

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*I am the Vine,
you are the branches.*

May 2, 2021

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Portions from *Sundays & Seasons 2021*

Setting Three

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.

Joys & Concerns

Prelude

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

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

We bless 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, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

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

C. Amen

Gathering Hymn

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

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Greeting

P. Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C. And also with you.

Hymn of Praise



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.



Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.

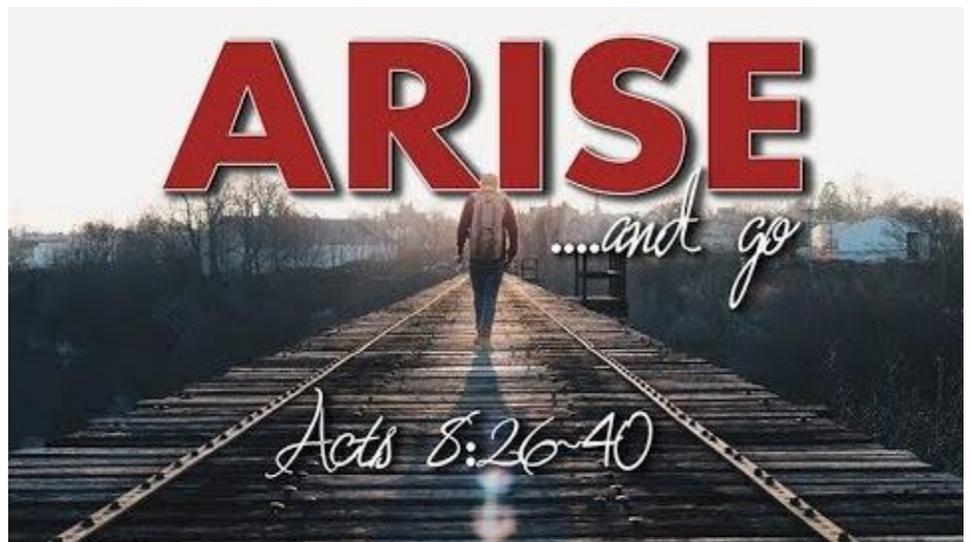
Prayer of the Day

P. Let us pray.

C. 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

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.

P. Word of God. Word of life.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:25-31

Spoken Responsively

From you comes my praise in the ^l great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who ^l fear the LORD.

**The poor shall eat ^l and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise!
May your hearts ^l live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn ^l to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow ^l before God.

**For dominion belongs ^l to the LORD,
who rules o- ^l ver the nations.**

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow ^l down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- ^l fore the LORD.

**Their descendants shall ^l serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- ^l tions to come.**

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people ^l yet unborn,
saying to them, "The ^l LORD has acted!"

Second Reading



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.

P. Word of God. Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P. The holy gospel according to John, chapter fifteen.

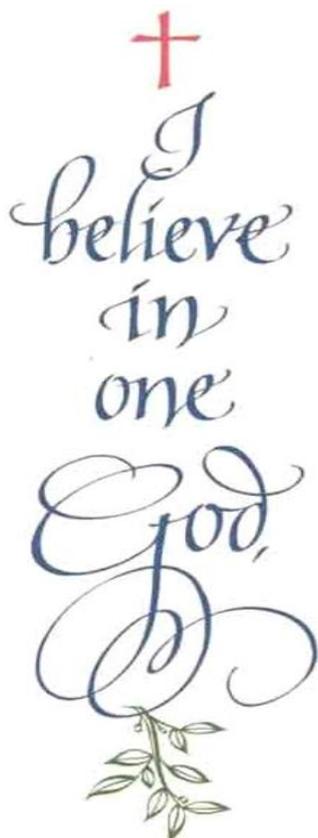


Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. 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."

C. Glory to you, O God.

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.



Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again 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

P. 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.

C. Your mercy is great.

P. 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.

peace

BE WITH YOU

The Peace

P. Jesus said, Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled. May His peace be with you always.

C. And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

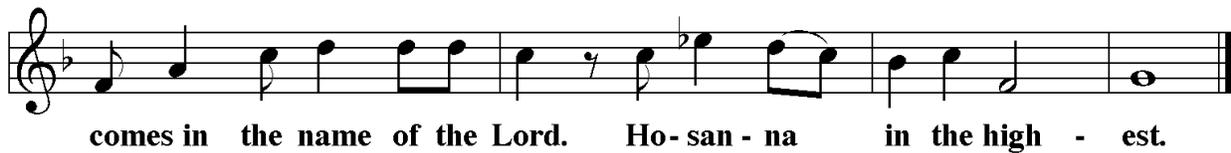
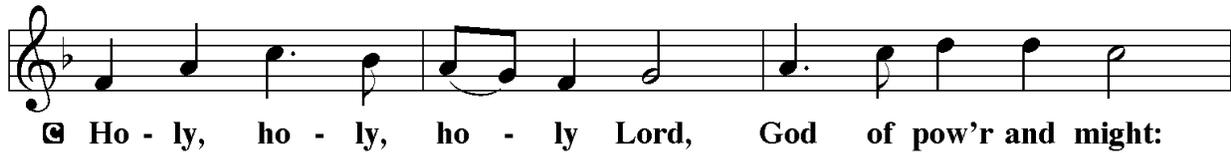
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface: It is truly right . . .

Praise
and give thanks to *the*
Lord

The Sanctus



Words of Institution



*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*

Invitation to Communion

P. The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

C. Alleluia!

P. The body of Christ given for you. (Congregation eats the bread)
The blood of Christ shed for you. (Congregation drinks the wine)

C. Amen

Post Communion Blessing

P. 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.

Post Communion Canticle

☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Post Communion Prayer

P. 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.

C. 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, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C. Amen.

Dismissal

P. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C. Thanks be to God.



Altar flowers this week are given by Tom & Alecia Harrison in celebration of Alecia's Birthday.

Candles this month are provided by Sylvia Lambert in memory of Tommy and Tessie Painter

