FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024 8:00 & 10:30 AM



Gathering Hymn	There is a Balm in Gilead (614)
Hymn of the Day	Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom
Communion	Here is Bread (483)
	Healer of our Every Ill (612)
Sending Hymn	Thy Holy Wings (613)

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In God's Grace, Ascension Creates Faithful Community

Prelude "Radiance" Jason Krug © 2020 Jason Krug Pub.

Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come...

To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

There is a Balm in Gilead (614)

Text: African American spiritual Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

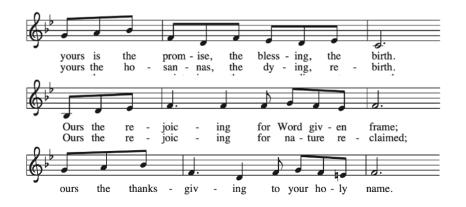
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

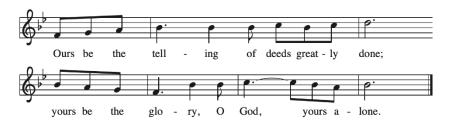
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise







Prayer of the Day O God.

keep us abiding in the life-giving vine of Jesus. Nourish our lives in your grace and bring us to bear the fruit of love for each other and this world through Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Hole Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen.

Special Music "Glorious Dawn" Jason Krug © 2020 Grassy Meadow Music

Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards 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. *The Word of the Lord*.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:25-31

From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

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

The poor shall eat and be satisfied.

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your

hearts live forever!

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

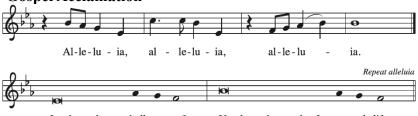
For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

Indeed, 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.

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

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

+ Gospel Acclamation



Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

Gospel Reading:

John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. 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 the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Gabrielle Brown

Hymn of the Day

Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom



- 1 Earth is full of wit and wis dom, sound-ing God's de light-ed laugh,
- 2 Earth is full of wit and wis dom, wo ven in to har mo ny.
- 3 Earth is full of wit and wis dom: pen guin, pla ty pus, and snail,



from the ti - ny ro - ly - po - ly to the tree - top - tall gi - raffe. Ev - 'ry crea-ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum-ble - bee. cac - tus, sea slug, oak, and al - gae, from the mi - crobe to the whale.



All cre - a - tion sings in won-der; e - ven rocks and trees re - joice Spi-der, hu - man, red - wood, geck - o, mon-key, chick - en, mouse, and snake In this great and strange cre - a - tion, with a breath God gives us birth:



as they join the ring-ing cho-rus: ech - oes of our Mak - er's voice. live with-in a sin-gle fab-ric: cloth that on - ly God could make. born of soil to live as stew - ards, called to love and serve the earth.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, Columbian Harmony, 1825; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

Quilt Blessing

Easter Creed (from 1 Corinthians 15)

This is the good news which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day and that he appeared to Peter, then to the twelve and to many faithful witnesses. We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end, he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Prayers

Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of those in need, and the life of all creation.

(a brief silence)

After each petition:

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Those remembered in prayer this week ...

Melvin & Hellen Allen, Mary & Richard Bennett, Mary Ann Bond, Allen Brooks, Brad Buhler, Michael Foret, Eileen Hedstrom, Stewart Hellem, Pam Landry, Jackie & Jerry Moore, Kathy Parkhouse, Cerne Rieves, Rick Rogers, Fran Schumacher, Jeff Sebben, Cassie Shaffer, Cathy Stanley, Ilene Steinkruger, Bruce Thompson, Carol Thompson, Jan Tompkins, Anthony Calderon and all our men and women serving overseas, and all others we lift up to you at this time.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

"Flutes" Diethrich Buxtehude

Offering Song



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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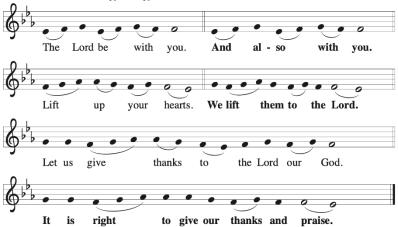
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Offering Prayer

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

in the breaking of the bread, be known to us as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.

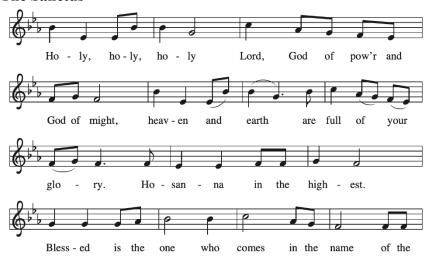
The Great Thanksgiving



The Preface to the Sanctus

It is indeed right ... and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus





The Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for leading your people safely through the sea and wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

Praise to you, O God. Amen.

In the night in which he was betrayed ...

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

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 and Prayers for Healing

For those worshiping in the sanctuary, come forward down the center aisle to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free bread and white grape juice are available. God's love and this meal are for all, including children. If your child is not ready to receive, they may receive a simple blessing.

For those worshiping at home, when invited by the pastor we encourage you to eat and drink trusting that this is God's free gift of grace for you.





Communion Hymns

Here is Bread (483)

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950 Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music @ 1991 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

Healer of our Every Ill (612)

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen
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+The Communion Blessing Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Living God,

you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. Amen

Sending Hymn

Thy Holy Wings (613)

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent.

Benediction Amen.

Sending

Go in peace, serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Rigaudon" Andre Campra

Thank you to John Hayes for this week's altar flowers celebration of his 68th birthday and also in memory of his mother.

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THOSE SERVING ASCENSION'S WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers: 8:00 – Rich Johnson, Charles Lewis,
Dallas & Lorada Shrawder

10:30 - Rex Rudy, Steve Tompkins

Lectors: 8:00 – Sylvia Holt 10:30 – Phil Erlander

Cantor: Alice DeLoughry

Communion Assistants: 8:00 – Bill Ayen 10:30 – Jackie Gresh

Communion Prep: Jason Moore Communion Clean Up: Sherry Seever Communion Bread: Julie Burton

CHURCH STAFF

CHURCHSTAFF			
Pastor Dan Holt	Pastor Daniel Smith	Deacon Mary Stoneback	
Office Administrat	or	Ruth Albrent-Runnells	
Director of Childre	en's Learning Center	Teresa Adams	
		YScott ChristiansenMegan Miller	