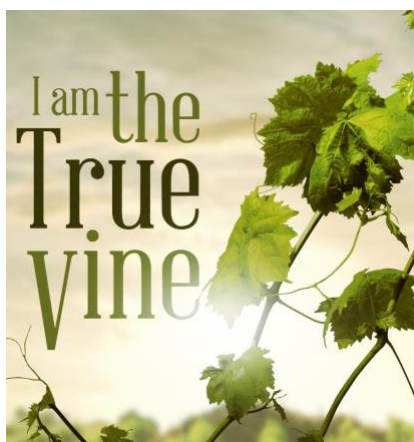


# Fifth Sunday of Easter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH – MAY 2, 2021



This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

## READINGS AND PSALM

### Acts 8:26-40

*Philip teaches and baptizes an Ethiopian*

### Psalms 22:25-31

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. (Ps. 22:27)*

### 1 John 4:7-21

*God's love perfected in love for one another*

### John 15:1-8

*Christ the vine*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## SERVICE OUTLINE

Gathering Hymn	Sermon
Greeting and Announcements	Hymn of the Day
Confession and Forgiveness	Offertory and Prayers
Prayer of the Day	The Lord's Prayer
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 8:27-40	Benediction
Hymn	Sending
Gospel: John 15:1-8	

## SUNDAY SCHOOL



1. If you were going to tell someone the good news about Jesus, what would you tell them?
2. The Ethiopian was baptized when he was an adult. When were you baptized?
3. What makes news "good"? Is some good news better than others?

Tell each other the good news stories of baptisms in your family. Place a beautiful bowl of water somewhere in your home where everyone can dip their fingers in and touch it to their heart or head to remind themselves of their baptism and their role in sharing the good news.

### Family Prayer

Dear God, help us to know when and how to tell other people the good news about Jesus. Amen.

## PRAYERS

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:

Judy Humphreys  
Tom and Diann Airey and grandson Derrick