



Daily Prayer
+ Thursday, May 7, 2020 +

Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia.

Psalmody

Psalm 104:10-18

L: O Lord, you make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills;

C: they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

L: Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell; they sing among the branches.

C: From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

L: You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth

C: and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine and bread to strengthen man's heart.

L: The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

C: In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees.

L: The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the rock badgers.

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

#465, 1-2

[1] Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

[2] Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reading

Acts 2:37-41

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson

In our reading today from Acts 2, Luke records for us the impact that the Gospel of Jesus had on the crowds of pilgrims that first Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit moved Peter to preach and proclaim that God had made Jesus to be "*both Lord and Christ*". (Acts 2:36)

Luke reports that the crowd of pilgrims in Jerusalem heard the Gospel of Jesus on Pentecost and "*they were cut to the heart*". (Acts 2:37)

The words that Peter preached cut them to the heart for two reasons.

First, they were cut to the heart because the crowds on Pentecost were among the crowds on Good Friday and because they had participated, if only in a passive or small way, in the suffering and death of Jesus. The crowds were "*cut to the heart*" with repentance over their sin. Peter had just preached that God had made Jesus both Lord and Christ, "*this Jesus whom **you** crucified*". (Acts 2:36)

And so, the death of Jesus calls for repentance. And not just for those who lived during the days of Jesus and actively participated in his suffering and death. No, Jesus died for all of our sins. He was put forward by God as the propitiation for the sins of the whole world. Jesus died for our sins, paying the penalty for sin which we committed. A remembrance of this truth will always "*cut to the heart*" and call for repentance.

Second, however, the crowds on Pentecost were "*cut to the heart*" because of the good news contained in Christ's victory over sin and death. Not only did Jesus suffer and die for us; but God raised him from the dead.

This victory of Jesus cuts our hearts as well; cuts of joy and confidence and hope. God has won a great victory over sin and death through Christ and this cuts to our hearts creating faith and hope and joy. We are delivered and will be delivered on the Last Day.

And, then, because the crowds have been converted to Christ through contrition and true faith, Peter leads them to baptism and to incorporation into the body of Christ.

And so Peter says, "*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.*" (Acts 2:38-39)

Here the newly formed and expanded church was moved by repentance and faith, through baptism, into a new life in Christ. That move of the Spirit is our as well, as we have been "*cut to the heart*" by the work of Jesus for us, baptized in his name, forgiven of all of our sin.

May this promise of God and new life in Christ be ours and our children's forever. 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: Almighty God, grant to your church your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve you and, in the confession of your name, abide unto the end; 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

465, v 3-4

[3] O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

[4] Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!