

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY. **SUNDAY PREVIEW**

May 14, 2023

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's Table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the World.

Mothers' Day in the USA and many other countries is observed on the second Sunday in May. It was established first as a secular holiday to celebrate and honour one's own mother, but has evolved to include motherhood in general, and in some communities Christian ideas about Mary the Mother of God.

This Week's Lesson

This is an opportunity to read the lessons and study them for this week. Often our lessons are taken out of context. We sometimes need to read what came before and/or what came after. You might also want to check out another translation.

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Acts 7: 51-60

Please be seated.

⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. ⁵²Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. ⁵³You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it."

⁵⁴When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. ⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶Look, 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

Read responsively

¹In 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.**

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.

⁴**Take 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.

¹⁵**My 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; save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING: 1st Peter 4: 1-6

¹Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin), ²so as to live for the rest of your earthly life no longer by human desires but by the will of God. ³You have already spent enough time in doing what the Gentiles like to do, living in licentiousness, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. ⁴They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme. ⁵But they will have to give an accounting to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does.

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the Church, the World, and all in need.

Silence for reflection.

- A** God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the World to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- A** All the Earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- A** You call all people of the World your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- A** Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick or grieving especially Michael, Aurora, Niki, and all of those whom we hold in our hearts. . Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- A** Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints. Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Suggestions

World Hunger, World Health, World Peace
Child Welfare in Underdeveloped Countries
Mass shootings and killings in U. S. cities and schools
Preservation of Environment
U. S. Economy
Deaths of law officers
Ukraine Conflict
Acceptance of differences

- P** Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
- C** **Amen.**



CONTACT THE PASTOR

Communications requesting pastoral care should be made directly to Pastor Larry Baker, (614) 257-8560.

COMING EVENTS AT ZION

SUNDAY DISCUSSIONS BEFORE CHURCH We have started Sunday morning discussions every Sunday before Church. We meet at 9:45 to have discussions about important things. We will be finishing the book of James sometime soon. Please come and bring your Bible and your favorite morning beverage with you.



MAY 14th, today is Mother's Day. We all have them. Help us honor our

Mothers. Please stop for donuts and juice (if you want coffee you must bring your own) and fellowship.

MAY 28th is the Day of Pentecost. My Easter Season will end and we will enter Pentecost for the next 5 months. The Altar will be wearing red and decorated for Pentecost. Then on

JUNE 4th, we will celebrate The Holy Trinity.

JUNE 18TH Fathers' Day



VILLAGE EVENTS

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 9:00-10:00 AM Here at the Community Center they are instructor-led Workouts. Want some exercise this is where to find it.

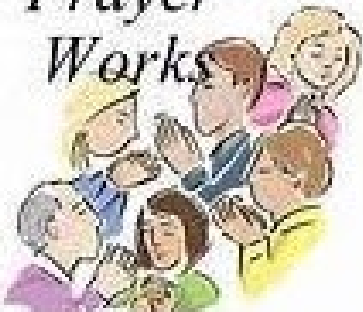
MAY 14th is Mother's Day. Don't be like the guy buying flowers in a gas station. We will be having another opportunity for fellowship.

MAY 19th is the first *Friday Night Uptown* for the year. They have a new stage for the band and there will be activities for kids and food trucks and booths of stuff. Come on down and meet your friends after the long winter.



JUNE 16th, **Cruisin' with the Mayor.** W. Jefferson Car Show, at 33 S. Center Street, 6 :00PM to 8:30 for Judging. Fleetwood Gold will be the entertainment from 7-10. There will be Mexican and Schmidt's and sweets. And probably booths of one kind and another. This event will end with Friday Night Uptown. Come for cars, food, booths, music.

Prayer Works



PRAYERS

Margret Phillips' granddaughter, Aurora, has been diagnosed and receiving treatment for tumors in both of her kidneys. She has recently undergone surgery to remove some of the tumors that were not taken care of in chemo. Aurora is only one year old. Please keep Aurora Lander and her parents and Grandma in your prayers.

Please keep these people in your prayers as well: Michael Koch; Wesley and JoAnn Porter; Nicole Biler Robinette; and all of those who are suffering from diseases and their families. Please remember all of our shut-ins and sick, especially Arlene Castor.

The address for Michael and the Koch family is 224 West Romany Loop, Beverly Hills, FL 34465. Michael has moved to *The Grove*, a facility that is much closer to his home. You can get updates from Linda at www.caringbridge.org/visit/michaelkoch2?fbclid Keep all of the Koch's in your prayers.

If you hear or know of anyone who should be on our Prayer List, please let me know, my number is 614 398-6302 lejohn7310@icloud.com



Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. – Hebrews 11:1-3

Our faith motivates us in this work to end hunger. And while it is difficult to see or imagine a world without hunger in our lifetime, we trust this is the work to which God has called us. And we can live in hope, the conviction of things not seen. With God, all things are possible.

On this Sunday when we celebrate Mothers, let us remember those who have made us mothers. Pray for the children who are starving in the World. Help us to live the faith that the Lord has given us. Remember the children down the street, in the next city, in the next state, in the next country and around the World.



Let us pray.

God of Love, In these Easter weeks, we are reminded that all things are possible through the risen Christ.

Give us the faith in a World without hunger—a World we cannot yet see.

Help us to see and bring into being a World without hunger, a World that trusts in your abundance.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen

(If you wish to sign up for food on the Altar or service assistant for a particular Sunday and are not going to be here to do so, let me know via email, text, or messenger, and I will sign you up for that Sunday.)

*Hope to see you soon.
God bless you all this week.*

THE SPIRIT IS
PROMISED.

YES, AND **ALREADY** LIVES
IN THE DISCIPLES BECAUSE
JESUS IS **WITH THEM.**



THE SPIRIT WILL COME,
BRINGING JESUS **TO THEM.**

THE SPIRIT
IS **ZOOM!!**



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For All the Faithful Women

*1 For all the faithful women
who served in days of old,
to you shall thanks be given;
to all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness
in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore witness,
proclaimed your pow'r to save.*

*2 We honor faithful Mary,
fair maiden, full of grace.
She bore the Christ, our brother,
who saved our human race.
May we, with her, surrender
ourselves to your command*

*and lay upon your altar
our gifts of heart and hand.*

*3 All praise to God the Father!
All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise to God the Spirit,
who binds the church as one!
With saints who went before us,
with saints who witness still,
we sing glad alleluias
and strive to do your will.*