Holy Cross Lutheran Church FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MOTHER'S DAY

May 10, 2020 – 9 AM

AS WE GATHER Today, is Mother's Day. We give thanks to the Lord for family and especially for the special gifts of our loving mothers who bless their families with love, care, wisdom, and many other blessings. God bless you always!

Our theme for our worship, with the comforting words (I am the Way, and the Truth and the Life) 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 over issues such as sexual identity and even marriage. 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.

> **†** IN DOMINE JESU **†** (In the Name of Jesus)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen! C: He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!P: "This is the day that the Lord has made, C: let us be glad and rejoice in it!"



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LSB 528 vs. 1-5

Psalm 118:24

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INVOCATION

- P: In the name of the Father and of the **†** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
- C: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- P: For He is our God,
- C: and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: 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!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

- P: 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.
- C: 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.
- P: 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.
- C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

LSB 528 vs. 6-7

- See all your sins on Jesus laid;
 The Lamb of God was slain.
 His soul was once an off'ring made
 For ev'ry soul of man.
- To God all glory, praise, and love
 Be now and ever giv'n
 By saints below and saints above,
 The Church in earth and heav'n.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father and our eternal Savior, hear the prayers of Your people especially for our deliverance when called to suffer for Your sake. Deliver us and all our persecutors from the just judgment of our sins, and receive us into the eternal mansions prepared for us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

Psalm 95:1, 7

+ THE LIVING WORD +

FIRST READING

(Stephen chosen, the first martyr)

¹Now 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. ²And 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. ³Therefore, 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. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵And 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. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷And 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. ⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then 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. ²And 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, ⁵¹"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which 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, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." ⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then 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. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰And 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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:2-10

(A living stone and a holy people)

L: ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you 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. ⁶For 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." ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But 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. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-6

(Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.")

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter. C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.

²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY	"How Shall They Hear,' Who Have Not Heard" vs. 1-4 Tune LSB 832
	(Note: Lyrics revised)

- 1 "How shall they hear," who have not heard, news of the Lord's redeeming Word; That tells us of His love that came, and declares our Savior's name.
- 2 "To all the world," to ev'ry place, Preach the good news of saving grace; Jesus gave His life to make us free, from sin and death forever be.
- 3 "Whom shall I send?" Do you hear the call, Speak of the truth of man's great fall, Constant in prayer, through toil and pain, To bring a lost world home again?
- "Lord, here am I:" Your fire impart; Touching my lips, my hands, my heart,
 I am a poor self-centered soul; bring to the world Christ's love the goal.

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SERMON

THE 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.

OFFERING HYMN

"How Shall They Hear Who Have Not Heard"

Spirit of love, within you do move. So, all that hear will be reproved. Spirit of joy-, peace-, power in all strife! Christ is the way, the truth, and life.

(Because of God's grace for us, we give our lives and financial gifts and offerings to the Lord's ministry for the purposes of bringing His love and salvation to those who do not yet know Him.)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(after the petitions, the Pastor prays "Lord in your mercy" please pray, "Hear our prayer")

P: Lord in your mercy;

C: Hear our pray.

(after all petitions, the prayers of the church conclude with these words and response)

- P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ.
- C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray: "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.

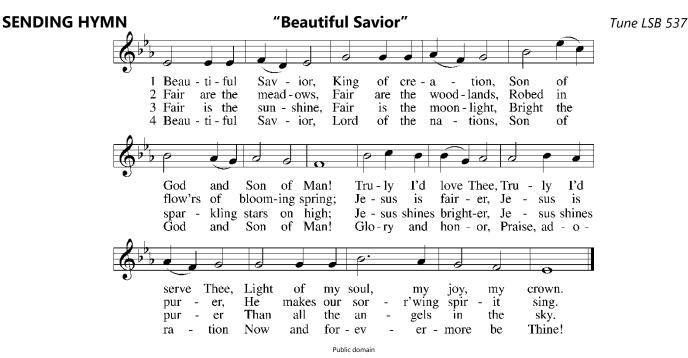
BENEDICTION

P: 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 His favor and **†** give you peace.

C: Amen.



Matthew 6:9–13

Numbers 6:24-26

P: Go in peace and join Jesus on His mission.

C: Amen! We Will! Amen!

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† SOLI DEO GLORIA **†** (To God be the Glory)

SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE (9:00 am)

Piano Lector Power Point Technology Technology Office Support Pastor Mui Cheng Vivian Jobst Dorene Oak Michael Hentges Jason Eickhoff Meg Batchelder James (Jim) Jobst



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