

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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Rev. Daniel J. Bishop, Pastor

Dan Rees - Good Shepherd Lutheran School - 347-2020

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

HOLY COMMUNION

TO OUR GUESTS AND MEMBERS: We receive the Lord's Supper, believing the Word of Jesus, that He gives into our mouths His true body and blood, miraculously united to the bread and wine, to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins, and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His Word, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love one another, even as He forgives and loves us.

God's Word teaches us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great harm, and that this Holy Communion is a confession of the faith that is confessed in this church. Therefore any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or are members of a congregation not in the fellowship of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to commune, are asked to kindly speak with the pastor ahead of time. (*Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16-21; 11:17-34*)

(Bold – Congregation speaks

Bold Italic – Congregation sings or chants

Hymns in folder)

The Order of the Holy Communion

Prelude

Hymn – #1

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

Amen.

The Confession of Sins

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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 my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Introit *Ps. 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*

A little while, and you will see me no longer;
and again a little while, and you will see me.

**I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.**

Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.

**The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!

**My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**

A little while, and you will see me no longer;
and again a little while, and you will see me.

Gloria Patri

***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen***

The Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

The Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray

The Collect for The Day

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.***

The First Reading Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is
silent,

so he opens not his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea

The Epistle 1 John 4:1-11

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

The Triple Hallelujah

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8

Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

¹[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. 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. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I

acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn – #411, v. 1, 4-7

“From Eternity, O God”

Sermon – “Abide in the Vine”

John 15:5-8

- I. What it means to abide in the Vine.
- II. What happens to those who do not abide in the Vine.
- III. The meaningful life for those who do abide in the Vine.

The Offertory (*stand*)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation: and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Presentation of the Offerings

Vocal Solo: "Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

(You may follow the text printed here)

Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;
Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I AM;
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light and life You bring to all;
Light our path with Your own presence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.

Christ, the shoot and springs triumphant From the stump of Jesse's tree;
Christ, true vine, You nurture branches To bear fruit abundantly.
Graft us into You, O Savior; Prune our hearts so we remain
Fruitful branches in Your vineyard Till eternal life we gain.

Christ, the Alpha and Omega, Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
Christ, the life and resurrection, Christ, the Church's glorious head:
Praise and thanks and adoration And unending worship be
To the Father and the Spirit And to You eternally.

The General Prayer

The Preface

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God: But chiefly are we bound to praise Thee for the glorious resurrection of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb which was offered for us and hath taken away the sins of the world; who by His death hath destroyed death and by His rising to life again hath restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab-a-oth; Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest, Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

The 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.

The Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you alway!

Amen.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Communion Distribution

Hymn #334 -- "Let Me Be thine Forever"

Hymn #53 -- "Abide, O Dearest Jesus"

Hymn #293 -- "O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace"

The Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace: according to Thy word; For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Thanksgiving

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

And His mercy endureth forever.

The Post-Communion Collect

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Benediction

The Lord bless thee and keep thee.

The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn - #53 (7:00 p.m.)

“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

Silent Prayer & Postlude

DAILY READINGS

May 2: Lev. 20:1–16, 22–27; Luke 11:37–54; 3: Lev. 21:1–24; Luke 12:1–12; 4: Lev. 23:1–22; Luke 12:13–34; 5: Lev. 23:23–44; Luke 12:35–53; 6: Lev. 24:1–23; Luke 12:54–13:17; 7: Lev. 26:1–20; Luke 13:18–35; 8: Lev. 26:21–33, 39–44; Luke 14:1–24

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