



**Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Fifth Sunday of Easter – April 28, 2024  
9:00 a.m. Worship Service**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer Concerns**

**Call to Worship**

A: I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;

**C: in the midst of the congregation, we will praise you:**

A: You who fear the LORD, praise him!

**C: All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**

A: For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from us, but heard when we cried to him.

**C: It is Christ who gives us hope and peace. Praise be to Christ our Lord.**

**Gathering Hymn – Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! – ELW #377**

## Invocation

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

**C: Amen.**

## Thanksgiving for Baptism

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

**C: Amen.**

L: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

*Silence for reflection and thanksgiving.*

L: We give thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's flowing rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In the desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

**C: In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.**

*Water is poured into the font.*

L: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

**C: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

L: We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 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 – A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! ELW #393 Vs 1, 4 & 5**

### **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, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 22:25-31

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

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

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

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

<sup>29</sup>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.

**<sup>30</sup>Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, <sup>31</sup>and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.**

## Second Reading: 1 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 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.**

### **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. <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.

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

### **Message – Tim Leitner, SAM**

<https://youtu.be/hw-hhkoNWcU?si=fujQanNx5GROorUV>

**Hymn of the Day – Let All Things Now Living – ELW #881**

## 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: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always.  
God of grace

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers, lakes, streams, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and those all who are ill or suffering... God of grace

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to the homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## Offering

### Offertory Hymn - Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful - ELW #182

#### Offertory Prayer

A: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.

**C: May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world,**

A: through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**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.**

## **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.**

## **Communion**

### **Post Communion Blessing**

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

**C: Amen.**

## Post Communion Prayer

A: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.

**C: Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

## Benediction

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

L: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless your now and always, in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn – Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds – ELW #367**

## Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Postlude