



St. John's Lutheran Church † Fifth Sunday in Easter
May 2nd, 2021 Facebook Live 8:15a.m. &
In-Person Worship 10:00a.m.

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Welcome to our worship service this morning. Thank you for shared ministry to the Gospel and your continued love for your church as we continue to be a "Fountain of Life flowing into a River of Compassion for the world." Thank you for your financial support of our General Operations. You may give online at www.stjohns-ec.org, through the GIVEPLUS+ app, or by mail, 1804 Highland Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701. You are welcome to Christ's table here and at home today. Prepare for this gift of grace by having enough bread and wine/juice on your table at the start of worship. Serving at worship today: Rev. Julie Brenden and Rev. Christine Emerson, Richard Spryer – Cantor, Jim Boulter – Lector, Scott Olsen-Camera, Brett Isaacson – Computer/Power Point, Lynn Yolitz and Larry Schaefer-Ushers, Nancy Hanson-Communion Server, and Roxanne Litchfield-Holey – Piano. Thank you!

Prelude

Announcements

Easter Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Special Music - *We Have Been Told*- Solo-Richard Spryer

Apostolic Greeting

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: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An 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.
 Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation ACS #1088



Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8

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

[Jesus said:] ¹“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: “*Celebrating Interdependence*” Pastor Julie Brenden

Song of the Day ELW - #376- *Thine Is the Glory*

1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry
 thou o'er death hast won! Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the
 folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast
 won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb! Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and
 gloom; let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth;
 death hath lost its sting! *Refrain*

3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without thee; aid us in
 our strife; make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe
 through Jordan to thy home above. *Refrain*

Apostles Creed

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.**

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 (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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.

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Savior taught us:

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

Distribution (*All those at home may partake of Christ's gift of grace with the words "The Body of Christ, given for you" and "The blood of Christ, shed for you". Those attending the worship service in person commune with individual cups given at the start of worship. Please remove your mask for as little time as possible to take communion.*)

Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. 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. Amen.**

Thanksgiving for a Ministry

Benediction

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. **Amen.**

Sending Song ACS - # 1068 The Earth Adorned in Verdant Robe vs. 1, 2



1 The earth a - dorned in ver - dant robe sends prais - es
2 From out the wood, the birds now sing and each its
3 O God, a - mid these joys of life, cre - a - tion's



up - ward surg - ing, while soft winds breathe on fra - grant
song now rais - es, to join with all the u - ni -
glo - ry beam - ing, grant us the grace to keep your



flow'rs from win - ter now e - merg - ing. The sun - shine
verse in voic - ing thank - ful prais - es. With hope and
word and live in love re - deem - ing. All flesh is



bright gives warmth and light to bud - ding blos - soms ten -
joy their songs em - ploy a rap - turous ex - ul - ta -
grass, the flow - ers fade, and time is fleet - ing ev -



der, pro - claim - ing sum - mer splen - dor.
tion in praise of God's cre - a - tion.
er; God's word re - mains for - ev - er.

Sending

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

(Peace be with you. If you are online, share a sign of peace in the comments.)

Postlude *(Please remain seated until the Postlude is over.)*

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We welcome all to partake of Christ’s holy supper while worshipping with us online this Sunday by preparing your table at home with bread and wine/juice.

Today we are singing a hymn from our new hymnbook, All Creation Sings. “*The Earth Adorned in Verdant Robe*” is the hymn of the month.

This Week at St. John’s:

Today, Sunday, May 2nd

8:15am Worship Facebook Live
8:30am Radio Worship (WAYY)
9:30am Sunday School at home
10:00am In Person Worship
10:30am TV Worship (ABC) Cable WQOW
11:00am Mike Gorell’s Retirement Celebration

Sunday, May 9th Happy Mother’s Day

8:15am Worship Facebook Live
9:30am Sunday School north lawn at church
10:00am In Person Worship
11:00am Parking Lot Communion