



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
April 28, 2024

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Introit

Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

A little while, and you will see me no longer;
and again a little while, and you will see me.
I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!
My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

A little while, and you will see me no longer;
and again a little while, and you will see me.

Kyrie

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- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P 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.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** 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.
- C** **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Apostles' Creed

- C** **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.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Almighty God, with the whole creation, we praise You for Your gift of life and the world that sustains us and all the living. Grant that seeing Your even greater gift of deliverance from the disfigurement of sin and the promise of the renewal of Your original design all people may come to repentance and faith in Your gracious invitation through Jesus Christ, risen and victorious over death. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.
- P** Give power to Your Word as it is proclaimed boldly by Your Church filled with the Holy Spirit in the faithful witness of all—as it is preached and taught by all who are ordained and commissioned by You as well as those to whom You have given the gifts to be faithful witnesses of Your salvation and glory. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.
- P** Turn the hearts of all who bear the authority of government in our land and around the world that they serve and lead all people in the ways of justice, peace, and freedom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.
- P** To all who suffer sickness or injury, give the comfort of Your healing. And to all who suffer any persecution for standing for the truth of the Christian faith, give strength to endure. To all increase faith and faithfulness, believing that the risen Christ leads us to the glory of eternal life in Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.
- P** For all the faithful who have gone before us, for the prophets and apostles, for saints and martyrs, especially for Your servant Stephen, we give You thanks and ask that You strengthen us to walk according to their example throughout all our days to the glory of Your holy name. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Offering

Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

Prayer

P Let us pray. Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

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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 favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Acknowledgments

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