

About the Fifth Sunday in Lent
Theme: Streams of Salvation
– *highlighting the Scriptures for the week* –

In the desert the LORD miraculously delivered His people Israel. (Isaiah) Drowning mighty Pharaoh and his army, He provided streams in the wasteland to give life to His people on their journey. Forming them for Himself, they proclaimed His praise. So also all the saints; every profit turns to loss in comparison to the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus the Lord. (Philippians) To know Him by faith is to know the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings as well. Yet those who were called to His Kingdom rejected Him. (Luke) Spurning the servants of the LORD, they even killed His well-beloved Son. So it was that the Lord Jesus predicted His own rejection and execution at the hands of the leaders of God's people Israel – opening up His Kingdom to all the world.

WEEKLY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

Use the schedule below in your personal devotion. The first three readings are the lessons read today; the last three will be read next Sunday. The Wednesday reading is the psalmody for the week. Each day you may want to pray that Psalm or the prayer printed in our service folder today, followed by the suggested reading and your personal requests and Thanksgivings to our Heavenly Father.

- Sunday** Isaiah 43:16-21 How did the LORD make a path through the mighty waters for His people Israel? What happened to the army that threatened their destruction? What therefore is He able to do for His people in any tribulation? Why do even the wild animals praise Him? What has the LORD done for you lately? What does this mean?
- Monday** Philippians 3:8-14 What new "bookkeeping procedure" do the baptized faithful follow? What's the most important thing in life? What are some of the outstanding assets of your life? When and how have you been given the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ? How is it that we become like Christ in His death? What goal remains ahead? What is the key thing in making progress toward this goal? How is this done?
- Tuesday** Luke 20:9-20 What happened when the vineyard owner sent His servants to collect the rent? What happened when He sent His Son? Who is the owner of the "vineyard" tended by Israel? Who is His Son? What did Jesus predict would happen to His Kingdom? How did the people respond? How did Jesus identify Himself to them? How did Jesus appeal to them? How does He appeal to us? What does this mean?
- Wednesday** Psalm 126 Why are the men of Israel filled with joy? Why is it important for others to see our joy in the LORD's work in our own lives? What does this mean?
- Thursday** Deuteronomy 32:36-39 Why does personal defeat often unveil hidden idolatry? How, therefore does God sometimes use such defeats to help and heal His people? For what purpose does He put to death? For what purpose does He wound? Why therefore is it important to let God be God? What personal false gods in your life need to be shattered? How is this done? What does this mean?
- Friday** Philippians 2:5-11 What was Christ's eternal status with the Father? How did He make himself "nothing?" How low did He go in His humility? What is the "highest place" to which His Father exalted Him? Why should every knee bow at the name of Jesus and confess that He is LORD? How is this done in the worship of the church?
- Saturday** Luke 23:1-56 In what sense was Jesus the King of the Jews? What were the charges against Him? What verdict did Herod and Pilate reach about Jesus? What penalty did the crowd demand? What did Pilate end up doing with Barabbas, the guilty man? What did Pilate end up doing with Jesus, the innocent Man? Why was He in fact guilty in the eternal justice of God? Why did the women weep for Jesus? Why did Jesus say they ought to weep for themselves? What persecution was in store once Jesus was no longer visibly present with His church (when the "tree" would be "dry")? Who recognized that Jesus was

condemned to die innocently? What was his prayer? How was it answered? Who pronounced Jesus righteous in His death? What does this mean for us and for our salvation?