



**8:30 Traditional Worship**  
**Sunday, May 7, 2023**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A**

**Prelude**

Organ solo *Pescador de hombres (You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore)*, arr.  
Valerie Shields

**Welcome and Announcements**

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**Gathering Hymn**

ELW #376 Thine Is the Glory

**Invocation**

In the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**Apostolic Greeting**

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

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

<sup>55</sup>Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>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. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>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.

## Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be <sup>1</sup> put to shame;  
deliver me <sup>1</sup> in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>**Incline your <sup>1</sup> ear to me;  
make haste to de- <sup>1</sup> liver me.**

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag <sup>1</sup> and my  
stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead <sup>1</sup> me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>**Take me out of the net that they have secretly <sup>1</sup> set for me,  
for you are my tow- <sup>1</sup> er of strength. R**

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I com- <sup>1</sup> mend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, <sup>1</sup> God of truth.

<sup>15</sup>**My times are <sup>1</sup> in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who <sup>1</sup> persecute  
me.**

<sup>16</sup>Let your face shine up- | on your servant;  
save me in your | steadfast love.” **R**

## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10**

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—<sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.”

<sup>7</sup>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,”

<sup>8</sup>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.

<sup>9</sup>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 marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup>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.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

ELW #169 Alleluia

vs. I am the way, the truth, | and the life.\* No one comes to the Father ex- | cept  
through me.

## **Gospel: John 14:1-14**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>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? <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup>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’? <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Children’s Message**

**Sermon:** “Witnessing” – Pastor Ruth Hamilton

## **Hymn of the Day**

ELW #669 Rise Up, O Saints of God!

## **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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 Intercession**

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of life, strengthen your Church to proclaim your Gospel even in times of trouble. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between Church and world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, we give you thanks that this holy work you call us to is done with partners throughout the world. Today, we especially thank you for our siblings in the Augustinian Lutheran Church of Guatemala, who witness boldly in Latin America. We pray that we may partner with them to equip and empower many in their walk with you. We particularly pray that your Spirit encourage those in the MILAGRO program as women grow in their education and serve their communities. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experiencing homelessness, and those fleeing war and poverty. We pray for all who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Reassuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

For what else do we pray? ... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us (*especially*). Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## Offertory

Organ solo *Somos uno en Cristo (We Are All One in Christ)*, arr. J. Bert Carlson

## Offering Prayer

Generous God,  
in this meal you offer your very self.  
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.  
In the breaking of this bread  
reveal to us the Risen One.  
In the pouring of this wine  
pour us out in service to the world;  
through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Dialogue

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **Holy**

ELW p. 144

### **Great Thanksgiving**

Blessed are you, O holy God:

you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness  
and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his preaching and healing,

his dying and rising,

and his promise to come again,

we await that day when all the universe  
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,

that, refreshed with this heavenly food,

we may be light for the world,

revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both now and forever.

**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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## **Invitation to Communion**

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

## **Lamb of God**

ELW p. 112

## **Communion Hymn**

ELW #817 You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore

## **Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his  
grace unto life everlasting.  
**Amen.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Gracious God,

in you we live and move and have our being.  
With your word and this meal of grace,  
you have nourished our life together.  
Strengthen us to show your love  
and serve the world in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

## **Benediction**

The God of all,  
who raised ✠ Jesus from the dead,  
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit  
to live in the new creation.  
**Amen.**

## **Remembrance of Baptism**

*The children are invited to come up and assist in the Sprinkling Rite.*  
Remember that you are baptized.  
**Amen!**

## **Recessional Hymn**

ELW #449 We Know That Christ Is Raised

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

Organ Solo *Miren qué bueno (Behold, How Pleasant)*, arr. Aaron David Miller