

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit" - John 15:5

MAY 2, 2021

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Theme of Today's Readings: Jesus Christ is the true vine who bears much fruit in us.

Silent Prayer Before Worship: O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn, LSB 474 (No TLH) "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
 3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
 4 Weep-ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound-ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen-dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
 Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
 sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
 ru - sa-lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch-



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain
 Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 C **Amen.**

Confession of Sins

- P Almighty God, our Creator and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C **O most merciful God, Who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray. We praise You, O LORD, because You are the Source of our being. As the True Vine, in Whom we receive life, continue to guide us with Your Holy Spirit presence, so that we might accomplish Your will in our daily lives...and do it to Your greater glory. We ask this, Jesus, in Your precious and holy name.
- C **Amen!**

The First Reading, Acts 8:26-40 (NIV)

An angel of the LORD said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means "queen of the Ethiopians"). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

*"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.*

In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, Who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both 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 suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however,

appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

Psalm 150 (NIV)

Praise the LORD.

Praise God in His sanctuary;
praise Him in His mighty heavens.

Praise Him for His acts of power;
praise Him for His surpassing greatness.

Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet,
praise Him with the harp and lyre,

Praise Him with timbrel and dancing,
praise Him with the strings and pipe,

Praise Him with the clash of cymbals,
praise Him with resounding cymbals.

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD.

Gospel Reading, John 15:1-8 (NIV)

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] "I am the true vine, and My Father is the Gardener. He cuts off every branch in Me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit, He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in Me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in Me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in Me and My words remain

in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn, LSB 601 (TLH 301 lyrics don't match)

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized"



1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized Shall see the Lord's sal - va - tion;
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Ho - ly Spir - it.



Bap - tized in - to the death of Christ, They are a new cre - a - tion.
Help us in our in - fir - mi - ty Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it.



Through Christ's re - demp - tion they shall stand A - mong the glo - rious,
Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Prayers of the Church

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.

Benediction (NIV)

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn his face toward you and T give you peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**



Closing Hymn, LSB 710 (No TLH)

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal
6 Now no more can death ap - pall, Now no
7 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy! This a -



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love
more the grave en - thrall; You have o - pened par - a - dise,
lone can sin de - stroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!
And Your saints in You shall rise. Al - le - lu - ia!
New - born souls in You to be. Al - le - lu - ia!

Tune and text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You to Those Serving Today:

May Altar Guild: Mary Lange
Choir Director: David Hinrichs
Choir Accompanist: Wendy Kofoot
May Communion Assistant: Jim Likely
Counter for today: Keith and Mary Lange
Lector: Steve Blomberg
Organist: Julie Wright
Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Don Mulfinger
Recorder: James Blomberg
Ushers: Volunteers needed

*Thank
you!*

Prayer Requests

Prayers are requested for Mary Mulfinger's mother who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

Prayers are requested for Sally Gorski who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Celebrations

Happy Birthday to Tim Phelon (5/2), Peter Klatt (5/7), Esther Witt (5/12), Tom Kulberg (5/13) and Ken Hoffmann (5/15).

New Directory

A new membership directory has been printed and is available in the back of the sanctuary. Please report any corrections to the office.

You may remove the Price family as they have transferred out to Trinity Lutheran, Mansfield, SD.



April Statistics (Attendance and Offering)

4/4	63	\$10,040
4/11	27	\$1,790
4/18	34	\$562
4/25	34	\$1,197

April General Expenses Total: \$13,589

April Cap/Building Fund Total: \$425

April Synod Total: \$175

April Trinity First Total: \$230

Office Information

Pastor Don is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Kevin's Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10-3

Phone: 612-722-1083

Email: admin@holycrossmpls.org

Bulletin Notes

- The Deacons decided to continue printing out the hymns in the bulletin. We can make them larger and easier to read than in the hymnal. When the two hymnals [Lutheran Service Book (LSB) and The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH)] match we will include both numbers for those who prefer to use the hymnal – especially for those who like to sing parts.
- There are Children's Bulletins available in the back of the church.
- There are large print editions of the bulletin available.



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ONLINE

- Holy Cross: Go to the church website (holycrossmpls.org) and listen to our recorded service.
- Mainstreetliving.com/twincities
- Go to “The Lutheran Hour” at any time.

RADIO

- “The Lutheran Hour” is broadcast on WCCO 830AM radio on Sunday mornings at 6:05a.m.
- “The Lutheran Hour” is broadcast on Sirius XM, Family Talk Channel 131 on Sunday Mornings at 9a.m.

CELL PHONE

- Download “The Lutheran Hour” app on your cell phone.

TELEVISION

Each Sunday, viewers enjoy a 30-minute remastered episode of “This is the Life,” a popular Lutheran Hour Ministries series from the 70s and 80s. The episode is followed by a modified Lutheran worship service—led by a different local pastor each week.

Main Street Living is broadcast at 9 a.m. on WFTC. WFTC can be found in the following places:

TV Channel 10 on Spectrum, Comcast, Mediacom
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TV Channel 29 on UHF Digital, DirectTV, Dish
TV Channel 807 on Comcast and 803 on Mediacom
TV Channel 9.2 which is over the air.
[Online at mainstreetliving.com/twincities]