

*Welcome to Worship at  
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection*

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER—MAY 2, 2021**

**11:00 A.M.**

**INTRODUCTION**

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.

**— GATHERING —**

**WELCOME & WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Adorn your sacred space with flowers and other beautiful signs of life.*

**SABBATH REFLECTION** "Here I Am to Worship" —setting, Tom Crawford

**INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

# ENTRANCE HYMN "Ancient of Days"

-Gary Sadler, Jamie Harvill

**VERSE**

3 Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and pow - er  
6 be un-to the An-cient of Days; From ev - 'ry na - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion, bow be - fore the An - cient of Days.

**CHORUS**

9  
11 Ev - 'ry tongue in hea - ven and earth shall de - clare your glo - ry,  
13 Ev - 'ry knee shall bow at Your throne in wor - ship.  
You will be ex - alt - ed, O God, and Your king - dom shall not pass a - way,  
16 *3rd time to Coda* 1. to VERSE 2.  
21 O Ancient of Days. Your king - dom shall reign o - ver all the earth,  
24 sing un-to the An - cient of Days. For none can compare to Your *Back to CHORUS*  
match-less worth, sing un-to the An - cient of Days.  
27 *Coda*  
(days) O An-cient of Days, O An-cient of Days.

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## **GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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. Amen.**

**—WORD—**

## **CHILDREN'S HOMILY**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40**

*Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.*

<sup>26</sup>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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31** (*read responsively*)

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

**Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

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

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

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
**saying to them, “The LORD has acted!”**

## **SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21**

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

<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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains a melody with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The second system of musical notation is identical to the first, featuring a treble and bass staff with the same melody and accompaniment, and the same lyrics.

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community  
 Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994  
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BE NOT AFRAID  
 4 4 8 D

**GOSPEL: John 15:1-8** (from *The Message Bible*)

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup> "I am the Real Vine and my Father is the Farmer. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch of me that doesn't bear grapes. And every branch that is grape-bearing he prunes back so it will bear even more. <sup>3</sup> You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken. <sup>4</sup> "Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me. <sup>5</sup> "I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can't produce a thing. <sup>6</sup> Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on

the bonfire. <sup>7</sup> But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. <sup>8</sup> This is how my Father shows who he is - when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**HOMILY** "The Power of Home"

Pastor Dave Helfrich



# SONG OF THE DAY "Now the Green Blade Rises"

ELW #379



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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## APOSTLES' CREED

ELW, page 105

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.

### **EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **—THANKSGIVING—**

*Collect an **OFFERING** for God's mission. Financial gifts can be made online [www.lcrmarietta.org/give](http://www.lcrmarietta.org/give), Canned food can also be collected.*

*LCR Musicians also have a musical offering to glorify God*

**MUSICAL OFFERING** "The Day of Resurrection"

- Arr. Patricia Cota

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave 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**

## — SENDING —

### MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **BLESSING**

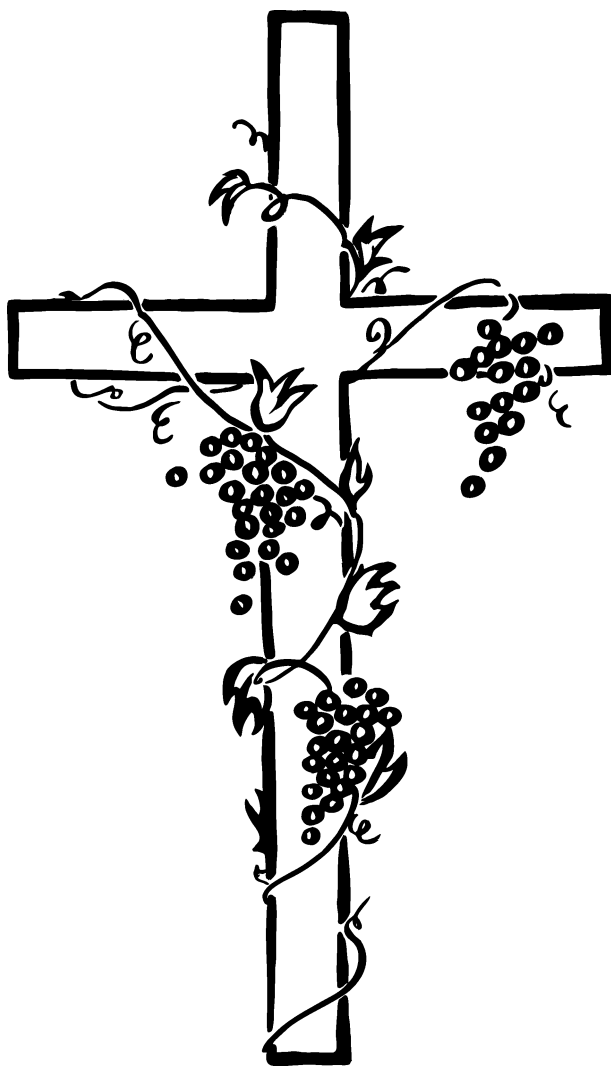
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, ✚ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**



# SENDING SONG "Alive, Forever, Amen"

-T. Cottrell/D. Moffitt/ S Smith

**VERSE**

1. Let the chil - dren sing a song of lib - er - a - tion;  
2. Let my heart sing out\_ for Christ, the One and on - ly,

the God of our\_ sal - va - tion set us\_ free.\_  
so pow - er - ful\_ and ho - ly, res - cued me.\_

Death, where is\_ thy sting? The curse of sin\_ is bro - ken,  
Death won't hurt me now\_ be - cause He has re - deemed me.

**CHORUS**

the emp - ty tomb stands o - pen, come and\_ see.\_ 1.3. He's a-live,  
no grave will ev - er keep me from my\_ King.\_ 2. I'm

\_ a - live, a - live,\_ haHeLu - jah; a - live,\_ praise and glo-ry to\_ the Lamb.

*Last time to CODA*

\_ A - live,\_ a - live, a - live\_ haHeLu - jah; a - live\_ for-ever, a - men.

16 1. Back to VERSE | 2. **BRIDGE** *Sing 4 times*

Wor - thy is the Lamb, Wor - thy of our praise;

wor - thy is the One who has o - ver - come the grave.

*After 4x, back to CHORUS*

Let the people dance, let the people sing; Wor - thy is the might-y King!\_

**CODA**

He's a - live,\_ for-ever a - men! He's a - live\_ for - ev - er, a - men!\_

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## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** “Joysong”

–Mark Hayes



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