

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.

Announcements



Check out
this week's
bulletin

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you 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 verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

P: Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: 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.

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.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!



*Now All the Vault of Heaven
Resounds*

Hymn 367 (vs. 1-4)

1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above
that we conquer through your triumph;
grant grace sufficient for life's day
that by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



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P: Allelujah! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Allelujah! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Allelujah! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

Canticle of Praise

This is the Feast

p187

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia

2 Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for
the Lamb who was slain has begun his
reign. Alleluia

The Prayer of the Day

AM: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you

AM: Let us pray



All: 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



The First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

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.

Word of Wisdom, Word of life

All: Thanks Be to God

Psalm

Psalm 22:25-31

The Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

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.

Word of Wisdom, Word of life

All: Thanks Be to God

All: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel
According to John
the fifteenth chapter

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “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.”

The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Praise to You, O Christ



Fifth Sunday of Easter



*We Know That Christ Is
Raised*

Hymn 449 (vs. 1-4)

1 We know that Christ is raised and
dies no more.

Embraced by death, he broke its fearful
hold,

and our despair he turned to blazing joy.

Hallelujah!

2 We share by water in his saving death.

Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,

as living members of our Savior Christ.

Hallelujah!

3 The Father's splendor clothes the
Son with life.

The Spirit's fission shakes the
church of God.

Baptized, we live with God the
Three in One.

Hallelujah!

4 A new creation comes to life and grows

as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.

The universe restored and whole will sing:

Hallelujah!



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Our Prayers



Peace

Is with
you



Tithes & Offerings



Prayer

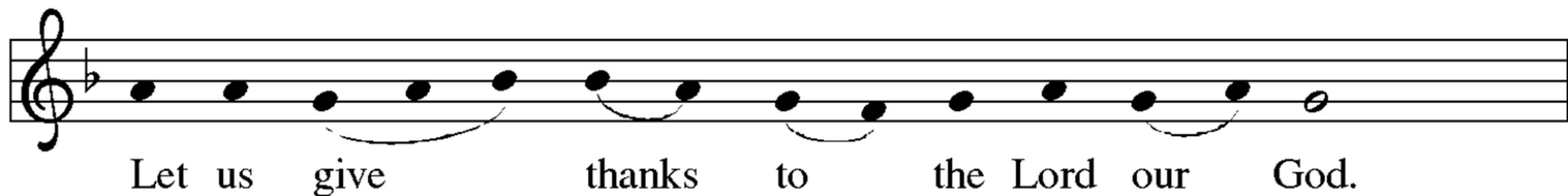
— E. Humperdinck

AM: Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

Dialogue

Maybe sung or chanted



P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

...join in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and
might, Heaven and earth are full of your
glory, full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the
highest. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.



The Great Thanksgiving

Matthew 26; Mark 14;
Luke 22; 1 Corinthians 11

THE 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.



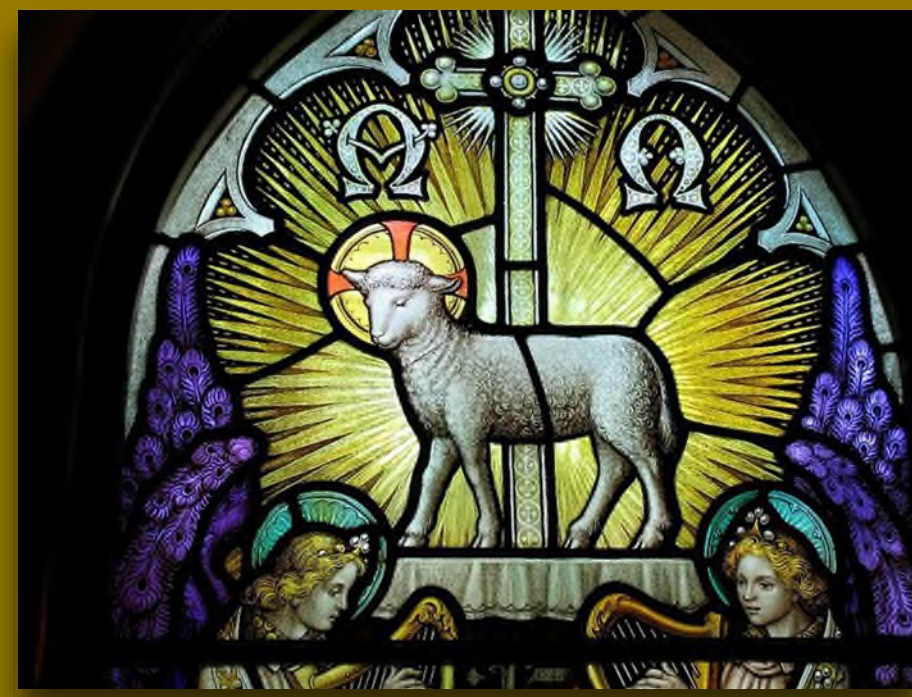
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.



Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.





Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God



for you.

Prayer After Communion





Blessing

Let All Things Now Living

Hymn 881 (vs. 1,2)

1 Let all things now living, a song of thanksgiving to God the creator triumphantly raise, who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who still guides us on to the end of our days. God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night, till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

2 God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses and sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine. We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: "To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"



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A scenic landscape photograph featuring a dense forest of tall, green pine trees. In the middle ground, a calm pond reflects the surrounding greenery. The foreground is filled with vibrant yellow wildflowers and green foliage. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The entire image is framed by a solid olive-green border.

Rejoice

Go

Alleluia!

Postlude



Trumpet Voluntary
— Jeremiah Clarke