Order of Worship + May 10, 2020 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Prelude: Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness, J. S. Bach, Larry Peterson

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please take a few moments for silent reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

Announcement of God's Forgiveness

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you

the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



Salutation

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Living God, your Son, Jesus Christ, is the way, the truth, and the life. Grant us the grace to follow him and live lives of servanthood and truth; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson: Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-69

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸ Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen.

² To this he replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me!

"You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! ⁵² Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— ⁵³ you

who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it."

⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Prayed responsively, with the congregation speaking the verses in **bold**.

- L: Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, my soul.
- C: I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
- L: Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.
- C: When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.
- L: Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.
- C: He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them - he remains faithful forever.
- L: He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free,
- C: the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous.
- L: The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.
- C: The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ 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.

⁹But 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. ¹⁰Once 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Announcement

John 14:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the fourteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going."

⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

⁹ Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

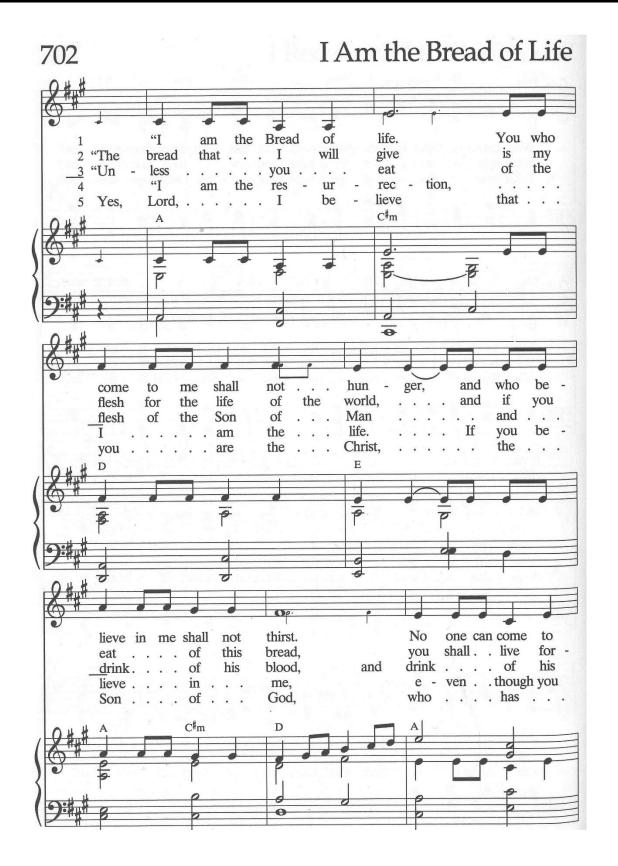
Children's Sermon

Natalie Anderson

Sermon

Pastor Ken Nelson

Sermon Song WOV #702





Text: John 6, adapt. S. Suzanne Toolan, SM, b. 1927 Music: S. Suzanne Toolan, SM, b. 1927 © 1966 GIA Publications. Inc.

I AM THE BREAD irregular

Apostles' Creed

- A: Let us profess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize:
- C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

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

Heavenly Father, we pray for your holy Church throughout the world, that we will be one in truth and love. Bless our bishop, Dan, and all those who devote themselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word, as well as those who attend to other pressing needs so that no one is overlooked or neglected. May you bring a rich harvest to their labors.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Thank you, heavenly Father, for our mothers. Give your blessing to mothers and fathers, both young and old, that they will have strength and grace enough for their responsibilities, and grant them joy along the way. Deal kindly with all expectant mothers, especially those

who feel unprepared and fearful. Have mercy on families everywhere, especially during these trying days.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Form us, Merciful Father, to be a people who will show forth your praise and declare to the lost and troubled world that you alone can call us out of darkness and into your marvelous light.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We pray for all those serving in the armed forces, especially for Dan, Nicole, Kyle, Alex and Karmen. Grant them and all those who work to protect us your comfort and strength as they persevere in their efforts.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Lift all those who are bowed down, who are afflicted in mind or body, and whose burdens are persistently heavy. Give them your constant help, and sustain them in faith and hope as you surround them with your unending love.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We praise you that our promised end is in your abiding presence, and that your Son has prepared the way for us. Grant us so to live with expectant hope in our promised inheritance, and kindle in our hearts a desire for Christ's return.

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude

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

Peace of Christ

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

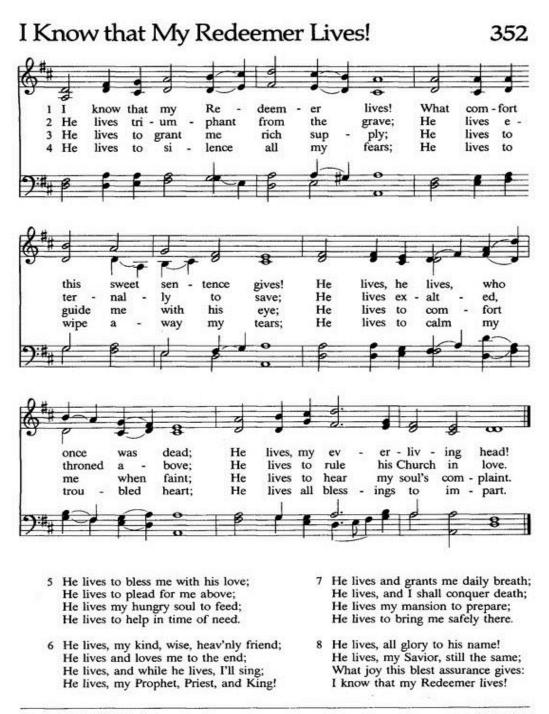
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

LBW #352 (vss. 1-2, 6, 8)



Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

DUKE STREET

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Participants for Service Recording:

Presiding Minister: Ken Nelson

Substitute Organist: Larry Peterson **Assisting Minister**: Lynnae Douglas

Lector: Kyle Jones

Children's Sermon: Natalie Anderson

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