

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

**Theme:** The early Christian church had a debate that brought the concept of grace to the surface. It would be God's gifts, not people's adherence to the laws, that would cleanse and save.

## PRELUDE

## CALL OF WORSHIP

God's salvation is for all!

**All lands and all peoples.**

No separation will stand

**Between us and our sisters and brothers.**

Let us praise the Lord of love,

**Whose grace has redeemed us all.**

## GATHERING SONG

*Lamb of God*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world**

**REFRAIN: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on me**

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Have mercy on me**

**Lamb of God I'm asking You to take away my sin**

**I confess that I've done wrong I need Your help again. REFRAIN.**

**The precious blood of Jesus Christ cleanses me from sin**

**The precious blood of Jesus Christ cleanses me from sin. REFRAIN**

## 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

Let us pray: **Loving God, You showed your followers that their salvation didn't depend upon culture or traditions, but on the grace freely offered by your Spirit. Show us the same open vision of mercy offered to all, regardless of background or practice, for the sake of the whole world. Amen**

## FIRST READING

Acts 15:1-18

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL

Luke 2:29-32

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**  
The reading concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

## SERMON

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Refrain

All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, As thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. Refrain

So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory. Refrain

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. God of All, **Hear our prayer**

Incline your ear to our prayers and fill us with power to begin living out our faith, by the power of your Son our savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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.**

### BENEDICTION

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Here Is Bread*

Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.

Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

REFRAIN: In this bread there is healing, In this cup is life forever.

In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.

Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here. Refrain

Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.

We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified. Refrain

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace, stay safe and be safe. Share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE