

full. He hears the Son's cry, "It is finished!" He sees us clothed head-to-toe in Christ's righteousness, and He pronounces us His beloved children with whom He couldn't be more pleased. May He give us eyes of faith to see what He sees!

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; May 08 - 13, '23

Mon John 6:60-65 Having fed 5,000 with five barley loaves and two small fish, sustaining them for a while, Jesus pointed to this as a sign that He is the true Bread from heaven, who would sustain them eternally by His word. Many murmured. To believe that He was from heaven required heavenly persuasion (v65).

Tues John 6:66-69 When many were walking away from Jesus, Simon Peter speaks for the twelve, who have come to know that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. They would not walk away from Him who has the words of eternal life (v68).

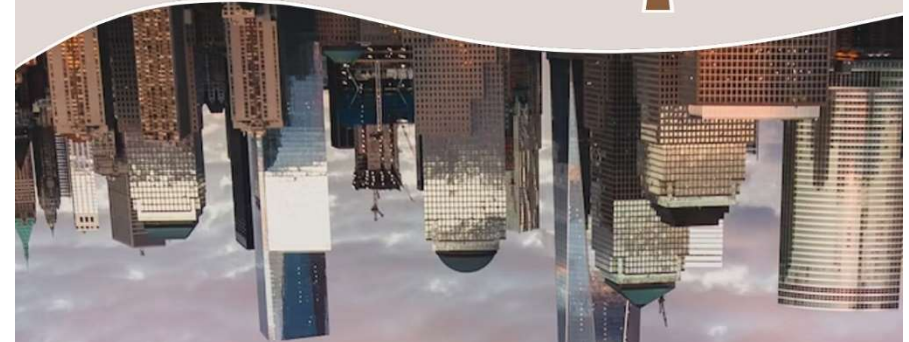
Wed 2 Timothy 2:8-13 Paul writes to Timothy from prison, but God's word cannot be imprisoned! The grave could not hold the Word made flesh (cp.Jn1:14), nor will it be able to hold those who died and live with Him by faith.

Thur Psalm 98:1-3 Let every new day bring a new song to the LORD, for salvation and life are His doing. Righteousness, steadfast love, and faithfulness are all His gifts unto the ends of the earth!

Fri Psalm 98:4-6 Resurrection praises may be sung by voices, stringed instruments, brass instruments and horns, because true praises to the LORD all come from the heart that sees Him as King and Savior!

Sat Psalm 98:7-9 The praises of Him who saved us from the judgment for our sins extend to all the earth! The sea and everything in it, the world and those who dwell in it, the rivers and hills – because of Christ, who died and rose again, all can rejoice and sing, "Joy to the world! The LORD is come!"

May 7, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Easter



“These men...
have turned
the world
upside down.”



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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #143:1,4,5,15

“O Dearest Jesus”

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

Confession of Our Sins

P Pastor

C Congregation

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful & need His forgiveness.

- P** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from conception. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**
- P** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!
- C Amen!**

The Introit

Ps. 30:1-5; Ps. 149:1

- P** Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly!
- C I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**
- P** O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.
- C O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**
- P** Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.
- C For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

“What Does God See in You?”

Devotion written by Pastor Michael Eichstadt

Have you ever dreamed of playing in the NFL or being chosen for the cast of a major motion picture? Why weren't you drafted by your favorite team or chosen for an audition in Hollywood? Why were others chosen and not you? It's not a mystery. Gifts and talents were seen in others which we don't have. Likewise, why were you offered the job you have and others were not? How did it happen that you were accepted into the university program and some received rejection letters? Again, there were things people saw in you and not in other applicants. That's how the world works.

Many think God works the same way. They assume that He must see something noteworthy in those whom He brings into His kingdom. There must be some trait or quality which sets God's children apart from others and moves God to want them as His own. It's an ego boost to imagine that God recognized at least a little something which makes us unique. The truth, though, is that there is no difference among people by nature. “There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). All our imagined virtue is like filthy rags before God.

It is not at all what God sees in us which moved Him to make us His sons and daughters. Instead, it is something in God Himself. He loves us for His love's sake, not for anything in us. There is nothing we can do to make Him love us. What we think, do, and say would be reason for Him not to love us. Yet His love still reaches out to embrace us and hold us close to Him. His love moved Him to send His Son to take our place under the condemnation of His holy law. “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins” (1 Jn. 4:10).

What does God see in us? He sees sin inherited from Adam. He sees our failures to love Him above all and to love our neighbor as ourselves. But that's not all. He also sees our sins paid for in

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen!

Hymn: **WS #761**

"In You is Gladness"

Mission Helper Trip Fund: This summer, we have the joyful privilege of sending three representatives from our congregation to our brothers and sisters-in-Christ in Nepal as part of this summer's CLC Mission Helper Trip. Lydia Ohlmann will be joined by Pastor Rodebaugh and Missionary Ohlmann. Please pray for all three as they continue to preparing and that the Lord would bless their efforts through His Word.

If you are able and willing to contribute funds to help offset the costs for Lydia to travel to Nepal this summer, you are invited to do so by contributing to our **Mission Helper Trip Fund**, by marking donations as such in your offering. Any support is greatly appreciated.

CLC Call News: Ross Kok of Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran School, Phoenix, AZ **is considering the call** to be the upper grade teacher at Valley Bible Academy, Clarkston, WA. <> Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Grace Lutheran in Sleepy Eye, MN and Faith Lutheran in New Ulm, MN **is considering the call** to serve as the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

Budget Deficit: Our offerings-to-date have fallen short of our 2023 Budget by **\$3,560.42**. Please remember this in your prayers, as we entrust our congregation to the Lord.

April 30th Offerings:	\$ 1,250.75
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,661.54
General Fund Balance	\$21,187.39
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$37,394.59
Total Cash All Funds	\$73,917.82

The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father"



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

P 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.

Acts 17:1-12

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to

Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." ⁴ And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵ But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. ⁶ And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, ⁷ and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus." ⁸ And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. ⁹ And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go. ¹⁰ The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. ¹² Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men.

John 14:1-12

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² 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? ³ 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. ⁴ And you know

C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

✠ The Distribution of the Lord's Supper ✠

✠ 8 ✠

the way to where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸ Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹ 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'? ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. ¹² 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.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

G *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

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 Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

✠ 5 ✠

1 Peter 2:4-10

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” ⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸ and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

God’s Living Stones: Jesus and You

- I. Rejected by men as fraudulent
- II. Chosen by God and precious

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

✪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer ✠

The Order of Holy Communion



P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should, at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God for Your Son, the very Paschal Lamb, Who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of Sa - ba - oth, a - dored; Heav'n and earth with full ac - claim shout the glo - ry of Your name. Sing ho - san - na in the high - est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord; Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!



“Given for you...”