

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ May 10, 2020**  
**A LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR BROADCAST & LIVESTREAM**  
Book of Alternative Services

**OPENING RITE**

**All:**           **Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
**May his grace and peace be with us. May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Officiant:    Almighty God,

**All:**           **to you all hearts are open, all desires known and from you no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Officiant:    This is the day which the Lord has made. Alleluia!

**All:**           **Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!**

***Collect of the Day***

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.

Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

***First Reading***

*Acts 7:55-60*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Reader:       The Word of the Lord.

**People:**      **Thanks be to God.**

***Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16*** (please join in at home and say in unison)

**In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \* deliver me in your righteousness.**

**Incline your ear to me; \* make haste to deliver me.**

**Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \* for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.**

**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \* for you are my tower of strength.**

**Into your hands I commend my spirit, \* for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.**

**My times are in your hand; \* rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

**Make your face to shine upon your servant, \* and in your loving-kindness save me."**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit \* as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

***Second Reading***

*1 Peter 2:19-25-10*

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." 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, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

***The Holy Gospel***

*John 14:1-14*

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. 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, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place 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 know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? 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; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### ***Homily***

### ***Nicene Creed***

**All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## ***Intercessions & Thanksgivings***

### ***An Easter Litany***

In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life saying, "Hear us, Lord of glory!"

That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the Easter gospel; and that strong and prosperous churches may more fully embody the Easter gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That the fire of the Holy Spirit may be sent upon all the baptized; and that we may bear faithful witness to the risen Christ; let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That we may be transformed by Christ's indestructible love and have the humility to be subject to one another in that love, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That by Christ's power disease, war and famine will cease, and healing, peace, and mercy prevail in every land and heart, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That by Christ's justice those who are in need may be nourished and strengthened by those who have abundance, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That by Christ's compassion those who suffer in these pandemic days may be comforted and restored by the kindness of others, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That by Christ's resurrection those who have died may share in eternal life and those who mourn may receive everlasting hope, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Gracious God, receive our prayers and give us grace to serve the world you love with passion and conviction. This we ask in the name of our risen Saviour. **Amen.**

### ***A Prayer of Thanksgiving:***

We praise and thank you, O God our Father, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him you have enlightened us by revealing the light that never fades, for dark death has been destroyed and radiant life is everywhere restored.

What was promised is fulfilled: we have been joined to God, through renewed life in the Spirit of the risen Lord.

Glory and praise to you, our Father, through Jesus your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Spirit, in the kingdom of light eternal, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

***The 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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