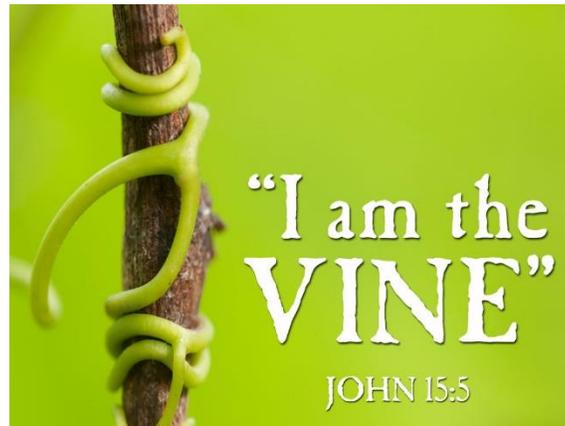


**Our Savior Lutheran Church
May 2, 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter**



Prelude

Eternal Father Strong to Save
<https://youtu.be/bDjwUzUnNpU>

Announcements and Prayer Requests

Sharing of Peace

Call to Worship

A: To you, O LORD, we lift up my soul.

C: O my God, in you we trust; do not let us be put to shame; make us to know your ways, O LORD; teach us your paths.

A: Lead us in your truth, and teach us,

C: for you are the God of our salvation; for you we wait all day long.

A: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

C: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Gathering Hymn – Now the Green Blade Riseth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpU01KQIUJM>

Thanksgiving of Baptism

L: In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

(Silence for reflection)

L: We thank you, Risen Christ,

**C: for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.**

L: We bless you, Risen Christ,

**C: 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.**

L: Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

**C: 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.**

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

C: Amen.

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise – We Plough the Fields and Scatter

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ha628Pj_Rns

Prayer of the Day

A: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live.

C: Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy,

A: through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,

C: now and forever. Amen.

The Word

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

²⁶Then 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.) ²⁷So 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 ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and

heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now 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. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”

³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As 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?”

³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When 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. ⁴⁰But 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 22:25-31

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

²⁹To 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.

³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,

³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Second 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 his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In 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. 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 his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his 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 he 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 he first loved us. ²⁰Those 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. ²¹The 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.**

Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

"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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message – Tim Leitner, SAM

<https://youtu.be/CtHFn4LZGZY>

Hymn of the Day – Let us Build a House

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKJgcv8SdnQ>

The 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 of Intercession

L: 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.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit, especially those we name before you. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

Offering Prayer

A: God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.

C: Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;

A: for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Meal – Consecration

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Communion

Lillian Pinkston

OR

Abide with Me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkXI-8no9ZE>

Here is Bread

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9nOWL30EP8>

Post Communion Blessing

Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Life-giving God, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.

**C: Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses,
that world love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,**

A: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benediction

L: 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.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn – The Lord Bless You and Keep You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICpxgEHqjFA>

Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Lillian Pinkston
OR

Lift Every Voice and Sing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVpfnlvemis>

