

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Psalm 138

*I will bow down toward your holy temple. (v2)*

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, & before you angels & saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, & by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers & sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. <sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, & that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers & sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, & his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim & so you have come to believe.

## LISTENING TO . . .

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

- How did Jesus appear to St. Paul (v8) if he wasn't one of the original disciples (vv5-7)?  
*See Acts 7:54--8:1, 9:1-22*
- Scholars view the following passages as proto-creeds. How does the formulaic language already in use in Apostolic times show that Creeds are a natural "symbol" of Christianity, not something imposed by later power players? *See Matthew 28:19; Romans 1:3-4, 10:9-13; 1 Corinthians 12:3, 15:3-7; Philippians 2:6-11 (esp. v11); 1 Timothy 1:15, 2:5, 3:1, 3:16, 4:8-9; 2 Timothy 2:11-13; Titus 3:4-8*

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

- Review the explanation second article of the Creed in both the Small & Large Catechisms. A lot of meaning is packed into a few words. What stands out or surprises you in the explanations? Available [bookofconcord.org](http://bookofconcord.org)
- Tell of two or three times you encountered God's holiness (like Isaiah or St. Peter in the gospel reading) & acutely realized your own sinfulness (*Luke 5:8*)? What was the resolution to the event (*Luke 5:11*)?

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

- Read *v11* carefully (*cf. Philippians 1:15*). Paul is less worried about the pedigree of the speaker than the pedigree of the message (vv3-5). How does this encourage you in your own conversations with pre-Christians friends?
- In the Gospel lesson, Jesus tells the fishermen- in their failure! (*Luke 5:5*)- that they will become fishers of men (or people, if you prefer; *5:10*). This is net fishing, not rod & reel or line fishing. Think of the differences between the two. What insight does net fishing give you in your efforts to introduce your friends to your friend Jesus? *See Matthew 13:47-50*

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

02.09.25

Series: DF<sup>2</sup>

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

*Our life together Developing Fully Devoted Followers of Jesus*

First Importance

*We're all caught up in this together*

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, & that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures (*vv3b-4*)

---

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Follow me, & I will make you fish for people. (*Matthew 4:19*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies 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 2025; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Psalm 138

*I will bow down toward your holy temple. (v2)*

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, & before you angels & saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, & by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers & sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. <sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, & that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers & sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, & his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim & so you have come to believe.

## LISTENING TO . . .

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

- How did Jesus appear to St. Paul (v8) if he wasn't one of the original disciples (vv5-7)?  
*See Acts 7:54--8:1, 9:1-22*
- Scholars view the following passages as proto-creeds. How does the formulaic language already in use in Apostolic times show that Creeds are a natural "symbol" of Christianity, not something imposed by later power players? *See Matthew 28:19; Romans 1:3-4, 10:9-13; 1 Corinthians 12:3, 15:3-7; Philippians 2:6-11 (esp. v11); 1 Timothy 1:15, 2:5, 3:1, 3:16, 4:8-9; 2 Timothy 2:11-13; Titus 3:4-8*

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

- Review the explanation second article of the Creed in both the Small & Large Catechisms. A lot of meaning is packed into a few words. What stands out or surprises you in the explanations? Available [bookofconcord.org](http://bookofconcord.org)
- Tell of two or three times you encountered God's holiness (like Isaiah or St. Peter in the gospel reading) & acutely realized your own sinfulness (*Luke 5:8*)? What was the resolution to the event (*Luke 5:11*)?

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

- Read v11 carefully (*cf. Philippians 1:15*). Paul is less worried about the pedigree of the speaker than the pedigree of the message (vv3-5). How does this encourage you in your own conversations with pre-Christians friends?
- In the Gospel lesson, Jesus tells the fishermen- in their failure! (*Luke 5:5*)- that they will become fishers of men (or people, if you prefer; *5:10*). This is net fishing, not rod & reel or line fishing. Think of the differences between the two. What insight does net fishing give you in your efforts to introduce your friends to your friend Jesus? *See Matthew 13:47-50*

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

02.09.25

Series: DF<sup>2</sup>

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

*Our life together Developing Fully Devoted Followers of Jesus*

First Importance

*We're all caught up in this together*

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, & that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures (*vv3b-4*)

---

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Follow me, & I will make you fish for people. (*Matthew 4:19*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies 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 2025; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available [stpeterhallettsville.org/blog](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/blog)