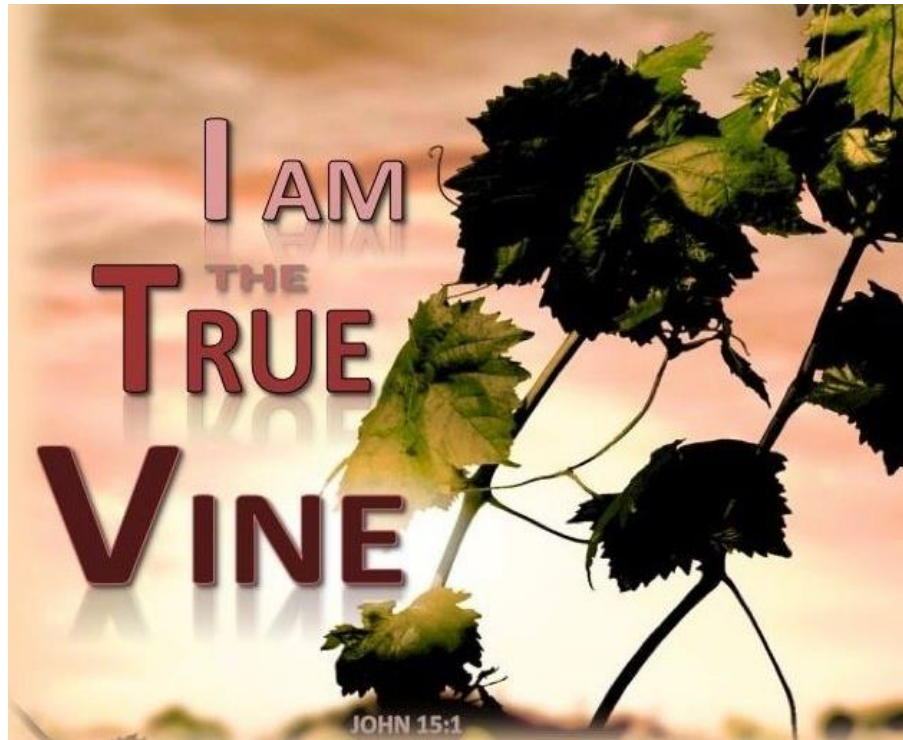


First Lutheran Church
300 West Third Street
Prophetstown, IL



Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 2, 2021

Order of Worship
Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Setting 10

Introduction to the Day: 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.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*** Congregation rises in body and/or spirit**

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **C: Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn: "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" vs. 1-3 # 389**

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2. Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.

3. In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

***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.** *Please be seated.*

Kyrie pg. 203

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer. We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair. Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin. Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin. Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart. Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

Prayer of the Day: P: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. (*Silence for reflection*) 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. C: **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: 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. 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. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:25-31 *Read Responsively*

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

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

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

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, 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.

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

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Love 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. ¹⁸There 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. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those 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. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. Word of God, word of life. C: **Thanks be to God**

***Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

*Gospel: John 15:1-8

P: The holy gospel according to St. John the fifteenth chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. 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. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon:

Pastor Kathy Burkheimer

Please rise.

***Hymn of the Day: “Spirit of Gentleness” vs. 1-2 # 396**

Refrain: Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free; Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

1. You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep; and over the eons you called to each thing: "Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." Refrain

2. You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand, and you goaded your people with a law and a land; and when they were blinded with idols and lies, then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. Refrain

Please be seated.

Prayers of Intercession

A: 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. 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.

A: You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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*)... Ann Deck, Betty Lou Olsen, Marsha Rogiewicz, Faye Finck, Luanne McDivitt, Burdette Sandrock, Carole & Dick Minssen, Paul Petersen cousin of Sally Johnson, Amanda Sandrock niece of Cathy Hinrichs, Kathy Rae Deason and Lee Ann Trexler sisters of Kerry Meyer, Eric Skelton nephew of Randy Skelton, Ron Roselieb father of Rhonda Bohms, Carol Brown sister of Darlene Proeger, Caleb Cleaver great nephew of Lynda VanDyke, Rick Chapman husband of Mindy Chapman, Scott Lyman son-in-law of Ken & Ellen Pannier.

Community Member: Ken & Marilyn Pifke, Dave Mickley, Mark Sandrock.

Serving in the Military: Charlie Davis grandson of Ken & Ellen Pannier, Brett Emery and Sean Pratt sons of Drew & Becky Emery, Donnie Appleman son-in-law of Larry & Lynda VanDyke, Lindsey Gardner niece of Gwen Gardner, Patrick Kelly grandson of Kathy Kelly, Anna Olsen wife of Kent Olsen, Madison Scace great granddaughter of Burdette & Dea Sandrock, Kyle Ullmark grandson-in-law of Glenda Sampson.

Prayers to the family of Charlene Hanson who passed away on Wednesday, April 21st.

Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: 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.**

Sharing of the Peace: P: The Peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Wave or saying hi, to share the peace with your neighbors.

Please share the peace with only those you came with.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

***Dialogue** *Please rise.*

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

***Preface:** P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Holy, Holy, Holy** pg. 207

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

***Thanksgiving at the Table:** P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. **C: Amen.**

***Lord's Prayer:** P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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: Taste and see that the Lord is good. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Ushers will guide you to Pastor to receive a wafer then you will continue to the prefilled communion cups at the corner of the pews. Grape juice is clear. Please turn away from trays when taking your communion and throw away used cup. When giving the wafer and cup these words are shared with each other. Wafer Host - **The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.** Wine or Juice - **The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.***

Please be seated.

Communion Hymn: "O Lamb of God" pg. 208

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a-way; you suffered death our lives save; have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a-way; you set us free from guilt and grave; have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a-way; eternal peace with God you made; give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Hymn: "I Received the Living God" # 477

Refrain: I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy. I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.

1. Jesus said: I am the bread, kneaded long to give you life; you who will partake of me need not ever fear to die. Refrain

2. Jesus said: I am the way, and my Father longs for you; so I come to bring you home to be one with us anew. Refrain

3. Jesus said: I am the truth; come and follow close to me. You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free. Refrain

4. Jesus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow, but receive this living bread, and my Spirit you shall know. Refrain

Offering Prayer *Offering is received in the basket at the back of the sanctuary as you leave.*

P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Our offering is a significant act of worship; we worship God through our giving. The ministry of this congregation is completely dependent upon your partnership and generosity.

Sending

The Spirit scatters us like seed to do God's work in the world.

***Blessing** *Please rise.*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **C: Amen.**

***Sending Hymn: "Shout to the Lord" # 821**

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you. All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love. My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength; let ev'ry breath, all that I am never cease to worship you. Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King. Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands; forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand. Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

First Lutheran Announcements

Today we welcome Pastor Kathy Burkheimer to our pulpit as Pastor Chelsey is on vacation until Saturday, May 15th.

No Worship Reservations Required: All services are held in person in the sanctuary and may be heard on 95.1 FM in the parking lot. We will no longer have pre sign-ups for church services. You will still need to fill out a Covid form for CDC contact tracing. Please social distance, sit in open pews only, wear your face mask, sing softly with your face mask on and just come as you are.

Let's Feed Our Children: We are collecting individual applesauce, pineapple, peaches or pear cups to donate to the United Way of Whiteside County to serve the children at the Let's Feed Our Children summer lunch program. Please bring your donations to FLC by Sunday May 9th, Mother's Day. Thank you for your support of this food drive!

Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up: On Saturday, May 22nd please meet before 9am at the church to group together. Cleaning is Rt. 78 from the Rock River bridge to the Lyndon stop light. All adults are welcome!

Special Community Offerings: For the summer are collecting again for different agencies in town and FLC will match up to \$1,000 for each. May's collection is for Pat's Table. Please make your check out to First Lutheran and we will send one check each month to the respective agencies. It is so wonderful that we can help and support our community.

Health Update: Judy Johnson had surgery on Tuesday, April 27th to improve her vocal cord as a result of her previous surgery.

Usher sign-up sheet is on the narthex table. Please sign-up to help throughout next year.

Assisting In Our Worship

Pianist Luanne Urban
Cantor Donna Roland

Stewardship Record

Attendance 53
Offering \$ 5,318.23

FLC Contact Information

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