

***The Lord Our God Saves Us in Love and Cares for Us by the Ministry of His Gospel***



**Rock of Ages Johannes Adam Simon Oertel (1823-1909)**

by the Gospel and make of us *“a kingdom of priests and a holy nation”* (Ex. 19:6) by our Baptism into Christ. For *“all that the LORD has spoken”* (Ex. 19:8), Christ has done for us. As He has gone up to God by His cross and resurrection, so does He bring us to the Father in Himself (Ex. 19:3–4). Nor does He leave us *“harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd”* (Matt. 9:36), but He sends men with authority *“to heal every disease and every affliction”* by His forgiveness of sins (Matt. 10:1). In their proclamation, *“the kingdom of heaven is at hand”* (Matt. 10:7).

**Background:** In the A series of the Sundays after Pentecost, the New Testament Lessons come from Romans and Matthew. Their purpose is to confirm the message of the angels. That you may enjoy “Peace with God” even though you know you have sinned and don’t really deserve His mercy. But God wants all people to be saved and to trust in His Son’s sacrifice as the full payment for all your sins. God keeps it simple. No alternative salvation plan. Just trust Christ. How can we not be totally thankful and want to praise Him and serve Him for His bounteous love. And of course, we want to worship Him regularly as He has commanded us.

**The Lessons: Exodus 19:2–8, Romans 5:6–15, & Matthew 9:35—10:8 (9–20)**

The holy Triune God *“shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners,”* ungodly and at enmity with Him, *“Christ died for us”* (Rom. 5:8). The incarnate Son has justified us by His blood and reconciled us to His God and Father (Rom. 5:9–10). Whereas sin and death originated with Adam, forgiveness and life abound for all his children through *“that one man Jesus Christ”* (Rom. 5:12–17). As the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, so does He bring us to Himself

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