



**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Worship Service
May 10, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Easter and Mother's Day**

Thought: 1 Peter says that we are to be "living stones" being built into a spiritual house. Living stones are not just bricks layered upon each other, but all of us in loving relationships connected by faith and family. Today we celebrate Mother's Day which recalls the history, present and future of how your family of "living stones," has brought you to this point. We are also reminded that in Christ, who is the way, we begin to see what it means to be "living stones," for others both in Our Savior Lutheran and the world.

Prelude for Mother's Day

"More Than Enough" – Shawna Belt Edwards

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7EfJRrJueY>

Mother's Day Litany

All who gather here are sons or daughters.

we praise God for the women who gave us life.

For mothers brave, strong, compassionate, full of wisdom and grace,

we give God thanks and praise.

For mothers vulnerable, worried, frustrated, and hurried,

we pray for peace.

For relationships that are strained and no longer a source of joy,

we pray for healing.

For mothers who have died, that live no longer with us,

but whose light shines on in our hearts and memories,

we pray for those that mourn, and give God thanks for life eternal.

For mothers who grieve, who have lost children born or unborn,

we weep with those with broken hearts.

For those who are struggling to raise children, who are tired and weary,
we pray that we may be their village, offering real help in hard times.

For those who are preparing emptier nests,

**we both celebrate and mourn with you, and hope their wings
are as strong as their roots are deep.**

For stepmothers, navigating the pitfalls and joys of creating a new family,
we pray for wisdom and patience.

For Grandmothers who are doing the hard work of raising children again,
we pray the caregivers have those who care for them.

For those who are waiting and sometimes struggling with the biological process
to bring new life, and for those who are waiting for adoptive process to be fulfilled,
we wait eagerly with you, and offer you our hand to hold in the trial.

For women who do not have children, but instead teach, lead, care for,
and guide the children of others,
we give God thanks and praise.

For the caregivers, prophets, preachers, teachers, leaders, shepherds, healers.
For Moms, in their wide variety and many forms,
we give thanks and praise.

Invocation

Come to the Lord, a living stone, chosen and precious in God's sight

We are living stones, being built into a spiritual house.

Christ is the cornerstone, chosen and precious in God's sight.

Whoever believes in the Lord will never be put to shame

Let us live, then, in the marvelous light of God's love and mercy.

Come, let us worship the Lord!

Gathering Music – “In Christ Alone” – Virtual Choir #3 A Capella

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RY4CW5pte98>

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen, amen.

Hymn of Praise – “Open The Eyes of My Heart” – Michael W. Smith

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vnqb7Vn4AEE>

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you gift us with this new day – alive in your love, surrounded by your mercy.

We praise you that you have made us a people for your own. We ask your continued presence in our lives, that we might know your will for us.

We ask also for the courage to follow.

Open us more fully to your life-giving love. Take all of who we are and hope to be, and build us into a strong spiritual house that boldly proclaims the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Word

First Reading – Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he 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!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ 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. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ 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 31:1-5

*Prayer and Praise for Deliverance from Enemies
To the leader. A Psalm of David.*

¹ In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.

² *Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.*

*Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.*

³ You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name’s sake lead me and guide me,
⁴ *take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.*

⁵ Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

Second Reading – 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.”

⁷ 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,”

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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.

Holy Gospel – John 14:1-14

Jesus the Way to the Father

¹⁴ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² 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? ³ 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. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ 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’? ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Children’s Time

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gcVBBM5tqWk&feature=youtu.be>

Homily – “Allow Yourself to Be Built” – Pastor Barnes

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5COSzm_gKI&feature=youtu.be

Hymn – “My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less” – Islington Baptist Church

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DWdNgXSd46Y>

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead,
on the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the whole world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Build us up, mothering God, as living stones united in your spiritual house. Continually strengthen your church as it is sent for the proclaim your love. We pray especially for new congregations and those in redevelopment. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Humble us, creator God, as part of your creation. Fill us with respect and awe for the world you have made, including volcanoes, ocean currents, tropical rainstorms, glaciers, and other forces that both destroy and create. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Align our ways to your love, O God. We pray for countries, leaders, and other organizations as they prepare places for those seeking refuge and safety, especially Fight the Fight Addiction Awareness – Alan's House. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of healing and rest, help those whose hearts are heavy and weighed down by many troubles. Comfort their suffering, ease their distress, and carry their burdens. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, we pray for those who tend and teach young children, for the safe pregnancies of expectant parents, and for families who struggle with infertility and miscarriage. We give thanks for all who have shown mothering care, and we remember all for whom this day is difficult. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Generous God, you call into your brilliant light all who have died. Give us faith to take hold of the promise of your eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Offering

*As we are the Body of Christ, no distance can truly separate us
as our hearts beat with love and grace!*

“It Is Well with My Soul” – Audrey Assad (with lyrics)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zs-D6vwvgLs>

Offertory Prayer – God of creation, all good things come from you. We offer our thanks and praise for all that we have received from your gracious hand. Take our gifts and bless them to your glory. Use them and us to be a powerful witness that you are still present in the world, bringing new life and hope. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

When Jesus died upon the cross, there was and is no distance too great that his arms did not embrace us. When, by God’s power, the tomb was empty and Jesus arose, there is no place that Jesus does not walk with us. Even though we are apart, His Body and Blood are the promise that will not let you go.

Draw Me Close to You (with lyrics) – Michael W. Smith

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7d_oYr-P16M

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Closing

Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus’ mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ – our way, our truth, our life. Alleluia!

Closing Music

Closing Music – “I Refuse” – Josh Wilson

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_m2FkisN98