

SUMMARY OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Jesus Makes Fishers of Men The Lord called fishermen to be fishers of men. (*See Luke 5:1-11*) The net they would use is the message of the cross, which is foolishness and a stumbling block to the world, but to us who are being saved it is the wisdom and power of God. The power of God to save is not in spectacular signs like wind and fire and earthquakes (*see 1 Kings 19:11-21*), nor is it to be found in human intelligence and wisdom. The power of God unto salvation comes in the still, small voice of the preaching of Christ crucified. In worldly darkness the disciples could catch nothing. But in the light of Christ, Whose Word was attached to the water, the boats were filled with fish. So it is that in Baptism you have been drawn in to the ship of the Church. Though the nets are breaking and some who hear the Word of God do not believe, the Church of God continues to cast the wide net of the Gospel and the Sacraments, so that Christians may abide in the boat of the Church, and so that we may be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks the reason for the hope that is in us. (*See 1 Peter 3:18-15*) (lcms.org/lectionary-summaries)

A READING FROM THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

Summary: Good works follow Jesus wherever He goes. Just as the disciples followed Jesus because they believed in Him, so do we follow Jesus because we believe in Him. All who follow Jesus follow Him in doing good works in His Name.

I do not know how to change in the least what I have previously and constantly taught about justification. Namely, that through faith, as St. Peter says, we have a new and clean heart (*see Acts 15:9-11*), and God will and does account us entirely righteous and holy for the sake of Christ, our Mediator. (*See 1 Timothy 2:5*) Although sin in the flesh has not yet been completely removed or become dead (*see Romans 7:18*), yet He will not punish or remember it.

Such faith, renewal, and forgiveness of sins are followed by good works. (*See Ephesians 2:8-10*) What is still sinful or imperfect in us will not be counted as sin or defect, for Christ's sake. (*See Psalm 32:1; Romans 4:7-8*) Our entire being, both our person and our works, is declared to be righteous and holy from pure grace and mercy, shed upon us in Christ.

Therefore, we cannot boast of many merits and works, if they are viewed apart from grace and mercy. As it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord;" (*1 Corinthians 1:31*) namely, that we have a gracious God. With that, all is well. We say, besides, that if good works do not follow, faith is false and not true. (lcmssermons.com; *Smalcald Articles, Part 3, Article 13*)

† IN THE NAME OF JESUS †

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL (CALL TO WORSHIP)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: 🎵 485

PREPATORY SERVICE OF CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION AND SERVICE OF THE WORD [PAGE 15 TO 23/FRONT OF HYMNAL]

INTROIT (ENTRANCE INTO THE SERVICE OF THE WORD)

PASTOR: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! O You Who have been my help, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! The Lord is my Light and my Salvation; whom shall I fear? Teach me Your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! (*Psalm 27:1; 7; 9; 11-12, 14*)

CONGREGATION: 🎵 **Glory be to the Father....**

COLLECT (PRAYER) OF THE DAY

P: O Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, Who has given us Your precious Word and blessed us with every physical blessing: We acknowledge that we are unworthy of all these things and have certainly deserved much worse, and we implore You to forgive us our sins, as You did Peter's, and bestow success and health to our calling, that we, being supported and defended by You both now and forever, may praise and glorify You for all eternity; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 🎵 **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – 1 KINGS 19:11-21

P: ^{19:11} And God said to [the Prophet] Elijah, “Go out and stand on the mount before the Lord.” And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹² And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. ¹³ And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴ He said, “I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, thrown down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵ And the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. ¹⁶ And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. ¹⁷ And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

¹⁹ So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. ²⁰ And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” And he said to him, “Go back again, for what have I done to you?” ²¹ And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 33

P: Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise is fitting for the upright.

C: Give thanks to the Lord with the harp; make melody to Him with the harp of ten strings!

P: For the Word of the Lord is upright, and all His work is done in faithfulness.

C: He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

P: By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host.

C: Let the earth therefore fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!

P: For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood firm.

C: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage!

P: See, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His steadfast love.

C: That He may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

P: Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our Help and our Shield.

C: For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His Holy Name.

P: Let Your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,

C: even as we hope in You.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

EPISTLE (LETTER) LESSON – 1 PETER 3:8-15

P: ^{3:8} Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. ⁹ Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. ¹⁰ For “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; ¹¹ let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. ¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

¹³ Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as

holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

TRIPLE HALLELUJAH AND READING OF THE GOSPEL LESSON – LUKE 5:1-11

C: ♪ **Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 5th chapter.

C: ♪ **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**

P: ^{5:1} On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on Jesus to hear the Word of God, He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, ² and He saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, He asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴ And when He had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Your Word I will let down the nets." ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." ¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!**

NICENE CREED (CONFESSION OF FAITH) [PAGE 22]

HYMN OF THE DAY: ♪ 421

SERMON

OFFERTORY (ANTHEM PRECEEDING THE OFFERING OF TITHES) [PAGES 22-23]

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the Church, especially those called to be fishers of men, that they would not be discouraged when they toil all night and take nothing, but continue to let down their nets at God's Word, according to their calling, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our congregation and the holy Church of God at large, that God would grant us, His holy saints, faithfulness to always trust Him alone and worship Him as the Giver of all we have and need, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our Church families, that God would help us to not despise the low whisper of His Word, but rather to hear it with reverent and holy awe, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For faith to let down the nets of the Lord's Word in our daily vocations, trusting His Son will do His gracious work through poor sinners like us, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For endurance to live in a sinful world, that the hope of the life of the world to come may sustain all who are wearied by the constant groaning of a broken creation and the troubles of sin, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all who suffer for righteousness' sake, that the Lord would bless and keep them in Christ from fearing or being troubled by those who persecute them, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our country as we celebrate Independence Day this week, that we would remain committed to the principles of liberty and justice for all, and that our government of the people, by the people, for the people would not perish from the earth, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord have mercy.**

P: For the sick, those with chronic suffering, and those recovering from illness in our congregations, especially:

Holy Trinity – Eldor, Monroe and Carolyn,

Saint James – Margo, Dolores, Della, Bernice, Lois, Darvin, Lillie Mae, Tom, Ronnie, Egor, Genell, David, Ernest, Charles, Ginger, Walter, Lorine, Ruth, JoAnne, Carole and Amber,

that God would restore them to health or give them grace and strength to accept their affliction, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who commune today, that Jesus' body and blood would strengthen our faith so that we may bear all crosses, sickness, and trials with patience and peace, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all the saints who have gone before us and now bask in the glory of the Lord, let us give thanks, that we would be numbered among them and kept in the faith until our time in this veil of tears draws to a close, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR [PAGES 24-31]

PROPER PREFACE (LORD'S SUPPER OPENING PRAYER)

P: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we would not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

COMMUNION HYMNS: ♪ 304 & 305

CLOSING HYMN: ♪ 406

† **TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY** †