



# ***Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church***

*Pastor Mark Voss*

***EASTER 5***  
*April 20, 2008*

## ***INVOCATION***

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

*C: Amen.*

## ***OPENING HYMN – CW147 vv 1 & 2***

*“Like the Golden Sun Ascending”*

## ***A PSALM OF CONFESSION – Psalm 51***

*P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;*

*C: According to your great compassion blot out all my transgressions.*

*P: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*

*C: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.*

*P: Against you, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.*

*C: Surely I have been a sinner from birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.*

*P: Hide my face from my sins.*

*C: And blot out all my iniquity.*

*Sing: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.*

*Restore unto me the joy of your salvation; and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.*

*P: Dear Father, as you said to King David so you say to us, “Be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven!” You grant us cleansing from all our sins and restore to us the joy or your salvation through our Savior Jesus Christ. Go now and live in that forgiveness! Serve God faithfully, rejoicing that his peace is your peace. Amen.*

## ***PRAYER OF THE DAY***

*P: The Lord be with you.*

*C: (sing) "And also with you."*

*P: Let us pray.*

*C: (sing) "Amen."*

## ***FIRST LESSON – Acts 17:1-12 “Receive the Word Eagerly – Examine It Daily”***

<sup>1</sup>When they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. <sup>2</sup>As his custom was, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ," he said. <sup>4</sup>Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and not a few prominent women.

<sup>5</sup>But the Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason's house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd. <sup>6</sup>But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other brothers before the city officials, shouting: "These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, <sup>7</sup>and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus." <sup>8</sup>When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. <sup>9</sup>Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go. <sup>10</sup>As soon as it was night, the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. <sup>11</sup>Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. <sup>12</sup>Many of the Jews believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

## ***VERSE OF THE DAY***

## ***GOSPEL LESSON – John 14:1-12 – sung by Sr. Choir “Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled”***

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### ***“Jesus Is the Way, the Truth, and the Life”***

<sup>1</sup>"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." <sup>8</sup>Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." <sup>9</sup>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'?" <sup>10</sup>Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. <sup>11</sup>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 miracles themselves. <sup>12</sup>I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

## ***THE CONFESSION OF FAITH***

I believe in God our Lord and Father in heaven, who made us the crown of his creation, and preserves us with every good thing, that we may live before him in peace and joy.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, God's only Son from eternity, who became a man for us sinners, Who redeemed us from Satan's power with his holy precious blood, rose from death, and made us his own to live with him now and forever.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who draws us to our Savior by the Gospel, who keeps us united in the true faith, forgives our sin, and at the end of the world will raise us from death to eternal life. I believe in the Triune God. Amen.

## ***SERMON HYMN – CW528***

*“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”*



**SERMON**

**“God’s Homecoming Court”**

**1 Peter 2:4-10**

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the living Stone--rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him-- <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.”

<sup>7</sup>Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,”<sup>8</sup>and,

“A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message--which is also what they were destined for.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

<sup>10</sup>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.

**ORDER OF LORD’S SUPPER**

*The Bible teaches that receiving the Lord’s Supper together is a public statement of our unity and agreement in the faith. If you are a visitor and have not communed with us before, we ask that you speak with our pastor outside the service before communing. It is our hope that we can share with you our beliefs from the Bible about our Savior and this Sacrament. Thank you.*

**RECEPTION (From Luther’s Catechism)**

*P: What is the sacrament of Holy Communion?*

*C: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ together with bread and wine, instituted for us Christians to eat and to drink.*

*P: Who is properly prepared to receive this sacrament?*

*C: Fasting and other outward preparation may serve a good purpose, but he is properly prepared who believes these words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But whoever does not believe these words or doubts them is not prepared, because the words “for you” require nothing but hearts that believe.*

**Sing:**



Come to the ta-ble of mer-cy, Pre-pared with the wine and the bread; All who are hun-gry and



thirst-y, Come and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord's in-vi - ta-tion; Re - ceive from His



nail-scarred hand. Eat of the bread of sal-va-tion; Drink of the blood of the Lamb.

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**LORD'S PRAYER** *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen*

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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

*C: Amen.*

**Sing:**            **Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side**  
                         **To walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God.**  
                         **O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God; I love the holy Lamb of God.**  
                         **O wash me in his precious blood. My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

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### **DISTRIBUTION AND HYMN – CW170**

*“Draw Us to Thee”*

### **THANKSGIVING**

*ALL: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**BLESSING**    *C: (sing) Amen, amen, amen.*

### **CLOSING HYMN – CW 356**

*“You Are the Way; Through You Alone”*

### **SILENT PRAYER**