

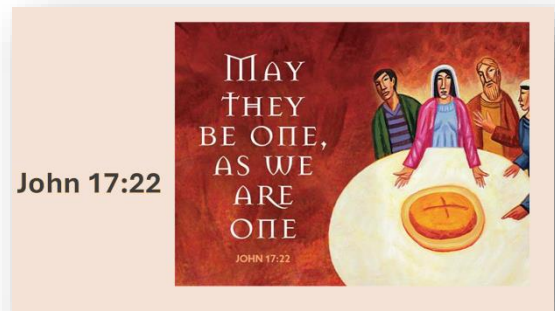
June 1st, 2025 Lectionary Notes

The Readings on This Day

****Click on the links for the Bible Verse(s)*

Seventh Sunday of Easter

On this seventh Sunday of Easter, the resurrection is proclaimed by means of a conversion narrative, a promise of Christ's life beyond the grave and throughout time, and a prayer for Christian unity. Some assemblies that do not meet for worship on Ascension Thursday replace the readings of the seventh Sunday of Easter with those of Ascension Day.



[Acts 16:16-34](#)

This delightful narrative has it all, from a boisterous fortune-teller to a fortuitous earthquake. The point of the story is that God is leading the apostles through many adventures, including imprisonments, towards the conversion of the Roman Empire. We join with the jailer and his family to rejoice in baptism. Although the author of Revelation despairs of life under Roman domination, Luke suggests that the mission of Christ through the Roman Empire will succeed. This Sunday concludes Year C's Easter semi-continuous reading through Acts.

[The Psalm for the Day](#)

Having heard the story of Paul and Silas freed from prison to convert the jailer, we sing together [Psalm 97](#), which is also appointed for Christmas Dawn. The Lord reigns, not the Roman Emperor. "The earth trembles," and we join Paul freed from prison in an earthquake. We pray that God will continue to "guard the lives of the saints."

[Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21](#)

Although much of the book of Revelation dwells on the horrors of evil and the brutality of divine judgment, these concluding verses stress what Lutherans call "gospel": what is coming is life with God, and Jesus is our opening to God. This Sunday concludes the lectionary's semi-continuous reading of the book of Revelation.

[John 17:20-26](#)

What has been called the High Priestly Prayer of John 17 is divided between the three years of the lectionary on the Sunday after the Ascension. Proclaiming John 17 after Easter rather than during Holy Week exemplifies not only the technique of the lectionary, which layers up

biblical meanings for the church's worship life, but also the facts of the composition of the gospels: not a verbatim from Jesus' life, this chapter was crafted decades after the resurrection to hold before the believers the name of Christ and so to strengthen the community, who like Christ are both in the world and not in the world. The unity of the Son with the Father is to inspire and enable the unity of all Christ's followers.