



*Whoever has seen Me has  
seen the Father*

The Fifth Sunday of Easter  
And Mother's Day  
May 10, 2020

At Home Worship  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Closter, New Jersey

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PREPARATION

### INVOCATION

Pastor In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation**      **Amen.**

### CONFESSION

Pastor If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

**Congregation**      **O Lord, who could stand?**

Pastor But with You there is forgiveness;

**Congregation**      **therefore You are feared.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

Pastor O almighty God, merciful Father,

**Congregation**      **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

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.

**Congregation      Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**     *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

- 1. Christ the Lord is risen today,  
Sons of men and angels say.  
Raise your joys and triumphs high;  
Sing, ye heavens, and, earth, reply.**
- 2. Love's redeeming work is done,  
Fought the fight, the battle won.  
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er;  
Lo, He sets in blood no more.**
- 3. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
Christ has burst the gates of hell.  
Death in vain forbids His rise;  
Christ has opened Paradise.**
- 4. Lives again our glorious King;  
Where, O Death, is now thy sting?  
Once He died our souls to save;  
Where thy victory, O Grave?**

5. Soar we now where Christ has led,  
Following our exalted Head.  
Made like Him, like Him we rise;  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
6. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!  
Praise to Thee by both be given!  
Thee we greet triumphant now:  
Hail, the Resurrection Thou!

***KYRIE***

**Lord, have mercy on us; Christ have mercy on us;  
Lord, have mercy on us.**

## ***GLORIA IN EXCELSIS***

**Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
Of heavenly joy and earthly peace we sing.  
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heavenly King.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious victory won,  
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.**

**Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,  
At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.**

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation: And with your spirit.**

Pastor: 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.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## READINGS

### ***First Reading Acts 6: 1 – 9; 7:2a, 51 – 60***

<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup> But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."<sup>5</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup> These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.<sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> And Stephen said:

"Brothers and fathers, hear me....

<sup>51</sup> "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you.<sup>52</sup> 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,<sup>53</sup> you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."



<sup>54</sup> Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him.<sup>55</sup> 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.<sup>56</sup> And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."<sup>57</sup> But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him.<sup>58</sup> 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.<sup>59</sup> And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."<sup>60</sup> 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.

*After the reading:*

Lector This is the Word of the Lord

**Congregation Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle 1 Peter 2:2 – 10**

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation---<sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,<sup>5</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup> 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."

<sup>7</sup> 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,"

<sup>8</sup> and  
"A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense."

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

<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup> 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.

*After the reading:*

Lector This is the Word of the Lord

**Congregation Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**  
**These things are written that you may believe**  
**That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**  
**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. John, beginning at chapter fourteen verse one.

**Congregation      Glory to You, O Lord.**

Pastor                    <sup>1</sup>"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.<sup>2</sup> 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?<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup> And you know the way to where I am going."<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.<sup>7</sup> If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us."<sup>9</sup> 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'?"<sup>10</sup> 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.<sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>"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.<sup>13</sup> Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.<sup>14</sup> If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

*After the reading:*

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Congregation      Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **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 OF THE DAY** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

- 1. What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
Oh, what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer**
- 2. Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged—  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**3. Are we weak and heavy laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge—  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
You will find a solace there.**

## **SERMON**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*after each portion of the prayer:*

Pastor Lord, in Your mercy,

**Congregation hear our prayer.**

Pastor Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Congregation Amen.**

## **LITANY** (Sung)

Pastor In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Congregation 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.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For Pastor Holsten, our Pastor in Christ, for all the servants of the church and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**



Pastor For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**Congregation Alleluia.**

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

*(Silence for meditation)*

Pastor Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

**Congregation To You, O Lord.**

Pastor O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

**Congregation Amen.**

Pastor Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

Pastor Let us bless the Lord.

**Congregation Thanks be to God.**

### **PRAYER**

Pastor Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Congregation Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

Pastor The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**Congregation Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

### ***Lord of All Hopefulness***

- 1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**
- 2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**
- 3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**
- 4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**