



*God's love, Our service.*

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Sunday, May 2, 2021

### Fifth Sunday of Easter

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#### INTRODUCTION

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.

#### EASTER PROCLAMATION

Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen Indeed!**

Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen Indeed!**

Christ is Risen! **Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

#### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

May noisy offering chosen by 6th grade class: Children's Mercy



## PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 449, vs. 1 & 2

### We Know That Christ Is Raised

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.  
Hallelujah!

2 We share by water in his saving death.  
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,  
as living members of our Savior Christ.  
Hallelujah!

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## 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.**

### First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

*Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.*

<sup>26</sup>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.

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 22:25-31**

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

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the  
LORD.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying to them, “The LORD has acted!”

## **Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21**

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

<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.

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

## **Gospel: John 15:1-8**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“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.”



**CHILDREN’S SERMON** Pastor Kris Dietzen

**FIRST COMMUNION FAITH STATEMENTS**

Gray, son of Jayme and Jason Gray, grandson of Janet Schmidt and Brenna Cain, daughter of Jeanette and Eric Cain, Peter and Ellie Vokac, daughter of Bethany and Eric Vokac.

**HYMN OF THE DAY** ELW 389, vs. 1 & 2

**Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing**

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound

to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching ev’ry place and time.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936  
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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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the  
virgin Mary and became truly 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,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped  
And glorified, who 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 of Intercession**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Provide for the needs of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit (*especially with Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria and those we name before you*). With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**      share God's peace

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**BLESSING**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**COMMUNION** as you exit

**RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 881**

**Let All Things Now Living**

1 Let all things now living  
a song of thanksgiving  
to God the creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us,  
protected and stayed us,  
who still guides us on to the end of our  
days.  
God's banners are o'er us,  
God's light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished  
and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.

2 God rules all the forces:  
the stars in their courses

and sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains,  
the rivers and fountains,  
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God di-  
vine.  
We too should be voicing  
our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration a song let us raise  
till all things now living  
unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest, hosanna and  
praise!"

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## PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

### **St. Mark's members:**

Nan Wolfe,  
Jim Weeg,  
Sheri Campbell,  
Marge Bott,  
Janis Krievins and family,  
Pete and Linda Cagle,  
Kathy Hinkle,  
Shane Paulson,  
Jeanette Cain,  
Ron & Ann Gardner,  
Janet Schmidt,  
Susan Roberts,  
Phyllis Dettmer,  
Madison Young

### **Family & friends:**

Jenny Mack, Niece of Jenny Wheeler,  
Chris, Brother of Pete Cagle,  
Corey, Son of Jim & Mary Weeg,  
Mike, Susan and Theresa , friends of St. Mark's,  
Marilyn, Sister-in-law of Mary Weeg,  
Shirley, friend of the Weegs,  
Amber Smith, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Family of Kathy, cousin of Barb Nail,  
Iris Howard, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Evie Whitehill, friend of the Andersons,  
Steele McLaren, friend of the Luins,  
Leo Patton, Grandfather of Jason Howe,  
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,  
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,  
Bruce Campbell, Brother-in-law of Joni Benz,  
Steve Nelson, cousin of Louise Easterberg,  
Lena Shelton, friend of the Schmideskamps,  
Crissy, cousin of Tom Bryer ,  
Caroline, aunt of Nancy Bryer ,  
Brian Lynn, cousin of Amy Hackler,  
Jeff Needham, friend of St. Mark's,  
Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,  
Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle,  
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,  
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,

Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,  
Shirley, neighbor of Mary Weeg,  
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,  
Aeris, Great Niece of Tom Bryer,  
Katherine Gile, sister of Anne Gardner,  
Karen Bannister, friend of Jane Scherrer,  
Rob Boulter, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,  
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,  
Joan Nelson, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,  
Dean Taake, Joyce Johnson's brother,  
Gibby, friend of Erica Bryer,  
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,  
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,  
Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's  
sister-in-law,  
Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks,  
Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade  
Beck,  
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart Stewart,  
Dan Ostergaard - friend of the Goodhearts,  
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,  
Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Families,  
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,  
Ivan, brother of Jane Stresewski,  
All People affected by natural disasters

### **Those in the Military:**

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,  
Logan Peck, nephew of Karen and Stan Thompson,