



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "He Leadeth Me"

arr. Dennis Alexander

Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: Jesus Christ is alive and among us now. Even as the light pushes back the dark, so too Jesus Christ has defeated death. Let us worship God in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Choir: "Invocation"

Rollo Dillworth

Lord, send your anointing to this place.
Lord, send us your mercy and your grace.
Send us your love, let it rain from above.
Hear our prayer today.

Lord, send your anointing to this place.
Lord, send us your mercy and your grace.
Send us your peace, so that all pain will cease.
Hear our prayer today.

Send it. Send your anointing. Send it Lord. Amen.

* GOD'S GREETING

* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

* **All Singing:** **551 "All Creatures of Our God and King"**
Singing verses 1, 2, 3, and 5

Children ages 2–7 may come forward for a brief word and blessing before they leave for “God Loves Me” and “Children in Worship.”

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Reconciliation

Liturgist: Jesus looked toward heaven and prayed, “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him.

All: Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Liturgist: I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

Silent Confession and Lament

All Singing: 652 “I Lift My Eyes Up”

Liturgist: Jesus continued to pray saying, “I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them.

All: They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.

Liturgist: I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

John 17:1-11 adapted

* **All Singing: 682 “Before the Throne of God Above”**

Liturgist: He has shown you people what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?

All: To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.

Micah 6:8 adapted

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Choir: “Gracious Spirit Dwell with Me”

arr. K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me!
I would gracious be; help me now thy grace to see,
I would be like thee; and with words that help and heal.
Thy life would mine reveal; and with actions bold and meek
For Christ my Savior speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me!
I would truthful be; help me now thy truth to see,
I would be like thee; and with wisdom kind and clear,
Thy life in mine appear; and with actions brotherly,
Speak Christ’s sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me!
I would holy be; show thy mercy tenderly,
Make me more like thee; separate from sin, I would
And cherish all things good, and whatever I can be
Give Him who gave me Thee!

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me!
I would mighty be; help me now thy pow'r to see,
I would be like thee; 'gainst all weapons hell can wield,
Be thou my strength and shield; let thy word my weapon be,
Lord, Thine the victory.

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

Scripture: I Thessalonians 1:1-10

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: "They Seemed Like Nice People"

* **All Singing:** **758** **"Order My Steps"**

Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: With joy, let us now offer our gifts, in music, heart, and resource, as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness

OFFERING

1. General Fund
2. Chicago Christian Counseling Center

OFFERTORY "All Creatures of Our God and King"

arr. Hal Hopson

* **All Singing:** **551** **"All Creatures of Our God and King"**
Singing verse 6

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending

* BENEDICTION

Choir: "The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

Peter C. Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord lift his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.
The Lord make his face
to shine upon you, and be gracious,
the Lord be gracious, unto you. Amen

Postlude: "The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

arr. Jan Sanborn

Worship Leaders

Organist: Dora Diephouse
Pianist: Anna Triezenberg-Sims
Prelude Musicians: Charlotte & Abbie Lydon
Guitar: Jeremy Hulford
Percussion: Clay Carlson
Choir Director: David Baar
Minister: Dave Larsen

Acolyte: Levi Bosscher
Liturgist: Jenson Varghese
Prayer: Richard DeJong

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