

WHEN OUR ***PLANS*** FALL THROUGH



A SERIES FOR THE EASTER SEASON

OUR PLANS FALL THROUGH
5) WHEN WE ARE FEELING ISOLATED AND ALONE

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

At home & parking lot service for during pandemic

[\(click here for **phone screen** version\)](#)

[\(download audio of service for at home\)](#)



204 W Airport Rd. Payson, AZ 85541

RockOfAges-Payson.com

We pray this alternative method of gathering encourages you and gives you opportunity to encourage others during this time.

Please keep your radio tuned to **91.1 FM**. Or [download the service audio](#) from the website above.

The church doors will be unlocked for those who might need to use the restroom.

Try to park close to the church doors. If during the preservice you find you are having trouble hearing the broadcast, please text or call pastor Barthel at 928-612-8463.

We are part of a world-wide Christian ministry and support the gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. You can also visit wels.net



Morning Praise

Morning Praise is based on the historic service called "Matins." Joined to Christ, our risen Lord, we glorify God as we rise to the activities of this new day.

Greeting

Hymn

Amazing Grace--How Sweet the Sound

Christian Worship Hymnal 379

Led by Branches Band and the children at Rock of Ages

♪ Amazing grace -- how sweet the sound--
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

**2. The Lord has promised good to me;
His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

**3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**

**4. When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.**

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession & Absolution

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:
God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness,
we lie and do not live by the truth.

If we claim to be without sin,
we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. *1 John 1:5-8*

Father, I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed your only Son to purge away my guilt. For his sake, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and in the joy of your Holy Spirit let me serve you all my days.

Silence for personal examination and confession.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. ^{1 John 1:9}

Thanks be to God!

Response of Praise

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall declare your praise.

Hasten to save me, O God.

O Lord, come quickly to help me.

♪ The Lord is risen! Let us worship him.

Hymn

Christ be My Leader

Christian Worship 367

Sung by 4 For Christ and the children at Rock of Ages

This text is under copyright and unable to be printed here to post online.

If you do not have a hymnal at home you can access [the lyrics here](#). Otherwise you are invited to listen along to meditate on the words.

First Reading

Genesis 4:1-16

Sin divides people and kills

The man was intimate with Eve, his wife. She conceived and gave birth to Cain. She said, "I have gotten a man with the LORD." ²She also gave birth to Cain's brother Abel.

Abel tended sheep, but Cain worked the ground. ³As time passed, one day Cain brought an offering to the LORD from the fruit of the soil. ⁴Abel also brought some of the firstborn of his flock and their fat portions. The LORD looked favorably on Abel and his offering, ⁵but he did not look favorably on Cain and his offering. Cain was very angry, and his face showed it.

⁶The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why do you have that angry look on your face? ⁷If you do good, will you not be lifted up? If you do not do good, sin is crouching at the door. It has a strong desire for you, but you must rule over it."

⁸Cain said to Abel, his brother, "Let's go into the field." When they were in the field, Cain attacked Abel, his brother, and killed him.

⁹The LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel, your brother?"

He said, "I don't know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

¹⁰The LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the soil. ¹¹Now you are cursed and sent away from the soil which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹²When you work the soil, it will no longer give its strength to you. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."

¹³Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is too great for me to bear. ¹⁴Look, today you have driven me away from the soil. I will be hidden from your face, and I will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth. And whoever finds me will kill me."

¹⁵The LORD said to him, "No! If anyone kills Cain, he will face sevenfold revenge." And the LORD appointed a sign for Cain, so that anyone who found him would not strike him down.

¹⁶Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 66

*Christian Worship page 90
Read by the children at Rock of Ages*

Shout praise to God, all the earth!

Make music to the glory of his name!

Make his praise glorious!

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"

Because of your great power your enemies must cower before you.

All the earth bows down to you.

They make music to you.

They make music to your name.

♪ At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

Come and see the works of God.

How awesome his deeds for all people!

He turned the sea into dry land.

They crossed through the river on foot.

Let us rejoice in him there.

He rules by his power forever.

His eyes watch the nations.

Do not let the rebellious rise up against him.

♪ At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

Bless our God, you peoples.

Let the sound of his praise be heard.

He is the one who has preserved our lives.

He did not let our feet slip.

Indeed, you tested us, God.

You refined us as silver is refined.

You led us into a trap.
You laid a burden on our backs.
You let men ride over our heads.
We went through fire and through water,
but you brought us out to a well-watered place.

♪ **At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.**

Come, listen, all you who fear God,
and let me tell what he has done to save my life.
To him I cried out with my mouth.
High praise was on my tongue.
If I had contemplated evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened,
but God has surely listened.
He has paid attention to the sound of my prayer.
Blessed be God, who has not turned aside my prayer
or turned aside his mercy from me!

♪ **At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.**

Second Reading

1 John 3:11-18

Sin divides and kills but Jesus in love laid down his life to destroy division and death.

This is the message you have heard from the beginning: Love one another. ¹²Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the Evil One and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own works were evil, while those of his brother were righteous. ¹³Do not be surprised, brothers, if the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have crossed over from death to life, because we love our brothers. The one who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him. ¹⁶This is how we have come to know love: Jesus laid down his life for us. And we also should lay down our lives for our brothers. ¹⁷Whoever has worldly wealth and sees his brother in need but closes his heart against him—how can God's love remain in him? ¹⁸Dear children, let us love not only with word or with our tongue, but also in action and truth.

Children's Message

Please share the name and email of a friend who might like to receive spiritual encouragement pictures from the Rock of Ages children this week.

Gospel

John 14:15-21

We will be with our Triune God now and forever.

"If you love me, hold on to my commands. ¹⁶I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. ¹⁷He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see him or know him. You know him because he stays with you and will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹The one who has my commands and holds on to them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and show myself to him."

Seasonal Response

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Death has been swallowed up in victory.

Alleluia!

Hymn of the Day

Take the World But Give Me Jesus

Christian Worship 355

Led by the children at Rock of Ages

1. Take the world, but give me Jesus!

All its joys are but a name.

But his love abides forever,

Through eternal years the same.

Refrain:

Oh, the height and depth of mercy;

Oh, the length and breadth of love!

Oh, the fullness of redemption,

Pledge of endless life above!

2. Take the world, but give me Jesus,

Sweetest comfort of my soul.

With the Savior watching o'er me,

I can sing, though thunders roll. *[Refrain]*

3. Take the world, but give me Jesus!

In his cross my trust shall be

Till with clearer, brighter vision

Face to face my Lord I see. *[Refrain]*

“What Do We Do When Our Plans Fall Through?”

Apr 19: When we're locked in a room. (Jn 20:19-31)

Apr 26: When all we can do is go for a walk. (Lk 24:13-35)

May 3: When we don't want to listen. (Jn 10:1-10)

May 10: When our hearts are troubled. (Jn 14:1-12)

May 17: When we're feeling isolated and alone. (Jn 14:15-21)

May 24: When our minds don't understand God's plans. (Lk 24:44-53)

Confession of Faith

We Praise You, God *Te Deum Laudamus*

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you, Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim you:

Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.

You overcame the sting of death

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

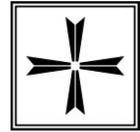
You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting. Amen.

New Member Welcome

We welcome Gary and Martha Cable who are joining the body of believers at Rock of Ages.



Dear friends in Christ, Gary and Martha Cable have expressed a desire to be members of Rock of Ages Lutheran Church because they are fully convinced that God's Word is taught in its truth and purity and the Sacraments are administered according to their institution by Christ. (to new members) I, therefore, ask you in the presence of God and of this congregation, "Do you acknowledge and confess the teachings of this church to be the true and unaltered teachings of God? And, if so, do you intend to defend them as such?" If you agree, answer by saying, "I do."

New Members: I do.

Do you, therefore, desire, in obedience to God, to be received by us into the fellowship of this church and of this congregation? If so, answer by saying, "I do."

New Members: I do.

Do you desire to be placed under the spiritual oversight of this congregation recognizing the ministry of the keys given by Christ to his Church? Do you desire to work with this congregation by supporting and recognizing all rebuking, correcting, and encouraging with the Word of God to be done for everyone's spiritual well-being?

New Members: I do.

Do you intend to continue in the confession of this church, to defend the truth, avoid all errors, to make faithful use of the means of grace in worship and in Bible study, to encourage the other members here and be encouraged by them in various fellowship activities, and lead a God-pleasing life until the end? If so, answer by saying, "I do so intend with the help of God."

New Members: I do so intend with the help of God.

Finally, do you agree to abide by the constitution of this congregation and to work together in peaceful unity for the glory of God and the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ? Then answer by saying, "I do."

New Members: I do.

Upon this, your promises, I, in the name of this congregation extend to you the right hand of fellowship in love. Acknowledging you as members of our church, publicly affirming our invitation to you to join us at the reception of the Lord's Supper, and to participate in all the other blessings offered to you by the hand of God through the ministry of Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, in the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit.

Rock of Ages supports the world-wide gospel ministry of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

We treasure the fellowship we share united in the gospel to train workers for full-time gospel ministry and to support joint mission endeavors. Learn more at WELS.net

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

♪ In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

♪ **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord's Prayer

sung by 4 For Christ

Prayer of the Day

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Special Prayers

Special prayers are spoken concluding with ...through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen

Offerings Gathered

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our national church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The offerings can be dropped near the plate at the door anytime during today's service.

At home option: If you are worshipping at home for a time due to caution against the spread of illness please remember to support our ministry. Offerings can be mailed to Rock of Ages Lutheran 204 W. Airport Rd. Payson, AZ 85541

Offering Hymn

Breath of the Living God

Sung by 4 For Christ

Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Blessing

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

Hymn

My Jesus I Love Thee
Sung by 4 For Christ

My Jesus I love Thee, I know Thou art mine
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

I love Thee because Thou has first loved me
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

I'll love Thee in life and I will love Thee in death
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

The Sacrament

The congregation is gathering today for small group communion.

Contact pastor about joining the next group. He would also be glad to schedule a private communion with any member at home or at church.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- Thanks to God for providing safety for our community and congregation during the initial outbreak of the pandemic; that he continues to keep us and everyone safe under his care.
- Mary Strong who was diagnosed with lymphoma and is undergoing further tests to determine the spread of the cancer; that God bless efforts to treat the cancer and give her strength.
- Chuck Hintze who was hospitalized with an infection in his pancreas; that God bring him safely home and provide a quick recovery.
- Evelyn "Evee" Barrera who is having medical problems; that God restore her health quickly.
- Amanda, granddaughter of Judi Moore. Amanda has a tumor and underwent surgery this past week; that God provide her with a complete recovery and give her peace through his promises of love.

Available for you:

Our hearing assistance devices can be checked out and kept at your home. Sign-it out and take it with you to use each week. These devices will also be sharing our park & worship should we ever need to return to that format.

Attendance

3/29 Small Group Services 24
4/05 (At-Home Worship only)
4/09 Maundy Thursday "Park & Worship" 32
4/10 Good Friday "Park & Worship" 34
4/12 Easter "Park & Worship" 47
4/19 Sunday "Park & Worship" 49
4/26 Sunday "Park & Worship" 51
5/03 Sunday "Park & Worship" 62
5/10 Sunday "Park & Worship" 52

Received in April: \$13,842.50

Received in May: \$8,856.32 (to date)

At-Home Worship and Park & Worship

There will be no service audio for park & worship next week. However, the services folders and the sermons will continue to be posted online each week. We will return to a park & worship format if the situation in our community indicates the need.

Summer Music Program

Our "Making Music" program is restructured to help us offer a safe experience this summer for all our students. Enroll today at RockOfAges-Payson.com/Making-Music

CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Sunday, May 17 *Easter 6*

9:00am Worship (park & worship)

Monday, May 18

6:00pm Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 19

10:00am Youth Starting Point

Wednesday, May 20

3:00pm Youth Discipleship Group

Thursday, May 21 *Ascension*

Sunday, May 24 *Easter 7*

9:00am Worship with Lord's Supper

10:15am Worship

Tuesday, May 26

10:00am Youth Starting Point

Sunday, May 31 *Pentecost*

9:00am Worship (song service)

10:15am Worship (song service)

Tuesday, June 2

10:00am Youth Starting Point

3:45pm Youth Discipleship Group

Returning to Inside of Building

We will resume using our building next week. We will spread out between two services at 9:00 & 10:15am. Continual care will be taken to avoid spreading illness.

Acknowledgments

Preservice Trumpet Peter Barthel

Scripture taken from The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version®, EHV®,
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