

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

The First Reading

Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Psalm

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set
for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O Lord, O God of truth.

15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

The Second Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner", and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Gospel Reading

John 14:1-14

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by the Deakins Family in memory of our wonderful Wayne, we love you, miss you so much – your family.

By Jeff & Donna Richardson in celebration of Donna's parents, Billy & Sylvia Cox's 70th Wedding Anniversary.

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Samantha Rauch
 7th: Jeff Hahne
 12th: Joe McClellan
 18th: Danny Carroll
 20th: Jessica Cunningham
 23rd: Alan McCalman
 24th: Fred Brink
 25th: Charlotte Oberthier
 30th: Cord Cammack

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

6:00 pm Dinner & fellowship

Sunday, May 14, 2023- Mother's Day

9:00 am Bible Study
 10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Honoring Graduates

Sunday, May 21st, Mother Tracey will be recognizing all who have graduated from elementary school to middle school all the way up to master's degree.

Pentecost Sunday, May 28th

Don't forget to wear **RED** for Pentecost Sunday, May 28th.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers in the sanctuary, the flower dedication forms are in the entryway.

Next Sunday's Servers (05/14)

Acolytes: Amy Brown
Cameras & Streaming: Michael Greathouse
Danny's Team: Stan Williams
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Lynn Dawes
Greeter: Susan Kuhlman
Lector: Javier Glave
Nursery Helper: Roxanne Brink
Ushers: Frank Supercinski
Vestry People: Susan Kuhlman, Roxanne Brink
Worship Tech: Gianna Glave

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Lorraine, Pete and Margie Litterski

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
04/02/23	\$2,403	\$2,939	-\$536
04/09/23	\$3,527	\$2,939	\$588
04/16/23	\$6,437	\$2,939	\$3,498
04/23/23	\$3,110	\$2,939	\$171
04/30/23	\$3,321	\$2,939	\$382
YTD TOTALS	\$62,539	\$52,899	\$9,640

This Sunday's Servers

Acolytes: Jonathan Roberts
Cameras & Streaming: Robert Brown
Danny's Team: Stan Williams
Eucharistic Ministers: Frank Supercinski
Greeter: Bryan White
Lector: Amy Brown
Nursery Helper: Marie Tucker
Ushers: Jerry Ritchie
Vestry People: Laura Buckner, Connie Fedrizzi
Worship Tech: Gianna Glave

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