

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Acts 9:1-6

Psalm 30

*You have turned my wailing into dancing.
(v11)*

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal & all-merciful God, with all the angels & all the saints we laud your majesty & might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us & inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹Then I looked, & I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne & the living creatures & the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads & thousands of thousands, ¹²singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power & wealth & wisdom & might & honor & glory & blessing!" ¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven & on earth & under the earth & in the sea, & all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne & to the Lamb be blessing & honor & glory & might forever & ever!" ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" & the elders fell down & worshiped.

LISTENING TO . . .

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

1. Back up & read all of chapters 4 & 5. What clue does *Ezekiel 2:9-10* give about the scroll? What's the point of number symbolism in these chapters? Use your Bible's study notes.
2. *V13* speaks to the fulfillment of what St. Paul writes in *Philippians 2:10*. Who doesn't bow? See 5:1, 6, "creature" v13. What do we learn about Jesus here? See *Small Catechism: Creed*, available bookofconcord.org

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

3. The imagery of *ch5* is popular in traditional, liturgical, Biblical church naves ("worship centers"). Where do you see the winged lion, winged man, winged ox, & eagle in your church's nave? What about the *Agnus Dei*? You can google search for stained glass examples to help you recognize them.
4. If you didn't do so last week: download the sheet with worship service Bible citations. Take it & highlight all of those passages in your Bible this week. Is our orthodox, traditional, liturgical worship Bible-based or not? How many of these passages do you recognize or know by heart already? Available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog/view/1066/second_sunday_of_easter_2022

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

5. A certain kind of person thinks that if the worship service was just the way it used to be when they were a child (perhaps still in German, Czech, or Latin) then we wouldn't have all these problems we have today, & all the churches would be full. What do you think, is it the order of service that causes our problems? What else would have to go back the way it used to be to have this old-time religion again? See *Matthew 24:1-52; Mark 13:1-36; Luke 21:1-36; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-10; 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Timothy 3:1-9, 4:1-5; 2 Peter 2:1-3; Revelation 6:1-17*
6. Jesus, the second person of the Trinity & the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (*John 1:29*) is the heart of a true worship service. How can you show & tell this to others who may not be as familiar with the order of worship? What does it mean if Jesus can't be pointed to in some or even most of your congregation's worship service? Note: this question is asking about objective things, not one's feelings about Jesus or any particular part of the service. By the way, what does today's gospel reading tell you about the "passing of the peace?" Don't be afraid to ask your pastor for help on this question either.

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Third Sunday of Easter
Series: Worship- Heaven on Earth

05.01.22
Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Worthiness

It's not about us; it's about Jesus

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power & wealth & wisdom & might & honor & glory & blessing! (v12)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

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

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