

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2020



With the comforting words of our Savior, spoken before His passion and death, and now spoken in our ears as He is risen from death, our Lord today increases our confidence in the truth of our new righteousness through the continued forgiveness of our sins. In this Easter faith, we are more than prepared to face the challenges of living now as strangers and foreigners in this world, that is, as a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession. Those challenges may begin simply in our daily living but also may increase as they have in our day with increasing confusion in the public square. Ultimately, as we hear of St. Stephen, the first martyr for the faith, the confession of this faith has become a life or death issue for many even in our own day. Regardless of the intensity of the good fight of the faith, we see our Savior Jesus come to deliver us. We see Him in the water of Baptism with His Word, in the body and blood we share at His command, in the authoritative and comforting word of Holy Absolution, and in His Word preached, as we wait to see Him come to "take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also" (John 14:3). Let us join all creation in praise to our saving Lord.

## PRELUDE

**HYMN** "Christ Is Our Cornerstone" *LSB 912*

***Christ is our cornerstone, On Him alone we build;  
With His true saints alone The courts of heav'n are filled.  
On His great love Our hopes we place Of present grace And joys above.***

***Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we implore,  
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us evermore  
Until that day When all the blest To endless rest Are called away.***

***Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise The Three in One to sing  
And thus proclaim In joyful song, Both loud and long, That glorious name.***

## INVOCATION

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:** The three sad days have quickly sped,  
He rises glorious from the dead.  
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia! (*LSB 464:3*)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Even as we glory in the gift of eternal life, in that hope we spend our days in joyful repentance and faith. Let us confess our sin, the sin that still so easily besets us, and receive the full forgiveness our Lord daily provides for us.

**People: Lord God, though the strife is over, the battle done, and now is the victor's triumph won, sin still hangs on. We are Your baptized people. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us into our Easter joy.**

Pastor: Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**KYRIE** ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** "He Is Arisen! Glorious Word" *LSB 488*

*He is a-ri-sen! Glor-rious Word!  
Now rec-on-ciled is God, my Lord;  
The gates of heav'n are o-pen.  
My Je-sus did tri-um-phant die,  
And Sa-tan's arr-ows bro-ken lie,  
De-stroyed hell's fierc-est weap-on.  
O hear what cheer!  
Christ vic-to-rious, Ris-ing glo-rious, Life is giv-ing.  
He was dead but now is liv-ing!*

**SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON** ~ *Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a; 51-60*

*After the reading:*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE ~ 1 Peter 2:2-10**

*After the reading:*

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **CHORAL MUSIC “Psalm 146”**

## **HOLY GOSPEL ~ John 14:1-14**

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**People:** Glory to You, O Lord.

*After the reading:*

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** Praise to You, O Christ.

## **SERMON “Returning to Our Way of Life” John 14:1-14**

## **NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

***Response after each petition:***

**Pastor:** Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

## **LORD’S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9–13*

**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**

**Pastor:** Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **BENEDICTION**

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**Pastor:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**People:** Amen.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**HYMN “You Are the Way; through You Alone” LSB 526**

***You are the way; through You alone Can we the Father find;  
In You, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.***

***You are the truth; Your Word alone True wisdom can impart;  
You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.***

***You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims Your conqu’ring arm,  
And those who put their trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm***

***You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,  
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.***

**POSTLUDE**

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