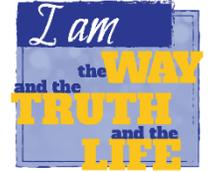


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Liturgist: Vicar Durham  
Sermon: Pastor Marcis

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Scenes of God at Work  
May 10, 2020



### AS WE GATHER

Our fifty-day celebration of Easter continues as we solemnly gather in the presence of our crucified and risen Savior Jesus Christ. Present He is for we see and hear Him touching and speaking to us through His Spirit, in the water of Holy Baptism, in His very body and blood in Holy Communion, in His words of Holy Absolution, and in the preaching of His Word. We gather not as much to give anything to Him but to receive from Him His gifts of deliverance, salvation, and righteousness. Today, once again He bestows on you His own righteousness, making of us a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession. Our sin has been taken away, and we are renewed with eternal life by the faith created in us by His Spirit. In this faith our doubts and fears are taken away as we look forward to our heavenly home, the many rooms and mansions, the place prepared for us, as we await His final return.

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### HYMN

"You Are the Way; through You Alone" *LSB* 526

- 1 **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.**
- 2 **You are the truth; Your Word alone  
True wisdom can impart;  
You only can inform the mind  
And purify the heart.**
- 3 **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.**
- 4 **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.**

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#### 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.**

✠ WORD ✠

#### HYMN OF PRAISE

“Lord I Lift Your Name On High”

**Lord I lift Your name on high  
Lord I love to sing Your praises  
I'm so glad You're in my life  
I'm so glad You came to save us**

**You came from heaven to earth To show the way  
From the earth to the cross My debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave From the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift Your name on high**

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#### 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 READING

*Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60*

(Stephen chosen, the first martyr)

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. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, “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 your fathers not 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## GRADUAL

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

Pastor: Christ has risen from the dead.

People: **God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,**

Pastor: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

People: **He has put all things under His feet.**

## EPISTLE

*1 Peter 2:2–10*

(A living stone and a holy people)

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### VERSE

*Romans 6:9; John 14:23*

**Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Alleluia.**

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

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 14:1–14*

(I am the way, the truth, and the life.)

"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.

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

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds" *LSB 867*

- 1 Let children hear the mighty deeds  
Which God performed of old,  
Which in our younger days we saw,  
And which our parents told.**
- 2 So make to them His glories known,  
His works of pow'r and grace;  
And we'll convey His wonders down  
Through ev'ry rising race.**
- 3 Our sons and daughters we shall tell  
And they again to theirs  
That generations yet unborn  
May teach them to their heirs.**
- 4 O teach them with all diligence  
The truths of God's own Word,  
To place in Him their confidence,  
To fear and trust their Lord,**
- 5 To learn that in our God alone  
Their hope securely stands,  
That they may never doubt His love  
But walk in His commands.**

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**SERMON**

"Leaving A Legacy"

Joel 1:3

**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. 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.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" *LSB 633*

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide  
Flowing from His piercèd side.  
Alleluia!**

- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine  
Gives His sacred blood for wine,  
Gives His body for the feast—  
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.  
Alleluia!
- 3 Where the paschal blood is poured,  
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
Through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Alleluia!
- 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,  
Paschal victim, paschal bread;  
With sincerity and love  
Eat we manna from above.  
Alleluia!
- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!
- 8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

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#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

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.

## **BENEDICTION**

**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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

**People:** Amen.

## **HYMN**

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” *LSB 465*

- 1** Now all the vault of heav’n resounds  
In praise of love that still abounds:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
“Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2** Eternal is the gift He brings,  
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Now still He comes to give us life  
And by His presence stills all strife.  
Christ has triumphed! He is living!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3** O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
Set heart and will on things above  
That we conquer through Your triumph;  
Grant grace sufficient for life’s day  
That by our lives we truly say:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4** Adoring praises now we bring  
And with the heavn’ly blessèd sing:  
“Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!”  
Be to the Father and our Lord,  
To Spirit blest, most holy God,  
All the glory, never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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