



# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK

Pastor Amanda Kempthorne

(907) 488-6720 [www.lordoflifeak.com](http://www.lordoflifeak.com)

Welcome to Worship! Words in **bold** are said together.

*Welcome* – We will be sharing in Communion, please prepare bread and wine/juice.

*Thanksgiving for Baptism*, which joins us to the death and resurrection of Christ.

*Gathering Hymn – Blessed Assurance #638*

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.  
*Refrain:* This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain.*
3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain.*

*Greeting, Kyrie and Glory to the Lamb (sung)*

*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.**

*Scripture Readings*

Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup>Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." <sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, →

Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:25-31

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

**<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

**<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

**<sup>30</sup>Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,**

**<sup>31</sup>and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.**

1 John 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation (sung)*

The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. →

<sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Children's Message and Sermon*

Pastor Amanda Kempthorne

*Hymn of the Day – Take My Life That I May Be #685*

1. Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
3. Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.
4. Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
5. Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

*Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Prayers of God's People*

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

*Offering*

◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705

◇ Online: "giving" tab at [www.lordoflifeak.com/giving](http://www.lordoflifeak.com/giving) or the QR Code →

◇ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



*Offering Hymn – Lord, Be Glorified #744*

1. In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.

2. In my song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in my song, Lord, be glorified today.
3. In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in my song, Lord, be glorified today.
4. In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in my song, Lord, be glorified today.

***Offering Prayer* – God of life, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world, for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ, amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving (sung)*

*Christ's Words of Institution*

*Communion* \* Eat and drink together at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to pray,  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever, amen.**

*Thankful Hearts (sung)*

*Announcements*

- Walk for Charity 4K "Graze" through downtown Fairbanks anytime between 2-8pm. Cost is \$25 and will come back to Lord of Life's Youth Group. Sign up through [www.explorefairbanks.com/charitywalk](http://www.explorefairbanks.com/charitywalk)
- Mark your calendars! Church Clean Up Days are coming May 15 & 16
- Also coming up: Loving Families Host Week May 9-16. We are providing prayer, groceries, and a meal and companionship on Friday night! Contact Liz Hursh!

*Blessing and Dismissal*

***L: Alleluia! Christ is risen! C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!***

***L: Go in peace. Share the good news. C: Thanks be to God.***

***Special Thanks to...***

Pianist, Carol Hughes  
Reader, Eileen Dubowski

Power Point, Kaylee Lindhag  
Video, Sam Aleshire

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"A Service of Life" Written by Carol Bras. Thank you for the gift of this liturgy!