

Resurrection Lutheran Church

May 10, 2020

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Way, the Truth and the Life

The risen Lord Jesus alone is "the way, and the truth, and the life," and we come "to the Father" only through Him (John 14:6). God is thus "glorified in the Son," and those who believe in Him will do the works of Christ because He goes to the Father for us (John 14:12-14). Stephen, "a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 6:5) and "doing great wonders and signs among the people" (Acts 6:8), did the works of Christ. When he was falsely accused and put to death, he "gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God" (Acts 7:55). Fixing his hope there, he commended his spirit to the Lord Jesus and prayed for his murderers. In the same way, all the baptized are called to follow the example of Christ Jesus by faith. Though He was "rejected by men" in the sight of God, He is "chosen and precious" (1 Peter 2:4). He is the chief cornerstone of the Father's "spiritual house," and we are built upon Him as "living stones" (1 Peter 2:5).

Hymn: "Thy Word Is a Lamp"

LSB 973



Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,
2 I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet My



Still You're there right be - side me. And
heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.



noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; And



Please be near me to the end.
I will love You to the end.

Text and tune: © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110403522

Opening Versicles

LSB 285

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
 - C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.
 - P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
 - C** 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 146; antiphon: v. 2

Psalm 146; antiphon: v. 2

- P** Praise | the LORD!*
- C** Praise the LORD, | O my soul!
- P** I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;*
- C** I will sing praises to my God while I have my | being.
- P** Put not your trust in | princes,*
- C** in a son of man, in whom there is no sal- | vation.
- P** When his breath departs he returns | to the earth;*
- C** on that very day his plans | perish.
- P** Blessèd is he whose help is the God of | Jacob,*
- C** whose hope is in the | LORD his God,
- P** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is | in them,*
- C** who keeps faith for- | ever;
- P** who executes justice for | the oppressed,*
- C** who gives food to the | hungry.
- P** The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes | of the blind.*
- C** The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the | righteous.
- P** The LORD watches over the sojourners; He upholds the widow and the | fatherless,*
- C** but the way of the wicked he brings to | ruin.
- P** The LORD will reign for- | ever,*
- C** your God, O Zion, to all generations. | Praise the LORD!

C **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.**

P I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;*

C I will sing praises to my God while I have my | being.

Collect for the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The First Lesson

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

P The Epistle is from Acts, chapter 6.

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

P Christ has risen | from the dead.*

C **[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.**

P He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*

C **he has put all things un- | der his feet.**

Epistle

1 Peter 2:2–10

P The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter 2.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 14:1–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn: "Built on the Rock"

LSB 645



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the



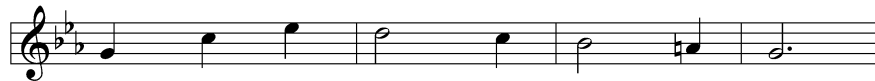
steeples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
 church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
 faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
 ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
 You, not the world, My face shall see.



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
 My peace I leave with you. A - men."

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon

Offering

Offertory "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

LSB 805



△ Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly



host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Tune and text: Public domain

Kyrie

LSB 285

- O Lord,
- have mercy.
- O Christ,
- have mercy.
- O Lord,
- have mercy.

Apostles' Creed

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.

Hymn: "Christ Be My Leader"

LSB 861



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Text: © 1964, renewed 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn

License no. 110403522

Tune: Public domain

Versicles

- P** Hear my prayer, O Lord;
C let my cry come to You.
P In the day of my trouble I call upon You,
C for You answer me.
P Hide Your face from my sins,
C and blot out all my iniquities.
P Create in me a clean heart, O God,
C and renew a right spirit within me.
P Cast me not away from Your presence,
C and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
P Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
C and uphold me with a willing spirit.
P Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
C my lips will praise You.
P For You have been my help,
C and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.
P Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;
C unite my heart to fear Your name.
P I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
C and I will glorify Your name forever.
P May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.
C May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"
P Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
C Be their shepherd and carry them forever.
P Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
C listen to my plea for grace.

Prayer

- P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

LSB 286

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen

Lord's Prayer

- C** 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 and ever. Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 287

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Blessing

LSB 287

- P** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
C Amen.

Hymn: "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

LSB 660



1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross.
2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;
3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; Stand in His strength a - lone.
4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The strife will not be long;



Lift high His roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.
Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.
This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my He shall lead
Let all His faith - ful serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.
The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see



Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.
Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
And with the King of Glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Tune and text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Responsive Prayer 2 from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.