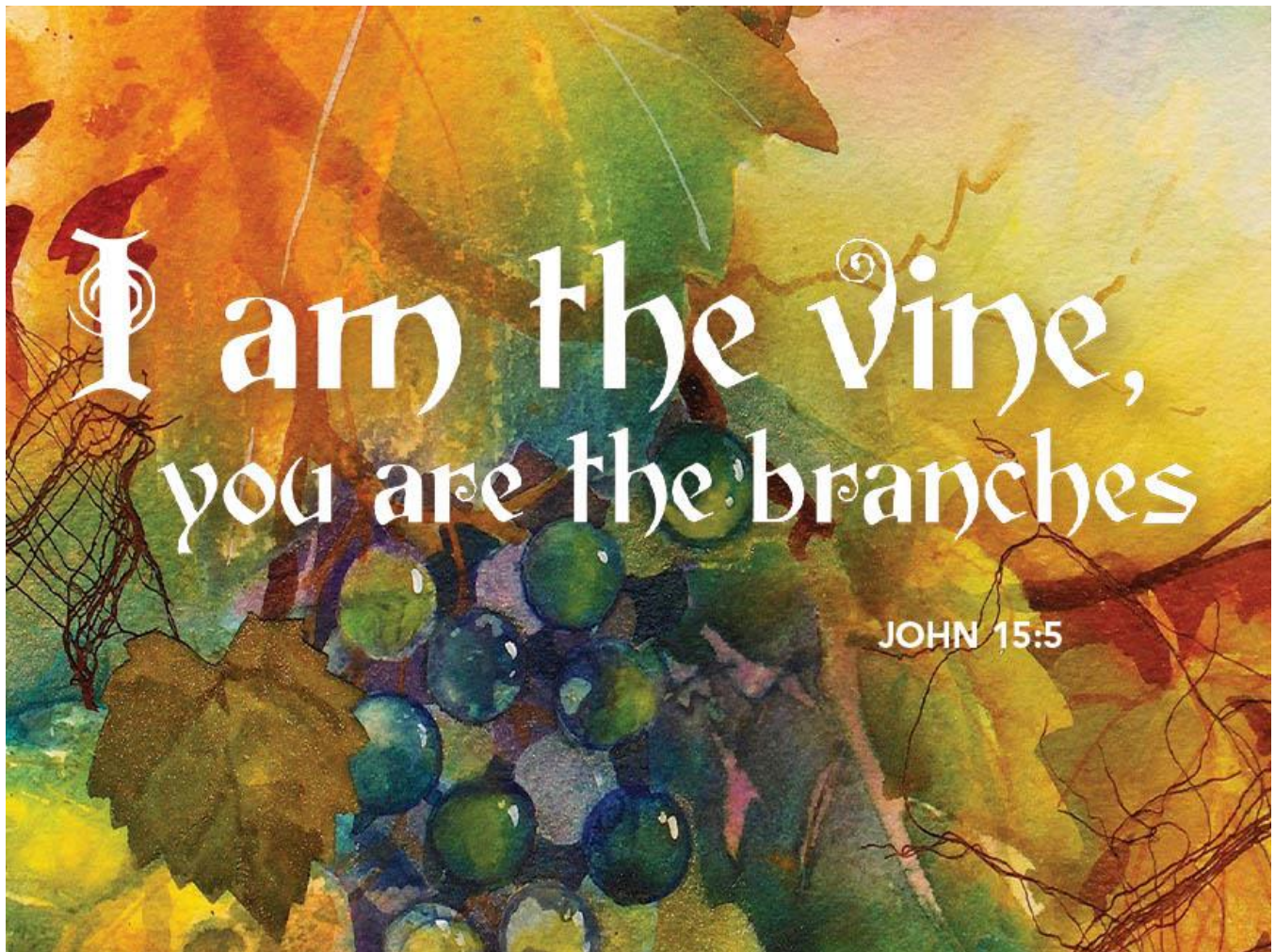


# the fifth sunday of easter

May 2 ♦ 9:00 am



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## GATHERING

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WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

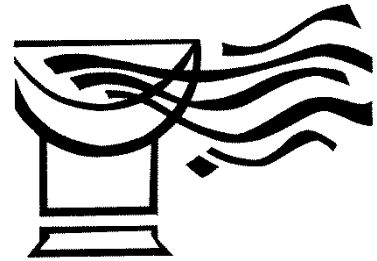
**C** Amen

**P** Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,

**C** let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water is poured into the font*

- P** We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.
- C** To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. Amen.



- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

HYMN “We Know That Christ Is Raised” (cantors sings stanzas 1-3; **ALL SING STANZA 4**)

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,  
 Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,  
 The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.  
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
 as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.  
 Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.  
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932  
 Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924  
 Text © John B. Geyer.

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## GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- A** And also with you.

## HYMN OF PRAISE **ALL SING**



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

**G** **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 OF THE WORD

## FIRST READING 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.

## SECOND READING I 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 God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

## ALLELUIA VERSE ALL SING

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

*Repeat alleluia*

## HOLY GOSPEL John 15:1-8

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John.

**G** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(Jesus said,) 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.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN “O Blessed Spring” (ALL SING STANZAS 1 and 5; cantors sing stanzas 2 – 4)



1 O bless - ed spring, where word and sign em - brace us  
2 Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain  
3 When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their  
4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our  
5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for

in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to  
faith, re - bel - lious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing  
heav - y har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will  
last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take  
this blest mys - ter - y: that word and wa - ter thus re -

be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.  
rain, the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.  
move with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.  
wing and trust the prom - ise of the spring.  
vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: BERGLUND, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

Text © 1993 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## PRAYERS

(Response to each petition)

**P** Hear us, O God

**C** Your mercy is great.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

**P** The LORD is my strength and my song;

**C** and He has become my salvation.

**P** Thanks and praise to You, heavenly Father, for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By His death, He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again, He has restored us to everlasting life. Therefore with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS (ALL SING)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

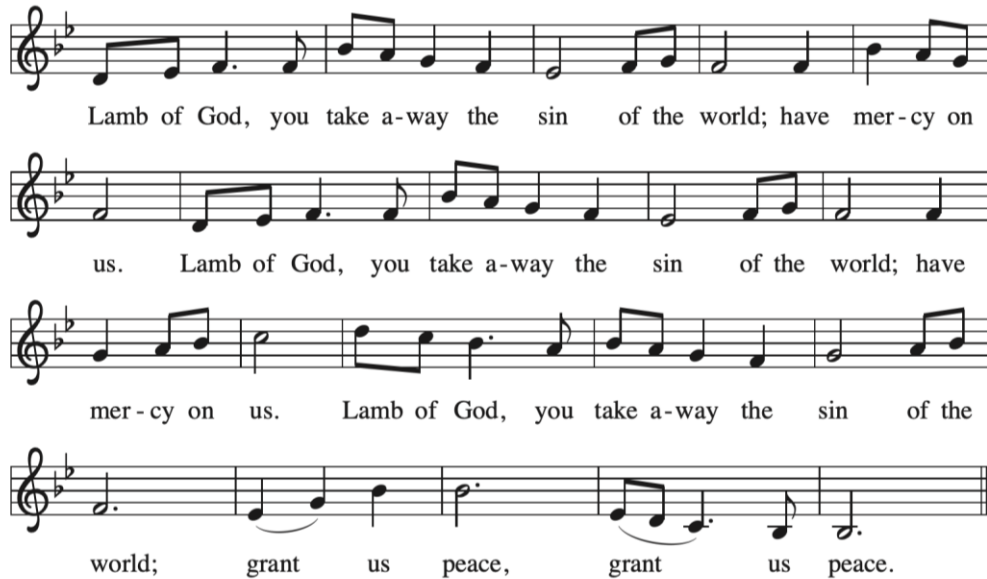
## WORDS OF INSTITUTION



## LORD'S PRAYER

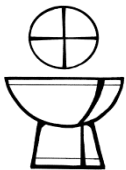
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.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

## LAMB OF GOD (ALL SING)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION



Scripture says, "Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." Martin Luther's Small Catechism says, "Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and drink." All baptized Christians who desire to receive the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins are invited to the Lord's Table today. Children who have not received their first communion are invited to come to the table and receive a blessing.

- As you approach the altar down the aisles, receive an empty cup from the cart. (non-alcoholic wine is offered in pre-filled cups for those who cannot drink alcohol. These cups are marked in the rack.)
- Maintain physical distance in line.
- Receive the bread (Gluten-free/dairy-free/nut-free wafers are offered)
- Proceed to the left or right to receive the wine.
- As you return to your seat down the side aisles, place your cup in the racks on the tables to your left or right.

# DISTRIBUTION HYMN “At the Lamb’s High Feast” (cantors sing stanzas 1-4; **ALL SING stanzas 7 & 8**)



1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing praise to  
 2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death’s dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael’s hosts tri - um-phant go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty victim from the sky,  
 hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath you lie;  
 you have conquered in the fight,  
 you have brought us life and light.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
 This alone can sin destroy;  
 from sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,  
 newborn souls in you to be.  
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
 now no more the grave enthrall;  
 you have opened paradise,  
 and your saints in you shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
 Savior, by whose death we live,  
 Spirit, guide through all our days:  
 Three in One, your name we praise.  
 Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.  
 Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

## DISMISSAL

## THANKSGIVING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray:

Wellspring of joy,

**C** through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



# SENDING

## BLESSING

- P** 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.

### **C Amen**

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**All** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!  
**P** Go in peace. Christ lives in you.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## CLOSING HYMN “Christ Is Alive” (ALL SING stanzas 1 and 5; cantors sing stanzas 2-4)



- 1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



- emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



- prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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REMEMBER TO SUPPORT OUR CONGREGATION with your offerings.  
You may place them in the plate in the entryway this morning, mail it to the  
church or make your offering online.



# GRACE OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Jon Marxhausen, Pastor

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