



Daily Prayer
+ Saturday, May 30, 2020 +

Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia.

Psalmody

Psalm 114

L: When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob
from a people of strange language,

C: Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion.

L: The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back.

C: The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.

L: What ails you, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you
turn back?

**C: O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like
lambs?**

L: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the
presence of the God of Jacob,

**C: who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a
spring of water.**

**C: Glory be to Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
Amen.**

Hymn

#494, v. 1-3

[1] See, the Lord ascends in triumph;
Conqu'ring King in royal state,
Riding on the clouds, His chariot,
To His heav'nly palace gate.
Hark! The choirs of angel voices
Joyful alleluias sing,
And the portals high are lifted
To receive their heav'nly King.

[2] Who is this that comes in glory
With the trump of jubilee?
Lord of battles, God of armies,
He has gained the victory.
He who on the cross did suffer,
He who from the grave arose,
He has vanquished sin and Satan;
He by death has crushed His foes.

[3] While He lifts His hands in blessing,
He is parted from His friends;
While their eager eyes behold Him,
He upon the clouds ascends.
He who walked with God and pleased Him,
Preaching truth and doom to come,
He, our Enoch, is translated
To His everlasting home.

Reading

Acts 9:23-31

When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket. And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. And

he spoke and disputed against the Hellenists. But they were seeking to kill him. And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus. So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson

Our reading today from Acts 9 continues the account of Paul's conversion to the faith and his early fulfillment of the Lord's commission given to him on the road to Damascus.

And what was Paul's mission? The Lord said to Ananias:
"Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." (Acts 9:15-16)

The Lord Jesus appeared to Paul and converted his heart to faith so that he would serve as Apostle to the Gentiles. Paul would be the chosen instrument of Jesus to carry his name before the Gentiles and to suffer for the sake of his name.

This mission was fulfilled almost from the beginning. What did Paul do in Damascus? He preached the name of Jesus and suffered because of his name.

In the synagogue, Paul proclaimed that Jesus was the Son of God and proved among them that Jesus was the Christ. And then, because of this, the Jews began to plot to kill him. They set up watch at the city gates to catch him coming or going. Because of this, Paul's disciples took him by night and lowered him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

This early work of Paul would be repeated over and over again throughout his life. Paul would enter a city, preach Christ, and be driven from town through persecution. And this, not by accident, but by the will of the Lord. That the church would have an example of faithfulness in the face of opposition and an inspiration to carry out the will of God no matter the challenge or obstacle.

The mission of Jesus in the world is not a bed of roses, but a real challenge and difficulty. Obstacles abound. But not matter the hardship, Jesus is with us and his kingdom comes as we remain faithful. Holding onto the doctrine of our salvation and preaching it among people for their good is our calling, no matter the persecution.

May the life of Paul inspire us to share his doctrine and faith, as well as the endurance and courage which come from Christ. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

C: 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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Collect

L: Mighty God, inscribe your law upon our hearts, and equip us to serve you with holy and blameless lives. May each day remind us of the coming of the night when no one can work; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

Hymn

#494, v. 4-5

[4] Now our heav'nly Aaron enters
With His blood within the veil;
Joshua now is come to Canaan,
And the kings before Him quail.
Now He plants the tribes of Israel
In their promised resting place;
Now our great Elijah offers
Double portion of His grace.

[5] He has raised our human nature
On the clouds to God's right hand;
There we sit in heav'nly places,
There with Him in glory stand.
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
Man with God is on the throne.
By our mighty Lord's ascension
We by faith behold our own.