

# ***Christ the King Lutheran Church***

## ***“One Family Under One King”***

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

***Easter 5***



***May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020***

**Opening Hymn: CW 382**

***My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less***

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare to make no other claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Refrain:*

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;*

*All other ground is sinking sand.*

- 2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.

*Refrain*

### **Greeting and Invocation**

**P:** We begin our service in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**P:** In faith, God gives us the Holy Spirit who works in us both the desire to throw off the slavery of sin and the power to live a new life. We gather here to confess our unworthiness before our perfectly worthy God, to remember, be it ever so temporarily, the ways we have disobeyed him, and to receive the knowledge of our sure salvation through the light of God's holy Word and the work of Jesus Christ in life, death, and resurrection as our Savior. May the Lord renew us in body, mind, and spirit so that we may be enabled to serve him now and always.

**C: Be with us Lord, we pray. Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

**P:** Let us join now in confessing our sins to God and asking for his forgiveness.

**C:** **Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. I have not always loved my brothers and sisters as myself. For sins of worrying and sins of selfishness, I confess. For letting anxiety get the best of me and allowing it to lead me to doubt your power and your reign over all, I sincerely repent. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.**

*(If you are able and willing, confess to those around you some “outward sins” you have committed in front of them this past week. Share your “inward sins” with your God in personal confession. Spouses- this gives you an opportunity to model humble repentance to your spouse. Parents- this gives you a great opportunity to model and encourage humble repentance to your children. Then take some time for silent meditation.)*

**(At Pastor’s prompt we join:) I am truly sorry for my sins. I have been led by your Spirit to repent of them. I beg for your mercy, O Lord.**

**P:** Forgive us, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

**C:** **Cleanse me from my sins.**

**Release me from my guilt.**

**Grant me your Holy Spirit to change my sinful life.**

**P:** As priest in your house, I invite all the heads of household online right now to mute the corporate absolution portion of our service and take on the role of sharing that as a minister of the Keys (John 20:21-23, 1 Peter 2:9) in your household by reading the section below in italics. For the rest of those gathering, I will continue as your called pastor to proclaim the corporate absolution in a moment. *The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (make the sign of the cross) and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C:** **Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Epistle and History of God's Church: Acts 17:1-12

When Paul and Silas had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. <sup>2</sup> As was his custom, Paul went to the Jews, and on three Sabbath days he led them in a discussion from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. He also said, "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ." <sup>4</sup> Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great number of God-fearing Greeks and more than a few of the prominent women.

<sup>5</sup> But the Jews became jealous and gathered from the marketplace some wicked men, who formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason's house and searched for Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the mob. <sup>6</sup> When they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city officials, shouting, "These men, who have stirred up trouble all over the world, have come here too, <sup>7</sup> and Jason has welcomed them as guests! They are all acting contrary to Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, Jesus!" <sup>8</sup> The crowd and the city officials were stirred up when they heard these things. <sup>9</sup> They took a security bond from Jason and the others and then let them go.

<sup>10</sup> That same night, the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the Jewish synagogue. <sup>11</sup> Now the Bereans were more noble-minded than the Thessalonians. They received the word very eagerly and examined the Scriptures every day to see if these things were so.

<sup>12</sup> Many of them believed, along with more than a few prominent Greek women and men.

### Gospel: John 14:1-12

<sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup> You know the way to the place where I am going."

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup> Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup> Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. <sup>11</sup> Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

## Hymn: CWS 752

## In Christ Alone

1 In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings-  
cease! My Comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2 In Christ alone—who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.  
Till on that cross, as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev’ry sin on him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

3 There in the ground his body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory, Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am his and he is mine—Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow’r of Christ in me;  
From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow’r of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from his hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home, Here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand.

*This christological hymn summarizes the sacrificial, earthly life of our Savior and the glory that is now his forever and ours through faith.*

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## Sermon Text: 1 Peter 2:4-10

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— <sup>5</sup>you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup>and, “A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

## Prayer

**P:** O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

**C:** **Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**P:** In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

**C:** **Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.**

**P:** Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

**C:** **Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.**

**P:** Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

**C: Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.**

**P:** Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

### **A Mother's Day Prayer\***

Dear Father, we approach your throne on behalf of the mothers whom you have entrusted with the care of your most precious little ones. We thank you for creating each mom with a unique combination of gifts and talents. We thank you for the sacrifice of self each mom gives for her children. For the late nights spent rocking a colicky infant. For the hands calloused from washing, wiping, scrubbing, mixing, backing, stirring, hugging, patting, disciplining, holding, writing, erasing, painting, and pouring.

We thank you for the gift of time moms give for their kids, whether it's stay-at-home moms, working moms, and moms who have some combination of the two. We thank you for the flexibility of moms, for their tirelessness, their perseverance, and their devotion.

We pray you give each mom strength. Help her to see in every mundane task the eternal, cosmic significance that you place on motherhood. Help her to understand that the most radical, world-changing events may be happening anonymously in her home. Help her to forgive those who undermine her significance.

We especially pray for single moms, who must lean solely on you for the fathering of their children. We thank you that you're big arms surround children who may never know their earthly father. We also pray for mother who never had the honor of bearing children, but whose nurturing extends to the many poor and needy who crass the threshold of their lives.

Precious Savior, who rose to provide proof of your love and forgiveness, we ask you to continue to be the daily bread of tired mothers. We ask you to be their living water. We ask you to be their source of spiritual and physical strength. We pray that the same grace that flowed from Father to Son to us in salvation will flow from mothers to their children. We pray that each mother

rejects perfectionism and instead embraces the goodness of the gospel. We pray the rhythms of repentance and forgiveness shape every home.

Lord, give each mother a worshipful reverence of you, the Creator and Sustainer of life. Help each mother to rest in the knowledge that they are but stewards of your children and that only your Spirit can produce change into the hearts of each boy and girl. May each mother find rest in you.

Most of all, Lord, on this day in which we honor mothers, may we love and cherish the special women who have born us, who have nurtured us, and who have prayed for our well-being. May our hearts overflow with gratitude to you, who formed and knitted each of us in a mother's womb.

**P:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

**P:** Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

**C: Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **The 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 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.

### **The Blessing- Spoken by Pastor**

**P:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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: CW 382**

***My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less***

- 3 His oath, his covenant and blood  
Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.

*Refrain*

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

- 4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in him be found,  
Clothed in his righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before his throne.

*Refrain*

***Christ the King Lutheran Church Mission Statement:***

*Christ's love compels us to **grow in his Word** and **go into the world**  
spreading the good news of eternal life through faith in Christ Jesus.*

\*Mother's Day prayer written by Daniel Darling, taken from

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/mother-s-day-prayers-to-encourage-and-uplift.html>