

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 1, 2021 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 2, 2021 8:45 a.m.

Prelude

Announcements *Rev. Jason Christ, Associate Pastor*

Welcome *Rev. Dr. Charles E. Whited, Jr., Lead Pastor*

(Stand)

Invocation

Leader Sing to the Lord and bless His name, proclaim His salvation from day to day.

People Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia!

Leader Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that sleep.

People Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia!

Leader Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia!

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

People O come, let us worship Him. Alleluia!

Opening Hymn *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia* *Hymnal 463*



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Hail, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead, Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
All your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



Of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
When con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
Met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Public domain

Confession

Leader O Lord, open my lips,

People And my mouth will declare Your praise.

Leader Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

People Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Leader Let us confess our sins to our God who has delivered us from all our sins through Christ's death and resurrection. Holy and gracious God,

People I confess that I have sinned against You. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may walk in peace with You.

(silence for personal reflection)

Absolution

Leader By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. Our sins are forgiven and we have peace with God.

People Amen.

Hymn of Praise *This is the Feast* *Hymnal page 155 (Congregation and Bell Choir)*

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb ——— who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Scripture Readings *(Sit)*

Reader God speaks to us through the New Testament: Acts 8:26–40

An 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. And 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 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And 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?” And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And 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. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader God speaks to us through the New Testament: 1 John 4:1-16

Beloved, 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. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and 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. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We 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. Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In 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. In 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. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

(Stand)

Alleluia Verse *Romans 6:9; John 14:23*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Congregation

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
 teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,
 singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
 with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Cantor only

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Congregation

Reader God speaks to us through the Gospel: John 15:1–8

People **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every 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. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide 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. I 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. If 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. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

Reader This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to You, O Christ, Resurrected Savior.** (*Sit*)

(8:45) Children’s Message *Sue Steege, Director of Transformation Ministries*

Message Hymn *Lift High the Cross* *Hymnal 837, verses 1-3, and 6*

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till

all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,
 2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
 3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied
 6 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com-bine.
 Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
 Praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

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(Sit)

Message *Go and Bear Fruit* *Rev. Jason Christ, Associate Pastor*

The Nicene Creed *(Stand)*

People 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 Spirit 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 sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in 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. *(Sit)*

Offering Anthem *Our Savior Lives!* *Treble Kantorei*

Give at FTGives.com or text "Give" to 716-710-8800.

Our Savior lives! Death's stone is rolled away.
Come, see the grave in which our Brother lay.
Be not afraid! This is His triumph day!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Our Savior rose and angels thrill to bid:
"Why do you seek the Christ among the dead?
He is not here, but risen as He said."
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Our Savior reigns, exalted on His throne
Where heav'nly host sing praise to Him alone.
On that last day, their song will be our own.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O risen Christ, Your blood makes all things right.
Creator God, to You be pow'r and might.
Spirit of Truth, You clothe us all in white.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Sending of Kathy Figini

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer *(Stand)*

People 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. 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.

Preparation for Lord's Supper

Leader The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Leader Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Leader On the night when He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, He gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take; eat; this is My Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

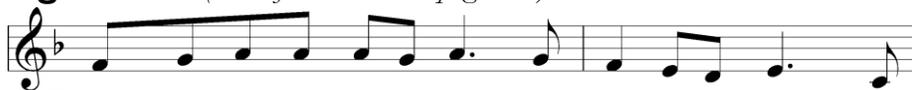
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People **And also with you.**

We welcome to the Lord's Table baptized believers who confess their sins, affirm their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and who accept that Christ's body and blood are truly present in Holy Communion, given for the forgiveness of sins.

The Invitation and Home Distribution

Agnus Dei (*music found on LSB page 163*)



☐ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Sit)

Songs During Lord's Supper

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing *Hymnal 633*



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

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(Stand)

Blessing

Silent Prayer

Postlude

Unless noted otherwise, scripture passage came from the English Standard Version.

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Special thanks to our Treble Kantorei.

Altar Flowers presented to the Glory of God in memory of Rich Lenihan by Cheryl Lenihan.