

that they had giving up their fear of being grabbed by the Jews and Romans. Peter declared he was going fishing. He didn't really know what to do, so he went back to something familiar. They had not caught any fish. In the Gospels we never see them catch fish without the intervention of Jesus. They didn't realize it was Jesus, one wonders if they didn't recognize Him because of His Resurrected body, or if something else was afoot. (No one seems to immediately recognize Jesus after His Resurrection. They recognized Him by the miracles.) John recognized Jesus, and for some reason Peter jumped into the water to go see Jesus. The transformation of Peter, is shown here and was ongoing. He started as a fisherman, and was transformed into a fisher-of-men.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

℟ O Lord God, heavenly Father, Who is mighty in power and infinite in majesty, Who has created the Heaven and Earth and cares for each of them in their own special needs. We ask that You incline Your ear to us, and in Your wonderful mercy hear us.

We give thanks to You, everlasting God, that You glorified Your Son Jesus in His Resurrection from the dead. After He had offered Himself as the Priest and the Sacrifice for all the world, He laid Himself on the altar of the cross. He died to reconcile sinners to You. Grant us the blessings of His infinite grace and inexhaustible Love.

We praise You that You transformed the "little while" of the crucifixion sadness and defeat into the joy and victory of the Resurrection. Help us lay hold of Christ's promise of eternal life, and receive it in joy. Give us the glorious consolation by a true and living faith. Grant us the expectation and assurance that our eyes will yet behold Him, when, according to Your promise, our Redeemer will again stand on the Earth, and receive all who believe in Him into the kingdom prepared from the beginning of the world. Give Your Church the knowledge of the wonder of the empty tomb, and let us be the ones who proclaim this wonder to the world.

Give the comfort of Your promises to; the sorrowful, the brokenhearted, the sick and the perplexed. Cast out from our hearts all fear of death and the unknown. Instill in us patience in every adversity, and enable us to receive Your blessings in love and gratitude.

Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. (**Time of Silent Prayer.**)

O Father, grant us such a measure of Your grace that we resist all evil, fight the good fight of faith, and in the end receive the victor's crown of life. We ask this all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, the Lamb upon the throne.

© Amen.

### EASTER THREE

#### Chant Tone



#### Introit

All Your works shall give thanks to You, — O Lord,\*  
and all Your saints shall — bless You!

One generation shall commend Your  
works to an — other,\*  
and shall declare Your | mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of Your  
| majesty,\*  
and on Your wondrous works, I  
will | meditate.

They shall speak of the might of Your  
| awesome deeds,\*  
and I will declare Your — greatness.

They shall pour forth the fame of Your  
abundant — goodness\*  
and sing aloud of Your | righteousness.

The Lord is | good to all,\*  
and His mercy is over all that | He  
has made.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy — Spirit;  
as it was in the be — ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. — Amen.

All Your works shall give thanks to  
You, — O Lord,\*  
and all Your saints shall — bless You!

(Antiphon, Psalm 145:10;  
Psalm 145:4-7, 9)

#### Collect of the Day

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

#### Gradual

Christ has risen | from the dead\*

[God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and — honor,  
You have given Him dominion over the works | of Your hands;\*  
You have put all things un | der His feet.

(Adapted from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6)

**ENTRANCE PRAYER:** You have searched us and know us, O Lord, such knowledge is too wonderful for us to understand, for this we adore Your most Holy name. We are grateful for the accounts of witnesses who saw the Resurrected Lord with their own eyes and touched Him with their own hands. Because He rose from the dead, we can now have fellowship with You, with Him, and with one another. Open our minds that we may know Your will, and clothe us with power from on high to help us proclaim Your promises to all the people of the world. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our risen Lord and Savior. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

**THE SEASON OF EASTER IS A TIME OF WATCHING THE GROWTH OF THE CHURCH UNDER THE CARE OF THE APOSTLES.** We live in the New Testament Church as the flock gathered under Jesus Christ. As the Word of the Lord started in Jerusalem and spread to the ends of the Earth, so the Word of the Lord starts here in our Church and will go out to the very ends of our city, our county, our state, our country, then to the entire world. We welcome all who worship with us today, all who, gathered together, make a joyful noise unto the Lord. We especially welcome our visitors. If you are on a journey; God be with you. If you are looking for a church; see you next week!

**THEME OF THE DAY:**

Changed to Serve

**INTROIT**—(Antiphon: Psalm 145:10;) Psalm 145:4-7, 9

Psalm 145 is a Psalm of David written to praise God. It is an acrostic, each line begins with the next of the 22 letters of the Hebrew Alphabet. (Others are 37, 111, 112 with Psalm 119 as the largest example of an acrostic in that each section begins with the succeeding letter.) It is taught that Psalm 145 was David's favorite. The letter "nun" is missing in most manuscripts. In the ESV a verse that shows up between 13 and 14 begins with "nun." It is found in the Septuagint (the ancient Greek Bible.)

**COLLECT**

Jesus was born into our humanity and by that work lifted up our flesh in glory before God. We ask for the ability to show forth the joy that has come to us for all He has done.

**FIRST LESSON**—Acts 9:1-22

Paul's persecution of Jesus' followers went back to Good Friday when some of the people of Jerusalem and members of the Council stood before Pilate and cried out, "Crucify Him!" Council members told Pilate he could not be a friend of Caesar if he released Jesus. In Philippians, we are told that Paul was taught by Gamaliel, and that he was a very pious and zealous member of Judaism. In his zeal he lead the effort to stamp out the sect of believers in Christ. Jesus, the object of Saul's persecution, became Jesus, the center of Paul's faith. Paul was changed from his work of climbing the social ladder, to working as a missionary to the Gentiles.

**GRADUAL**—Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7, Psalm 8:6

This is a statement of the Resurrection followed by the glory and honor given to Christ by our Father.

**EPISTLE LESSON**—Revelation 5:1-14

The theme that predominates this lesson, is that of the slain Lamb sitting on the throne ruling over all and receiving glory and honor from creation. We see the Lamb taking His rightful place on the throne. We also hear of His Second coming. Note that the circle of those who are sitting around the throne is growing. The scroll was about to be opened. Much praise is being given to Jesus in this little reading, because we have grateful hearts for His work to bring us into fellowship with God, and put us in the place of salvation. We gratefully work for Him, as our response.

**GOSPEL LESSON**—John 21:1-19

According to John, this was the third time Jesus had come to the Apostles. They were together, although not all together in this place. It is thought