

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

The Lord does wonders for the faithful. (v3)

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy & righteous God, you are the author of life, & you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, & the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over & rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy & Righteous One & asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see & know; & the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, & turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Back & up read *vv1-11*; how does this fuller account connect with *Psalm 4*?
2. How does this *Acts* reading connect with the Gospel? *See esp. vv13, 15, 18, 19* How is this episode an example of what Jesus says?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Review the Large Catechism's teaching about Holy Communion, esp. paragraphs 21-30, 40-41, 53, 59-60, 70-79. How does the Lord's Supper nourish you? How do you know you need its nourishment? LC available <bookofconcord.org>
4. How does God nourish you with his Word (*cf. v18; Luke 24:47*); list at least 10 specifics.

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Once again, we hear Bible stories about repentance & forgiveness. However, our culture self-justifies by saying dumb things such as, "Only GOD can judge ME!" "You don't know ME!" "No regrets!" (Sometimes spelled *regerts* on tattoos) "YOLO!" (You only live once) "You're a hater/racist/bigot/*fill-in-the-blank*-phobe!" "My body, my choice!" (Ironically except for Covid measures, maybe?) How does traditional, orthodox, Biblical worship & teachings/doctrine keep us from falling into these traps? *See Genesis 6:5, 8:21; Psalm 51; Lamentations 5:16, Daniel 9:8, 11; Zephaniah 1:17; Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8-10; use your study Bible's cross references for more.*
6. In *v12* St. Peter explicitly denies himself (& St. John) credit for the man's healing (*v6; cf. Acts 12:20-22, 14:8-18; Matthew 5:1-12*). However, St. Paul is clear that we must speak about God's mighty deeds in his Son Jesus Christ (*Romans 10:6-17*). How can you speak clearly about what God does in your everyday life without inadvertently taking credit (or confusing God's Law & Gospel)? How can you help others in your congregation do the same? How can you help the ministries in your congregation do the same? How can you help others learn to see God at work in their everyday lives? *Note: for more on Law & Gospel see The Lutheran Study Bible Concordia Publishing House, 2009, pg. xxxi; Wikipedia, "Law & Gospel" <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_and_Gospel>*

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgics license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2021; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

Nourishment

*Without Holy Communion to nourish us,
our living, growing life is stunted.*

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: & by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see & know; & the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. (v16)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the scriptures.
(*Luke 24:32*)

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

The Lord does wonders for the faithful. (v3)

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy & righteous God, you are the author of life, & you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, & the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over & rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy & Righteous One & asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see & know; & the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, & turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Back & up read *vv1-11*; how does this fuller account connect with *Psalm 4*?
2. How does this *Acts* reading connect with the Gospel? *See esp. vv13, 15, 18, 19* How is this episode an example of what Jesus says?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Review the Large Catechism's teaching about Holy Communion, esp. paragraphs 21-30, 40-41, 53, 59-60, 70-79. How does the Lord's Supper nourish you? How do you know you need its nourishment? LC available <bookofconcord.org>
4. How does God nourish you with his word (*cf. v18; Luke 24:47*); list at least 10 specifics.

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Once again, we hear Bible stories about repentance & forgiveness. However, our culture self-justifies by saying dumb things such as, "Only GOD can judge ME!" "You don't know ME!" "No regrets!" (Sometimes spelled *regerts* on tattoos) "YOLO!" (You only live once) "You're a hater/racist/bigot/*fill-in-the-blank*-phobe!" "My body, my choice!" (Ironically except for Covid measures, maybe?) How does traditional, orthodox, Biblical worship & teachings/doctrine keep us from falling into these traps? *See Genesis 6:5, 8:21; Psalm 51; Lamentations 5:16, Daniel 9:8, 11; Zephaniah 1:17; Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8-10; use your study Bible's cross references for more.*
6. In *v12* St. Peter explicitly denies himself (& St. John) credit for the man's healing (*v6; cf. Acts 12:20-22, 14:8-18; Matthew 5:1-12*). However, St. Paul is clear that we must speak about God's mighty deeds in his Son Jesus Christ (*Romans 10:6-17*). How can you speak clearly about what God does in your everyday life without inadvertently taking credit (or confusing God's Law & Gospel)? How can you help others in your congregation do the same? How can you help the ministries in your congregation do the same? How can you help others learn to see God at work in their everyday lives? *Note: for more on Law & Gospel see The Lutheran Study Bible Concordia Publishing House, 2009, pg. xxxi; Wikipedia, "Law & Gospel" <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_and_Gospel>*

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgics license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2021; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

Nourishment

*Without Holy Communion to nourish us,
our living, growing life is stunted.*

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: & by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see & know; & the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. (v16)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the scriptures.
(*Luke 24:32*)