

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

Pastor: As the season of Easter continues, we discover that the risen Christ now lives in the baptized. It is as if we have been joined to His risen body, drawing life from Him like a living branch connected to a living vine. The result is bearing fruit for the kingdom of God. As we live by the promise of our Baptism and by the life-giving Word of God, so we invite and lead others to discover eternal life through God's Word and Sacraments. As Philip was led to preach the Gospel to an Ethiopian, so God blesses our witness one person at a time. Today we rejoice in the great love of God for us and for the whole world.

PREPARATION

(Please stand)

OPENING HYMN

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized" *LSB* 601

All who believe and are baptized

Shall see the Lord's salvation;

Baptized into the death of Christ,

They are a new creation;

Through Christ's redemption they will stand

Among the glorious heav'nly band

Of ev'ry tribe and nation.

**With one accord O God, we pray,
Grant us Your Holy Spirit;
Help us in our infirmity
Through Jesus' blood and merit;
Grant us to grow in grace each day
That by this sacrament we may
Eternal life inherit.**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *1 John 4:18, 19*

Pastor: There is no fear in love,

People: but perfect love casts out fear.

Pastor: For fear has to do with punishment.

People: We love because He first loved us.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(All are invited to kneel or remain seated)

Pastor: "If anyone says, 'I love God,' and hates his
brother, he is a liar." Let us repent of our lost
condition and seek refuge in the mercy of God.

**People: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. For the sake
of Christ forgive me for my selfishness and
refusal to walk in love. Draw me to love You, not
only for Your eternal gifts to me but because You
are my God and my eternal King. Amen.**

Pastor: Jesus says, "I am the vine; you are the branches."
Whoever abides by faith in Him receives

forgiveness, life, and salvation. In the name of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

WORD

INTROIT *Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*

Pastor: A little while, and you will see Me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see Me. I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You and praise Your name forever and ever. The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD, and all Your saints shall bless You! My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless His holy name forever and ever. A little while, and you will see Me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see Me.

(Please stand)

GLORIA PATRI (sing)

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**

KYRIE (sing)

**All: Lord, have mercy upon us
Christ, have mercy upon us
Lord, have mercy upon us**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“This Is the Feast” LSB 155

**This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God**

**This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength
and honor, blessings, and glory are His**

**This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation**

**This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to
God and the Lamb forever. Amen**

**This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**For the Lamb who was slain has
begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (sing) **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Lord God, by the water of Holy Baptism You make us to live in Christ and He in us. As a branch connected to a living vine bears fruit, may the life of Jesus so dwell in us making us fruitful witnesses; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (sing) **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST LESSON *Acts 8:26-40 ESV*

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south^[a] to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and

asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: *(spoken)* **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *1 John 4:1-21 ESV*

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know

the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected

with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH (sung)

People: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 14:23*

Pastor: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

People: (sung) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 15:1-8 ESV*

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear

fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: (sung) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CREED Apostles Creed

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heave**

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the
living and the dead.**

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus Shall Reign” *LSB* 832

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.**

**Blessings abound where'er He reigns:
The pris'ners leap to unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,**

And all who suffer want are blest
Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen.

+ SERMON +

“Fruitful Branches of the Vine Divine”

Text: John 15:1-8 (The Gospel Lesson)

Sermon Theme: Jesus, the Vine Divine, works a fruitful life in us through the connection of faith.

Sermon Goal: That each and every one’s faith connections with Jesus are nurtured through Word and Sacraments and that their fruit reveals they are his followers.

Outline: Jesus, the Vine Divine, Works a fruitful life in us through the connection of Faith.

1. It truly is only in the branches’ connection to the vine that we bear fruit.
2. This Vine Divine, Jesus, gives his life for us and then to us through God’s Word and Sacraments.
3. From our fruit-bearing faith connection to the Vine flow other blessings too.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ and for everyone in need.

O Lord, we praise You, bless You, and adore You for Your love proclaimed throughout the world in Your Son’s life, death, and glorious resurrection

from the dead. Baptized into His death, we walk in newness of life as living branches of Christ the vine. Cause His life to abide in all who hear Your Word of Life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: As You caused Your saving Word to spread rapidly through Your first disciples and the apostles, so grant Your strength and blessing to all pastors, missionaries, and witnesses in Your Church that many may hear and discover saving faith through Your own Word and Holy Sacraments. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant peace, we pray, in all the nations of the world and especially our nation. Inspire all in the authority of government to serve the cause of peace and justice for all. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord of love, visit all who call on You for help, especially those who are sick or injured, *including* and those that are on our minds and hearts at this present moment. Grant them healing of both body and soul and also patience to await Your help. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Cause us who receive the Lord's body and blood in the fellowship of this altar to grow in faith, hope, and love. May this Sacrament work in us the ability to bear much fruit as Jesus' disciples. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We commend to You all whom You have called to Your nearer presence and have gone before us with the sign of faith. Help us to abide in Christ that by His abiding presence we, too, may be welcomed to the heavenly banquet of eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalm 136*

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By

His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

(Please stand)

SANCTUS (Sing) LSB 195

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory**

Hosanna

Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He

Blessed is He

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna,

Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

That life has been won for us by the death and resurrection of Christ. Now we receive that same life by faithfully receiving His holy body and sacred blood given for our salvation. Grant us to grow in

faith so that, abiding in the love of Christ, we may bear much fruit as branches of Christ the vine.

People: Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Revelation 22:20

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the

final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom
and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

**People: 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.**

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sung) LSB 198

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God that takest away the sin of
the world have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of
the world, have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of
the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“God Loved the World So That He Gave” *LSB* 571 vs. 1-4

**God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive**

**Christ Jesus is the ground of faith
Who was made flesh and suffered death
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone**

**God would not have the sinner die
His Son with saving grace is nigh
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs**

**Be of good cheer for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done
And justified by Jesus' blood
Your Baptism grants the highest good**

(Please stand)

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (sung) *TLH* p. 29-30

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face
of all people, a light to lighten the
Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world with-out end. Amen**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God our Father, we give You heartfelt thanks for Your gifts of forgiveness of our sins, life, and salvation through this most glorious Sacrament. Grant that we may bear the fruits of Your love in our life and forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

People: Amen.

HYMN

“Abide, O Dearest Jesus” *LSB* 919

**Abide O dearest Jesus
Among us with Your grace
That Satan may not harm us
Nor we to sin give place**

**Abide O dear Redeemer
Among us with Your Word
And thus now and here-after
True peace and joy afford**

**Abide with heav'nly brightness
Among us precious Light
Your truth direct and keep us
From error's gloomy night**

**Abide with richest blessings
Among us bounteous Lord
Let us in grace and wisdom
Grow daily through Your Word**

**Abide with Your protection
Among us Lord our strength
Lest world and Satan fell us
And overcome at length**

**Abide O faithful Savior
Among us with Your love
Grant steadfastness and help us
To reach our home above**

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor

Marie Brown, Organist

Dave Brown, Elder & Reader

Jim Bumgarner, & Frank Pignanelli, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women of Mt. Hope & Our Saviour:

Join us for a **Spring Tea Party** & bring a friend too

May 15th from 2pm to 4pm

Food, Fun, Fellowship & Prizes!

Please RSVP by May 12th

Check your church mailbox for a flyer and extra flyers
will be on the bulletin table.

We ask that ladies from the church to bring a desert to share.
Please let Ruth or Sally know if you plan on bringing something.

Mt Hope Preschool Registration

Know a 3 or 4 year old?

Please contact Jackie Fults at 313-213-0912 or

Pick up a flyer on the Bulletin table.

Looking for a car?

2002 Lincoln Town Car 4 door, 143,723 Miles,

No rust, well maintained, runs good

Asking \$4,900

Contact Frank at 313-383-4883

Attendance

Sunday April 25th

9:30 am 36

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact our Prayer Chain leader, Joan Hafkesbrink, at 313.565.6871. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Shawn & Lucy Stamp – May 2nd

Birthdays

Gary Yowler – May 5th

Bill Switter – May 6th

Doreen Crawford – May 8th

Janet Witte – May 8th

For the Shut-Ins

Gladys Hill, at Beaumont Commons

Ken Knick, at home

Dorothy MacTavish, at home

George Morton, at home

For Those Who Are Sick or Healing

Dan Chambers, April Stover's Father, Bad fall causing torn ligaments from the breast bone & Kidney issues.

Family of Ceibert Clarke, Mrs. Griffin's 52 yr old Nephew, called to his eternal home.

William Gebbink Jr, Illness

Gillan Rossi, Request from Betty Glueck, Ill with Covid-19

Christopher, Recovering from COVID-19