



The Fifth Sunday of Easter



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.

Now the Feast & Celebration | 10:00 AM

WELCOME TO MOUNT CROSS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

As a community of faith, we strive to embody Jesus Christ's radical love for all people.

We welcome and embrace the unique gifts and diversity of all, and invite you to journey with us as we experience God's inclusive love.

Come, whoever you are, however you feel, for whatever reasons you are here, come!

Welcome!

If this is your first time worshipping with us, know that you are welcome to participate in worship as fully as you wish. In this bulletin, you will find all that you need for worship: liturgy, hymns (both printed & found in the cranberry or blue hymnals in your pew), and congregational responses. Your presence is a gift to Mount Cross.

We encourage families with children of all ages to be present for the entire time of worship. We welcome their wonderful noises that at times fill this space. We do have coloring pages and other activities at the back of the worship space to provide an alternative for restless children so their guardians can continue to enjoy worship.

Land Acknowledgement

As we begin our gathering, we respectfully acknowledge that our Church is located on the ancestral lands of the Puyallup Tribe, Steilacoom Tribe, and Coast Salish Tribe. We pay respect to Native Elders past and present and extend that respect to their descendants and to all Indigenous people.

To acknowledge this land is to recognize its longer history and our place in that history- including the recognition that this land was not freely ceded to the settlers who claimed it and attempted to wipe out entire cultures; it is to recognize these lands and waters and their significance for the peoples who lived and continue to live in this region, whose practices and spiritualities were and are tied to the land and the water, and whose lives continue to enrich and develop in relationship to the land, waters and other inhabitants today.

Holy Communion at Mount Cross:

At Mount Cross, the Lord's Supper is the gift of God for all people, children and adults, members and non-members, Lutherans and Christians of all expressions. Through this meal, God fills us with mercy and forgiveness, love and grace, and empowers us to love and serve our neighbors. Come eat and drink. We have both wine and white grape juice options, as well as regular bread and gluten free bread. Children are always welcome to join their parents at the altar to receive communion or a blessing.

Please look to the Presiding Pastor and Assisting Minister for direction on how to proceed with communion.

Thank you!

An asterisk () indicates that the congregation is invited to stand during worship.*

PRELUDE: "My Heart Rejoices Greatly" - J Brahms

Una Hwang

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † One God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
- C** Amen.
- P** Look, here is water!
- C** Here is our water of life! Alleluia!
- P** Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool, the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!
- C** Here is our water of life! Alleluia!
- P** At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C** Amen.
- P** Look, here is water!
- C** Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

*GATHERING HYMN: "We Know That Christ is Raised!"

RED 449

*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.

April 28, 2024

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***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Congregation Sings verses & refrain

Refrain:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!
1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

to Refrain

The musical score is written on ten staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first line of music ends with a double bar line. The second line continues the melody. The third line includes a fermata over the final note. The fourth line continues the melody. The fifth line ends with a double bar line. The sixth line begins with a fermata over the first note. The seventh line continues the melody. The eighth line continues the melody. The ninth line continues the melody. The tenth line ends with a double bar line.

might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ

for ev - er. *to Refrain*

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to

make us peo - ple of God; to make *to Refrain*

all things new.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P** 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**

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” ²⁷ 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, ²⁸ and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” ³⁰ Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. ³¹ “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² 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. ³³ In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.” ³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” ³⁵ Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ 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?” ³⁷ ³⁸ And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ 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. ⁴⁰ Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

- L** The Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 22: “

Congregation sings refrain; Assisting Minister sings verses



I will praise you, Lord, in the as- sem- bly of your peo- ple.

Verse 1: My vows I will pay before those who fear the Lord. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. Those who seek the Lord shall praise the Lord. May their hearts live forever and ever. **Refrain**

Verse 2: All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations shall bow down in awe. They shall bow down in awe, all the mighty of the earth, all who must die and go down to the dust. **Refrain**

Verse 3: My soul shall live for God and my children too shall serve. They shall tell of the faithfulness of God. “These things the Lord has done.” **Refrain**

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. ¹³This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. ¹⁶And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. ¹⁷This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

- The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia"**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

***GOSPEL: John 15:1-8**

from NRSVue

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th Chapter.
- C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He 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. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain 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.

⁵“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. ⁶If 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. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

- P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*HYMN OF THE DAY “Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

RED 403

*CONFESSION OF FAITH: “Nicene Creed”

- Ⓐ We are God’s people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- Ⓒ **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in on Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*PRAYERS

- A** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Each petition of the prayers, will end with: "Lord, in your mercy" and the congregation will respond with: "Hear our prayer".

- P** Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

- C** Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

- C** **And also with you.** (*Share God's Peace with One Another!*)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Danny Boy"

Braden Waddell

"Oh, Danny Boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling from glen to glen, and down the mountain side. The summer's gone and all the roses falling; it's you, it's you must go, and I must bide. But come ye back when summer's in the meadow, or when the valley's hushed and white with snow. It's I'll be here in sunshine or in shadow. Oh, Danny Boy, Oh, Danny Boy, I love you so. I cannot tell how silently He suffered as with His peace Christ graced this place of tears; nor how his heart upon the cross was broken, the crown of pain to three and thirty years. But this I know: He heals the broken hearted and stays our sin and calms our lurking fear, and lives the burden from the heavy laden; For still the Savior of the world is here. He is here!"

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A** Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
- G** Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Presider: *Congregation:*
The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

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

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

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.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

- A** 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.**

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

GIFT OF MUSIC: “My Jesus I Love Thee”

Ruth Burks

“My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine. For Thee all the follies of sin I resign. My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou. If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now. I’ll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death, and praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath; And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow, If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus ‘tis now. In mansions of glory and endless delight, I’ll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright. I’ll sing with the glittering crown on my brow, if ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now.”

***COMMUNION HYMN “Where Charity and Love Prevail”**

RED 359

***TABLE BLESSING:**

After all have communed...

- P** The body and blood of our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.
- C** Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

- A** Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.
- C** Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- P** The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠ bless you now and always.
- C** Amen.

***SENDING SONG: “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”**

RED 367

***DISMISSAL**

- A** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Fanfare—Kenneth Leighton

Una Hwang

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Walt Birdseye & Chuck Hoffman

Reader

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Streaming Tech

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*Flowers on the altar have been presented by the
Burks family as a welcome to Pastor Chavaleh!*



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