

+ Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2, 2021

St. Andrew Lutheran Church 304 Morewood Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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+ Fifth Sunday of Easter Order for Worship

Today'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.

Prelude

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of Baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We bless you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We thank 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. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all honor and praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche, 1833

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

First Reading – 1 John 4: 7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in God and God in us, because God has given us of God's Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as God is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There 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. ¹⁹We love because God first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their siblings, are liars; for those who do not love a sibling whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from God is this: those who love God must love their siblings also.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia



Gospel – John 15: 1-8

P: The holy Gospel according to St. John.

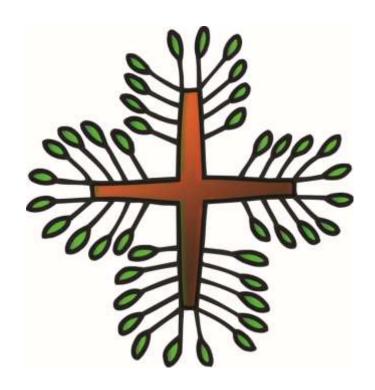
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. ⁵I 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. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Word

Sermon



Hymn of the Day Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!

ELW 377



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1969 Contemporary Worship 1, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayers of the People

P: Trusting in God's promise of new life in Christ, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition P: God of mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: In the hope of new life in Christ, we lift up our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **C: Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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

C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

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

The God of life, the Holy Trinity, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

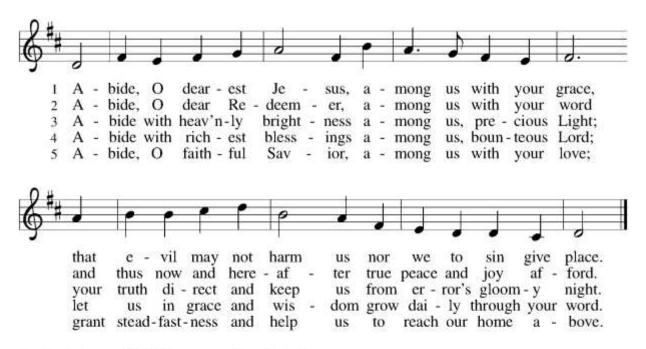
C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Share the good news!

Sending Hymn

Abide, O Dearest Jesus v. 1-2, 4

ELW 539



Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588-1632; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923 Music: CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEIBEN, Melchior Vulpius, 1570-1615 P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

C: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Prelude
Welcome
Christopher Atwood
Hymnody
Sue Gaugler, Piano
Bonnie Tesch, Vocals

Gospel Verse Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer, Organ

Kristen Asplin

Maria Mangano and David Rollinson

Jonathan Paetz Joseph Paetz

Director of Faith Formation

Presiding Minister

Christopher Atwood
Pastor Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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