

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 2023**

THE GATHERING

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*Hymn <i>"Christ The Lord Is Risen Today"</i>	No. 373
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*Prayer of the Day	Insert

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

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Psalm 31 (read responsively)	Insert
Second Reading	1 Peter 2:2-10
*The Gospel Acclamation	p. 216
*Holy Gospel	John 14:1-14
Children Message	Rev. Kay Overcash

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Message	Rev. Kay Overcash
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****The Congregation will stand in reverence.***



Today's Readings

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

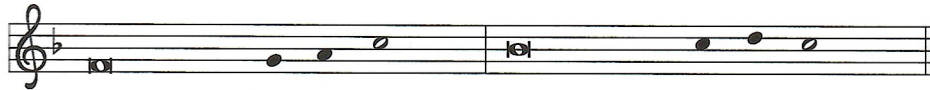
Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then 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. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then 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; tone 4



In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be ¹ put to shame;
 deliver me ¹ in your righteousness.
²Incline your ¹ ear to me;
 make haste to de- ¹ liver me.
³Be my strong rock,
a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag
¹ and my stronghold;
 for the sake of your name,
 lead ¹ me and guide me.
⁴Take me out of the net
that they have secretly ¹ set for me,
 for you are my tow- ¹ er of strength.

⁵Into your hands
I com- ¹ mend my spirit,
 for you have redeemed me,
 O LORD, ¹ God of truth.
¹⁵My times are ¹ in your hand;
 rescue me
 from the hand of my enemies,
 and from those
 who ¹ persecute me.
¹⁶Let your face shine
up- ¹ on your servant;
 save me in your ¹ steadfast love.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like 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. ⁶For 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."

⁷To 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,"

⁸and

"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.

⁹But 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.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Gospel

John 14:1-14

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

⁹Jesus 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'? ¹⁰Do 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. ¹¹Believe 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. ¹²Very 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. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

TODAY'S READINGS May 7, 2023

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Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21.

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