Augustana Lutheran Church of Hyde Park
and Lutheran Campus Ministry
May 10, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Easter

During this time of shelter-in-place, we still worship together online. You can find the link to our worship channel on our website. The video will be available starting at 8:30am on Sunday morning.
The 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.

Readings of the Day


Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1–6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God’s word, he becomes the first
1 Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. 2 And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, 4 while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." 5 What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. 6 They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

7 The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

8 Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. 9 Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. 10 But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. 11 Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." 12 They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. 13 They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; 14 for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." 15 And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

55 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 31:1-5, 15-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

1In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
   deliver me in your righteousness.
2Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.
3Be 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.
4Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
   for you are my tower of strength.
5Into your hands I commend my spirit,
   for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.
15My times are in your hand;
   rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
16Let your face shine upon your servant;
A Reading from the Epistles of Peter: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God’s saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God’s chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

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.
On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1“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.”

Hymn of the Day: ELW #758 - You Are the Way
You Are the Way

1 You are the way; to you alone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word alone true wisdom can impart;
3 You are the life; the rending tomb proclaims your conqu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you only can inform the mind and purify the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys eternal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DÜNDER, Psaaber, Edinburgh, 1615

Solo by Mayuko Yasuda: ELW #779 – Amazing Grace
In Our Prayers

Caleb Tompsett, grandson of Bill and Chris, recovering from surgery for a pediatric brain tumor
The friends and family of Joanna Brown, family friend of JoRachel Pierce, upon her death
Jeanette Bordelon, diagnosed with cancer and awaiting abdominal surgery on May 20th
Millie Spino, friend of Pat Chromy, living in a nursing home and diagnosed with COVID-19
Cathy Eurich, friend of Pat Chromy, in ICU with COVID-19

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and saved a wretch like me!
3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have all my fears relieved;
4 The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures;
5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to now am found; was blind, but now I see.
6 grace appeared the hour I first believed!
7 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
8 portion be as long as life endures.
9 sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Past Issues

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Fifth Sunday of Easter: May 10, 2020

https://us13.campaign-archive.com/?e=&u=a5e4a03164862a15c441...
that her baby will be released from NICU soon
Thanksgiving for birth of Jackson, son of a friend of Pat Chromy's
The doctors in our congregation, Peter Pytel, Jefree Schulte, and Elaine Worcester; and nurse practitioners, Steph Stuhlmuller and Norma Rolfsen
Deb Burnet, Joe Klonowski’s mother, a doctor working hard at UC Hospitals
Kimi, a friend of Joe Klonowski and Emily Kleeman, working hard at UC Hospitals
Kevin Rist, father of Erika, a doctor working hard in Wausau, WI
Karl, a friend and coworker of Joe Klonowski, diagnosed with COVID-19
Dennis Whitten, godfather of Shelley Barnard, disabled by a stroke
Mark van Scharrel, husband of Pastor Julie Ryan, advanced cancer
Frank Showers, undergoing treatment for cancer

Please do not hesitate to email the office with any prayer requests that you would like included next week

Please share the peace and make an offering

Did you know that sharing the peace is meant to reconcile us before we share the Holy Supper? We can't do that in person right now, but we can the rest of the week. Please take time soon to call or email someone. It helps build community and keeps us strong.

At the end of worship, please remember to make an offering. The people we employ depend on your generosity during this difficult time. You can arrange an ongoing electronic offering through our website. Setting up a free PayPal account allows you to make an offering of any size with a debit or credit card; the email address you need is treasurer@augustanahydepark.org. You can, of course, also send a check to Augustana, 5500 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, IL, 60637.
A note on communing this Easter season

In this season of Easter, we invite you to commune during the worship service. If you would like to read about comming at home, please visit Augustana's website at [augustanahydepark.org](http://augustanahydepark.org) to read essays and reflections by several members.

Last week, we ate in the simplest way possible by focusing upon Jesus' words of institution. Martin Luther said that the institutional narrative is sufficient for the celebration of Holy Communion because Jesus' words proclaim the gospel in its fullness. Nevertheless, our usual practice is to place Jesus' words of promise within the context of a larger story, the story of the world's redemption, because we remember how God makes and fulfills promises throughout history. In our celebration of Holy Communion, we call this the Eucharistic Prayer, and this prayer recounts God's mighty acts in history to deliver God's people and the world from its bondage to sin, death, and evil. By hearing God's promises within this drama of redemption, we recall not only what God has done but also what God is continuing to do today. Indeed, this is the story of our redemption. These are God's promises, for us, now.

To prepare for communion today, you will want to have some bread on a plate and either wine or grape juice in a cup. Think of this as setting the table for a dinner party – putting out the cups and plates that you will need for the meal, making the table look nice, getting ready the way you would when eating with family and friends.

Jesus is our host at this meal, and he promises to grace our table with his presence as we share the bread and wine, his body and blood, together.

**Communing at home? Take a picture!**

We would love to receive pictures of the bread and wine that you're using at home for your Communion so that we can vary the images we
please snap a picture and email it to Carolyn.

Our national church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is preparing a social message on government and civic engagement. Messages and statements guide what pastors teach and what we ask of our church's lobbyists in Washington. Until May 27, you are invited to provide feedback on how to strengthen the draft of the message.

To offer feedback on the draft “Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement: Discipleship in a Democracy,” please fill out the survey. You may also choose to email comments to draftsocialmessage@elca.org. In light of the feedback, the message draft will be revised and presented to the ELCA Church Council for a vote in June.

Read the draft.
While we all miss the beautiful interior of our beloved church, we can still enjoy nature's extravagant beautification of the exterior.
The Chicago Pride Parade will be significantly delayed this year, if it takes place at all. But even if the LGTBQIA+ community and its allies can't be together, we can still remember that we are not alone. 

_show your PRIDE and support ReconcilingWorks at the same time!_ A portion of every shirt sold will go to support ReconcilingWorks in making a way for the welcome, inclusion, and celebration of LGTBQIA+ people in the Lutheran Church.

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Dear HPRP Community,

We are asking today that you consider _donating_ to support our refugee families through this crisis. Just like many people in the country and world
today, our families are facing challenges both financial and emotional during this difficult time. Living through a national emergency in a country where you are still learning the language and without a financial safety net, or a long-standing social or family network poses particular challenges.

The HP Refugee Project is responding to this by shifting our priorities to meet the most urgent needs of these families: food, shelter, healthcare, and emotional wellbeing. We are happy to report that we have provided $3200 in rent assistance, over $1000 toward utilities and transportation costs, and $1000 towards food and household goods in the last month.

Here are some of the activities we are doing to address these issues and support our families:

* Monthly budget check-ins with families to assess need for financial support;
* Deliveries of food gift cards and cloth masks;
* Care packages full of activities and art supplies for children;
* Covid-19 information translated into native languages for our families;
* Information and assistance applying for public benefits and unemployment insurance;
* Information about local coronavirus testing sites and telehealth procedures;
* Regular check-ins with families to ensure they feel part of a loving community.

We currently assist 45 people across six families, many of whom have suddenly found themselves struggling with additional instability. While we still hope to welcome a refugee family soon, the money we raised in the winter will go to helping families already in the neighborhood. These are our friends and neighbors who recently fled from other countries and are now starting over.

The funds we currently have, though, will not support our families for long, so we ask you to consider making a donation. **Would you consider helping our local refugee neighbors by financially contributing to our project?** Donations can be made directly through our [paypal link](#) or on our [gofundme page](#) or by check.

Please make checks payable to **Hyde Park Refugee Project** and mail to:
Hyde Park & Kenwood Interfaith Council (HPKIC)

1448 E. 52nd Street, #117
Chicago, IL 60615

Please also consider sharing our gofundme page with your friends and family over social media: https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/support-refugee-families-in-hyde-park/

From the bottom of our hearts, we are grateful for all who can make a contribution and for those who desire to show support to our neighbors! We couldn't do any of this without the generosity of the community!

Wishing you all health and safety in this time,

The Hyde Park Refugee Project Working Group

Grace Note

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