a prayer minister will be available in the lobby.

COMMUNION SONGS



Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

It all comes down to this, What you require of me: Love my neighbor as myself, And You above all things.

Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly With You, God. In all things, in all ways, walk humbly, With You, God.

It all comes down to this, To be Your hands and feet, Good news to all the world, The truth will set us free.

It's beauty for ashes, It's mourning to dancing. It's closer and closer, The Kingdom of heaven.

O Praise the Name

I cast my mind to Calvary Where Jesus bled and died for me. I see His wounds, His hands, His feet. My Savior on that cursed tree.

O praise the Name of the Lord our God. O praise His Name forevermore. For endless days we will sing Your praise. Oh Lord, oh Lord our God.

Then on the third at break of dawn, The Son of heaven rose again. O trampled death, where is your sting? The angels roar for Christ the King.

He shall return in robes of white, The blazing sun shall pierce the night. And I will rise among the saints, My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face.

We Will Dance

Sing a song of celebration. Lift up a shout of praise For the bridegroom will come, The glorious One. And oh, We will look on His face. We'll go to a much better place.

And dance with all your might. Lift up your hands and clap for joy, For the time's drawing near When He will appear. And oh, we will stand by His side. A strong pure, spotless Bride.

Oh, we will dance on the streets that are golden, The glorious Bride and the great Son of Man. From ev'ry tongue and tribe and nation Will join in the song of the Lamb.

Sing aloud for the time of rejoicing is near. The risen King, our Groom, is soon to appear. The wedding feast to come is now near at hand. Lift up your voice, proclaim, the coming Lamb.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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THE BLESSING

Celebrant: All our problems

All: We send to the cross of Christ.

Celebrant: All our difficulties

All: We send to the cross of Christ.

Celebrant: All the devil's works

All: We send to the cross of Christ.

Celebrant: All our hopes

All: We set on the risen Christ.

Celebrant: Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter

the darkness from before your path: and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and

remain with you always.

You may be seated for announcements.

SENDING FORTH

Sharon Winslow

RECESSIONAL

Celtic Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,

Wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness,

Protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you,

May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go forth in the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be a Part of Ascension Choir: All singers are invited to join Church of the Savior's Ascension Choir and sing during Bishop Todd's visit on May 20. One rehearsal will be held in the sanctuary directly after the service tonight (6:30-7:00pm). If you are planning to sing or have any questions please contact John Rakes (john@friendsofthesavior.org), Pastor of Music and Worship.

Bishop Todd Visit: On Saturday, May 20, our bishop, Todd Hunter, will be leading our worship service and confirming a number of our youth. Please join us for a reception will follow, so you will have a chance to meet Bishop Todd. The following day, Sunday, May 21, Bishop Todd will be ordaining Roger Bottner to the diaconate at Christ Our Peace–4pm at Boulevard Presbyterian Church, 607 Harvard St., Oak Park.

Women's Gathering

Want to meet more women at Savior, or deepen your relationships? Join the women of Savior for dinner at 6:30 on Friday, May 26th at Jan Bruesch's home (1006 Wheaton Oaks Dr., Wheaton). Please RSVP by May 22nd to Jan at janret13@gmail.com, and let her know if you have any food allergies — or if you'd like to bring drinks or a dessert to share! You can also sign up on the sheet at the Info Table at PHCC.

Summer Worship Starting in June

From June 3rd through August 12th we will be following our summer format for worship. Children finishing kindergarten and up are invited to join their families for worship. (Our service will be slightly shorter–e.g., 3 Scripture readings instead of 4.) The Nursery will be available for children ages 6 months to 4 years old. Coloring pages will be provided in the foyer.

Prayer & Picnic in the Park: Save the Date

Enjoy breakfast and worship in the outdoors. Sunday, June 4, from 8:30am to 10:30am at Blackwell Forest Preserve North Shelter. Bring lawn chairs, bug spray, and games if you wish.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Nursery & Children's Worship: We provide Nursery for children 6 months through 4 years and two Children's Worship classes. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade may attend Young Children in Worship, and 3rd to 5th Grade may attend Following Jesus.

Youth Group: End of the Year Youth Event!

We're ending the school year with a fun event on Sunday, May 21. The event will be at Main Event (Warrenville) from 1-3pm. We'll bowl, do laser tag, play in the arcade, eat pizza, and the like. A couple of notes:

- 1. The event will cost \$10 and includes 2 slices of pizza and a medium drink. If students want more than that, they should bring additional funds.
- 2. Although the event is officially from 1-3pm, the ticket we've purchased actually allows students to play until 5pm -- but you will have to chaperone your son or daughter starting at 3pm. Please RSVP to Sydney.

EASTERTIDE SERMON SERIES

Power & Persecution: Learning from the First Christians

April 15- Kevin Miller, John 20:19-31, "2 Gifts Jesus Has for You"

April 22 - Kevin Miller, Luke 24:13-35, "Why We Don't See Jesus--and How We Do"

April 29 - Kevin Miller, Acts 2:42-47; 6:1, "The Perfect Imperfect Church"

May 6- Kevin Miller, Acts 6:8-15, 7:1, 51-60, "A Christian Got Murdered Today"

May 13 - Sarah Lindsay, Acts 17:22-31, "Living as God's Children"

UPCOMING SERMONS

Ascension, May 20, Bishop Todd Hunter

Pentecost, May 27, Kevin Miller, Why Did God Send Fire?

Trinity, June 3, Kevin Miller

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Have a question about your donation? Or about something in the budget? Email our bookkeeper, Jean Ann Parker: jeanann@friendsofthesavior.org

This Year's Giving Goal: \$365,000 As of May 6:

Budgeted Giving Goal = \$128,207 Actual Giving = \$107,038 Over/(Under) = (\$21,169)

Donations to Church of the Savior:

☑ Church of the Savior, PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187

☐ friendsofthesavior.org/giving

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Altar & Acolytes Audio Visual Team Care Coordination College Ministry Intercessory Prayer Meals Ministry Prayer and Communion Prayers of the People Scripture Readers Setup Welcome Team Sandy Oyler Erik Peterson kevin@friendsofthesavior.org Sarah Lindsay sheri.l.abel@gmail.com Cara Peterson Marj Mead Deb Nickerson Hope Grant Angel Gonzalez Gayle Koehler

To ask about a ministry or volunteer to get involved, please talk with its leader (emails are found at friendsofthesavior.org/serve) or with Pastor Sarah Lindsay (sarah@friendsofthesavior.org).

VESTRY

Christine Sloat: Senior Warden Synthia Cathcart: Junior Warden Karen Bailey: Church Clerk Karen Miller Kevin Miller Deb Nickerson Sandy Oyler Rick Page Alan Savage christine.kindberg@gmail.com arnold.cathcart@gmail.com

CLERGY

Kevin Miller Karen Miller Brad Lindsay Sandy Oyler kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org deaconbrad@friendsofthesavior.org deacon@friendsofthesavior.org

ASSISTING CLERGY

Bill Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired Linda Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired Sandy Richter, Rector, Christ Our Peace Anglican

STAFF

Rector: Kevin Miller Associate Rector: Karen Miller Pastor of Family Ministries: Mary Gonzalez Pastor of Music and Worship: John Rakes Pastor of Adult Formation: Sarah Lindsay Youth Pastor: Steve Dilley Director of Communications: Caprice Miller Bookkeeper: Jean Ann Parker Family Ministries Admin: Sydney DePasquale kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org mary@friendsofthesavior.org john@friendsofthesavior.org sarah@friendsofthesavior.org steve@friendsofthesavior.org caprice@friendsofthesavior.org jeanann@friendsofthesavior.org sydney@friendsofthesavior.org



Journeying Together: Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life