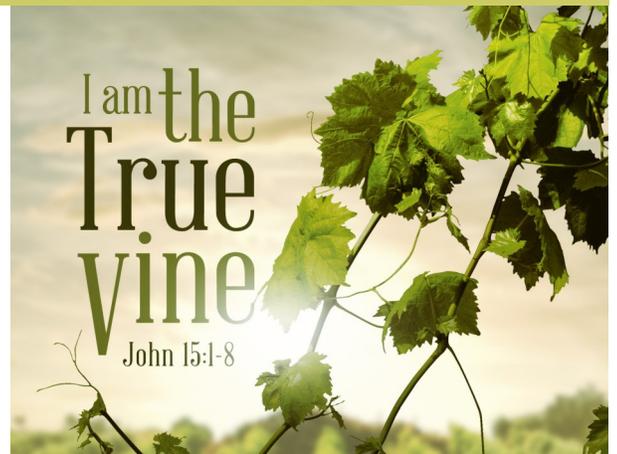




Sunday, May 2, 2021  
Fifth Sunday of Easter



## Welcome & Announcements

## Confession & Forgiveness

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## Opening Hymn: Baptized and Set Free

We are people created, chosen by God.  
Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.  
Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door to a fountain  
bringing healing, and wholeness and more.

We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed.  
Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed.  
For whatever the need, God is greater indeed;  
endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.

We are nourished by water, all living things,  
and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.  
As we journey toward home, may your presence be known:  
precious river, ever flowing, now carry us home.

Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.  
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.  
Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be one in Jesus,  
one in water, baptized set free!

## Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**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

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

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.) 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 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside 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 silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 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?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 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. 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**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.  
For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.

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.  
Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the Lord,  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.

Word of God; word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 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. 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. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives 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 do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 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. 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. 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. We love because he first loved us. 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. 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.**

---

## The Gospel: John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 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. 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. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 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.**

**Message:** Pastor Dwight Rudquist

**Sermon Notes:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Hymn of the Day: O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts**

O Jesus, joy of loving hearts, the fount of life, the light of all:  
from ev'ry bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.

We taste you, everliving bread, and long to feast upon you still;  
we drink of you, the fountainhead; our thirsting souls from you we fill.

For you our restless spirits yearn, where're our changing lot is cast;  
glad, when your smile on us you turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay! Make all our moments fair and bright!  
Oh, chase the night of sin away! Shed o'er the world your holy light.

## **Apostles' 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**

P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

## **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, ... join in their unending hymn:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## **Words of Institution**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

## **Distribution of Elements**

### **Communion Hymn: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing**

At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious king,  
who has washed us in the tide flowing from his wounded side.  
Praise we Christ, whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine,  
gives his body for the feast -- Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Easter triumph, Easter joy, this alone can sin destroy!  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, newborn souls in you to be.  
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.

---

## **Post Communion Blessing & Prayer**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Wellspring of joy, 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.**

## **Benediction & Dismissal**

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.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **Sending Hymn: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy;  
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
give us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!



## PRAYERCARE

Rose Anderson, Gail Johnson & the rest of David Clow's family, Yutaro Nakanishi, the family of Annie Lindgren, the family of John Solheim, and Deb & Jerry Rhoads and family of Marilyn Burnes, Darlene Mueller, Donna Lindgren, Don Grover, Vicki Ford, Dave Danberg, the family of Duane Rudquist, Caroline Greene, Nia Glynn, the family of Doris Fors, Helen Swanson, the Hackmann Family, the family of Ann Rue, the family of Joe Mallery, Dan Petersen, Julie Valez, the family of Margaret Dale, the family of Cheryl Slattengren, Marcielle Rogers, Cleo Stomberg, Michelle Lynch, the family of Brian Maloney, Leo Nelson, the family of Lowell Nelson & Caren Carlson.

## Announcements

### **Need Pastoral Care?**

Call Pastor Dwight 651-829-4884

### **Have questions or in need of something?**

Church Office: 651-465-5265

Office Hours:

Monday 8:30am - 1:30pm

Tuesday 8:30am - 12:30pm

Thursday 8:30am - 11:30am

Email: [parishc@tflutheran.org](mailto:parishc@tflutheran.org)  
(this email is checked daily)

### **COUNCIL** MEMBERS

Wendy Szczepanski

Craig Loen

Miriam Flysjo

Becky Hulden

Rose Anderson

- ♦ **Outdoor Worship** - every Sunday at 9am. Weather permitting! Please watch for emails for updates and/or visit our website for updated.
- ♦ **Lectors Wanted!** If you are interested in reading scriptures for either the online worship services or the outdoor worship services, please call Angie in the church office!

### **Video Credits**

Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Toni Brekke: Piano & Organ

Lisa Rudquist: Vocals & Lector

Carli Linngren: Photography

Angie Linngren: Photography, Filming & Editing