



Daily Prayer
+ Wednesday, May 6, 2020 +

Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia.

Psalmody

Psalm 104:1-9

L: Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great!

C: You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.

L: He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot;

C: he rides on the wings of the wind; he makes his messengers winds, his ministers a flaming fire.

L: He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.

C: You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

L: At your rebuke they fled; at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.

C: The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place that you appointed for them.

L: You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

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

#463, v. 1-2

- [1] Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!
- [2] For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Reading

Acts 2:14-36

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: 'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.' Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God

did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.’ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson

In our reading today from Acts 2, the words of the Prophet Joel are fulfilled in the gift of the Holy Spirit, given to the disciples and apostles of Jesus so that they would tell the "*mighty works of God*" in the many languages of the pilgrims in Jerusalem.

The "*last days*" spoken of by Joel have come upon the world with the coming of Jesus and the promises of God are being fulfilled. These "*last days*" spoken of by Joel are the time in which we live, the time between the first and second comings of Christ, the church age. We live in the end times and have been living in them for 2000 years now. We live in the "*last days*" of the Spirit in which Christ' name is being proclaimed to all of creation.

And so the Spirit is poured out on Peter so that he can preach the name of Jesus. And what does Peter preach? That God has made Jesus both "*Lord and Christ*". (Acts 2:36)

And how does Peter know that Jesus is both Lord and Christ? Peter proves his claim with the simple historical facts:

- Jesus was attested by God through "*mighty works and wonders and signs.*" (Acts 2:22)
- Jesus suffered and died according to God's eternal plan. (Acts 2:23)
- God raised him from the dead in victory over death. (Acts 2:24)

Peter knows that Jesus is both Lord and Christ because of the historical facts of the Gospel. Jesus performed miracles

and signs by the power of God. Jesus suffered and died as predicted by the Old Testament prophets. Jesus was raised from the dead by the Father in victory over death. All of these great acts of Jesus, taken together, demonstrate and prove and authenticate the truth of his claim to be the Son of God, the Lord, the Christ.

And so Peter, by the power of the Holy Spirit, announces to all of Jerusalem what God has accomplished through his Son. The work is complete. Now the publishing of the good news is at hand. God has done it. Now it must be proclaimed.

And so the Holy Spirit enters the scene and makes his move. The Spirit who reveals truth and turns hearts and calls and gathers a church. This Spirit fills Peter and he begins to preach the good news of Jesus.

This is the good news which Peter preached 2000 years ago and which continues to be proclaimed in all the world. This is the Gospel which has been preached to us and which we believe. That Jesus is Lord and Christ and that this is proven by his miracles, by his death in our place, by his resurrection in victory over sin and death.

We rejoice in this good news today and always. 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: Merciful God, we humbly implore you to cast the bright beams of your light upon your church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; 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

463, v. 3-4

[3] Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia!
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!

[4] Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!