

COS Sunday Devotional Streaming

May 10, 2020 -- Fifth Sunday of Easter

Welcome

During the Easter Season, we will consider **An Easter Perspective of Obedience**. Each week we will look at the Easter perspective in a different way. Today we examine **words and understanding**. Words are cheap, and our day is full of them. Earlier times have had a better perspective on this; we ought to listen to God and remember that actions speak louder than words.

Announcements

We are discussing our own plan to transition back to live, in-person worship. We want to keep the best of both kinds of worship moving forward.

Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Confession of Sins

Father, I confess that in a time filled with words and entertainment, I have sometimes let my words be like a TV show that comes and goes with no difference. I have said the word "love" far more often than I have loved. I have promised things I knew deep down I couldn't or wouldn't do. My actions have been often been loveless, more about me than You, and Your love toward me. Forgive me for shallow devotion, shallow obedience, and shallow love.

Absolution

Music

Your Love Oh Lord, Third Day

Your love, oh Lord,
Reaches to the heavens.
Your faithfulness stretches to the sky.
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains.
Your justice flows like the ocean's tide.

I will lift my voice,
To worship You, my King.
I will find my strength
In the shadow of Your wings.

First Reading

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

¹ Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ² And the twelve

summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. ⁸ And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen.

² And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. ⁵¹ “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵² Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³ you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.” ⁵⁴ Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷ But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸ Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸ and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

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, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies 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.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Ed

Virtual Sharing of the Peace

Offering Music

One Pure and Holy Passion, Mark Altrogge

Give me one pure and holy passion.

Give me one magnificent obsession.

Jesus, give me one glorious ambition for my life:

To know and follow hard after You.

To know and follow hard after You,
To grow as Your disciple in the Truth,
This world is empty, pale, and poor
Compared to knowing You, my Lord.
Lead me on, and I will run after You.

Prayers of the Congregation

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. Amen.

Gospel Reading

John 14:1-14

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms. 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, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to 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 had known me, you would have known 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 it is enough for us.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? 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 authority, 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, or else believe on account of the works themselves. ¹² “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Meditation

Pastor Ely

Prayer and Benediction

Final Music

Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus, Sovereign Grace

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me

Is the current of Your love.
Leading onward, leading homeward
To Your glorious rest above.

Oh the deep, deep love,
All I need and trust
Is the deep, deep love of Jesus.

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Spread His praise from shore to shore.
How He came to pay our ransom
Through the saving cross He bore.
How He watches o'er His loved ones,
Those He died to make His own,
How for them He's interceding,
Pleading now before the throne.

Oh the deep, deep love
All I need and trust
Is the deep, deep love of Jesus.

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus
Far surpassing all the rest,
It's an ocean full of blessing
In the midst of every test.
Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Mighty Savior, precious Friend,
You will bring us home to glory
Where Your love will never end.

Oh the deep, deep love
All I need and trust
Is the deep, deep love of Jesus

Chat Time