

church, and in 325 he called the Council of Nicaea, at which orthodox Christianity was defined and defended. His mother, Helena (ca. 255-329), strongly influenced Constantine. Her great interest in locating the holy sites of the Christian faith led her to become one of the first Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land. Her investigations led to the identification of Biblical locations in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and beyond, which are still maintained as places of worship today.

Commemoration of Queen Esther

Wednesday, 24 May

Esther is the heroine of the Old Testament book that bears her name. Her Jewish name was Hadassah, which means “myrtle.” Her beauty, charm, and courage served her well as queen to King Ahasuerus. In that role she was able to save her people from the mass extermination that Haman, the king’s chief advisor, had planned. Esther’s efforts to uncover the plot resulted in the hanging of Haman on the very same gallows that he had built for Mordecai, her uncle and guardian. The king thereafter named Mordecai the minister of state in Haman’s place. This story is an example of how God intervenes on behalf of His people to deliver them from evil, as here through Esther He preserved the Old Testament people through whom the Messiah would come.

Commemoration of the Venerable Bede

Thursday, 25 May

Bede (673-735) was the last of the early church fathers and the first to compile the history of the English church. Born in Northumbria, Bede was given by his parents to a monastery in Northern England at the age of seven. The most learned man of his time, he was a prolific writer of history, whose careful use of sources provided a model for historians in the Middle Ages. Known best for his book, *The Ecclesiastical History of the English People*, he was also a profound interpreter of Holy Scripture; his commentaries are still fresh today. His most famous disciple, Cuthbert, reported that Bede was working on a translation of St. John’s Gospel into English when death came, and that he died with the words of the Gloria Patri on his lips. He received the title “Venerable” within two generations of his death and is buried in Durham Cathedral as one of England’s greatest saints.

Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well shall fare.

Looking forward to the Seventh Sunday of Easter

28 May 2017

Hymns:

- LSB #395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright
- LSB #529 Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus
- LSB #539 Christ Is the World’s Redeemer
- LSB #564 Christ Sits at God’s Right Hand
- LSB #716 I Walk in Danger All the Way
- LSB #741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Acts 1:12–26: St. Matthias is chosen by God to replace Judas as an Apostle.

1 Peter 4:12—5:11: Christians rejoice to share the Cross of Christ; they resist the devil’s temptations by clinging to the Word; and they live humbly by faith.

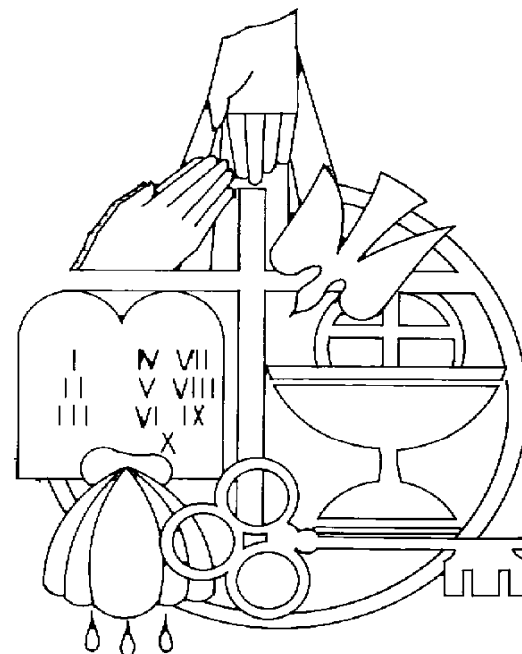
St. John 17:1–11: In His great High Priestly Prayer, just prior to His death, Jesus prays for His Apostles and His Church on earth—for His Name’s sake.

Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Rev. Dr. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor

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✚ DAILY CATECHESIS ON THE WAY ✚

TO AND FROM EMMAUS WITH JESUS

✚ THE SIXTH WEEK OF EASTERTIDE ✚

“They were continually devoting themselves to the Apostolic Doctrine and to the Communion, to the Breaking of the Bread, and to the Prayers.”
(Acts of the Apostles 2:42)

✚ ✚ ✚

Saturday: *For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for pastors as they prepare to administer Christ's holy gifts; for receptive hearts and minds on the Lord's Day.*

In our Prayers this Week at Emmaus:

Martin & Suha Horner, as they begin their married life together;

Karin Horner and the Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra, as they will be on tour in Europe over the next several weeks;

Rob & Sandra Rhein, as they are traveling on vacation in Italy this month; and

Pastor Stuckwisch and his fellow members of the Indiana District Board of Directors, as they are meeting on Friday of this week in Fort Wayne.

[The Daily Morning or Evening Prayer, the Benedicamus, and the Benediction]:

(Morning): **We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this night from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would keep us this day also from sin and every evil, that all our doings and life may please You; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.**

(Evening): **We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this day from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would forgive us all our sins, wherever we have done wrong, and graciously keep us this night; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit ☩ be with us all. **Amen.**

Then, if it is in the morning, go joyfully to your work, according to your vocations in life, in faith toward God and in love toward your neighbor; or, if it is at the close of the day, go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

Commemoration of the Emperor Constantine and Helena

Sunday, 21 May

Constantine I served as the Roman Emperor from A.D. 306 to 337. During his reign the persecution of Christians was forbidden by the Edict of Milan in 312, and ultimately the faith gained full imperial support. Constantine took an active interest in the life and teachings of the

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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 & ever. Amen.

[The Collects of the Week, Intercessions for each day of the week, and Special Petitions]:

Collect for the Sixth Week of Eastertide:

O God, the Giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Collect for the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord (Thursday, 29 May), and following:

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Daily Themes for Intercessory Prayer:

Sunday: For the joy of the Resurrection; for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.

Monday: For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for vocations and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for Resurrection Lutheran Academy and other schools, our home schools, our colleges and seminaries; for good government and peace.

Tuesday: For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

Wednesday: For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must rear their children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

Thursday: For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other servants of Christ and His Church; for the fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.

Friday: For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for its spread throughout the whole world; for the persecuted; for the sick and dying.

The Sixth Week of Eastertide

21-27 May 2017

This Week in the Church Year

The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord on Thursday of this week (25 May), as well as the continued reading of the Acts of the Apostles throughout Eastertide, indicates the way and means by which the risen and ascended Lord Jesus Christ is with us and cares for His Church on earth. As He called and sent the Holy Apostles, so does He call men to follow in their train, who are "sent" in His Name and stead, with His divine authority. Even to the close of the age, He bestows His Spirit upon His Apostolic Ministers of the Gospel, so that, by their preaching of His Word, by their absolving of repentant sinners, and by their administration of His Holy Sacraments, He visits His people in peace.

Emphasis: The Lord Jesus Is with Us in the Apostolic Ministry

The Order of Daily Catechesis in Word and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of daily catechesis as you and your family are able. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

[The Opening Versicles and Psalmody]:

O Lord, open my lips. **And my mouth will declare Your praise.**

Make haste, O God, to deliver me. **Make haste to help me, O 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.**

Psalm 66:8-20 (and/or one or more of the appointed Psalms listed below)

Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning	93, 150	97, 145	65, 146	99, 147:1-12	47, 147:13-21	96, 148	92, 149
Evening	136, 117	124, 115	66, 116	9, 118	68, 110, 113	49, 138	23, 114

**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.**

The Verse: St. John 16:33b

(Jesus said): “In the world you have tribulation, but take courage;
I have overcome the world.”

Readings for the Sixth Week of Eastertide:

Sunday, 21 May 2017 (Emperor Constantine and Helena)

Numbers 3:1–16, 39–48; St. Luke 14:25—15:10

Monday, 22 May 2017

Numbers 8:5–26; St. Luke 15:11–32

Tuesday, 23 May 2017

Numbers 9:1–23; St. Luke 16:1–18

Wednesday, 24 May 2017 (Queen Esther)

Numbers 10:11–36; St. Luke 16:19–31

Thursday, 25 May 2017 (The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord)

(Commemoration of the Venerable Bede)

Numbers 11:1–23, 31–35; St. Luke 17:1–19

Friday, 26 May 2017

Numbers 11:24–29; 12:1–16; St. Luke 17:20–37

Saturday, 27 May 2017

Numbers 13:1–3, 17–33; St. Luke 18:1–17

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar, Part I

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Where is this written?

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Saint Paul write:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

The Hymns of the Week

“THANKS TO THEE, O CHRIST VICTORIOUS”

LSB #548

[Daily Prayer: Invocation, Apostles’ Creed, Kyrie Eleison, and the Our Father]:

In the Name ☩ of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and ☩ the life everlasting. Amen.