



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021 - 10:00 AM



### Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their Anniversary by John and Caroline Otten.

## SERVING TODAY

Preaching	Luke Delasin
Presiding Minister	Susan Crowell
Pianist	Jim Parham
Cantors	Bob Schirmer Sheryl Schirmer
Lectors	Suzanne Delap David Troutman
Video Direction and Production	Henry Wilcox

# GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Fugue and Ciacona in C Major*  
by Dietrich Buxtehude (premiered on May 17, 2020)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the life beyond all death,  
the joy beyond all sorrow, our everlasting home.

**Amen.**

Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death,  
let us come before God who calls us to repentance.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of life,

**by the resurrection of your Son you make everything new.  
Newness scares us, and we confess to shutting our doors in fear.  
We have not listened to voices that challenge us.  
We have resisted the Holy Spirit moving us in new directions.  
Our hearts are slow to believe your promises.  
Forgive us, O God, and renew us to embrace without fear  
the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

People of God: Christ is alive, and death has lost its power.

Through the waters of baptism  
you have been born anew by the living word of God.  
Know that your sins are forgiven in ✠ Jesus' name  
and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you  
both now and forever.

**Amen.**

**We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hallelujah!**

**We share by water in his saving death.  
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,  
as living members of our Savior Christ. Hallelujah!**

**The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.  
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hallelujah!**

**A new creation comes to life and grows  
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.  
The universe restored and whole will sing: Hallelujah!**

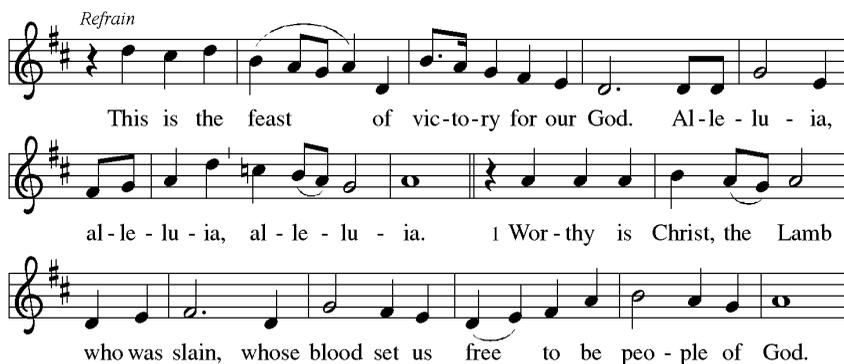
## GREETING

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.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. | Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb  
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and  
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of  
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,  
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. 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.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

A reading from Acts.

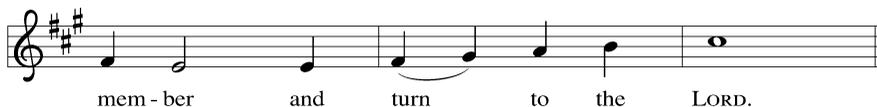
<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So Philip got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, ruler of the Ethiopians, in charge of the entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard the eunuch reading the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>The eunuch replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>"You are like a sheep being led to slaughter, You are like a lamb that is mute in front of its shearers: like them, you never open your mouth. <sup>33</sup>You have been humiliated and have no one to defend you.

Who will ever talk about your descendants,  
since your life on earth has been cut short?"

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>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?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>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. <sup>40</sup>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.**

*Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.**Psalm  
Refrain**Psalm  
Tone*

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

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

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,**

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

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,**

**who rules o- | ver the nations. R**

<sup>29</sup>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 be- | fore the LORD.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,**

**whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,

saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!" **R**

## SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-21

A reading from first John.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent the Only Begotten into the world so that we might live through the Anointed One. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Only Begotten to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

<sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in God and God in us, because God has given us of the Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that God has sent the Only Begotten as the Savior of the world.

<sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Only Begotten, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So 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. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as Christ is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There 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. <sup>19</sup>We love because God first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their siblings are liars; for those who do not love a sibling whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from God is this: those who love God must love their siblings also.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CHILDRENS' SERMON

Luke Delasin

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL

John 15:1- 8

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the fifteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Abba is the vine grower <sup>2</sup>who cuts off every branch in me that doesn't bear fruit, but prunes the fruitful ones to increase their yield. <sup>3</sup>You've been pruned already, thanks to the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Live on in me, as I do in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit of itself apart from the vine, neither can you bear fruit apart from me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who live in me and I in them will bear abundant fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Those who don't live in me are like withered, rejected branches, to be picked up and thrown on the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you live on in me, and my words live on in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Abba will be glorified if you bear much fruit and thus prove to be my disciples."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Alleluia! Jesus is risen!  
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!  
Oh what a miracle God has in sight!**

*Refrain*

***Jesus is risen and we shall arise.  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!***

**Walking the way, Christ in the center  
telling the story to open our eyes;  
breaking our bread, giving us glory:  
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain***

**Jesus the vine, we are the branches;  
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;  
heaven to earth, Christ to the people,  
gift of the future now flowing to me. *Refrain***

**Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:  
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
cherubim sing: O grave, be open!  
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. *Refrain***

**City of God, Easter forever,  
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,  
river of life, saints and archangels,  
sing with creation to God the I Am! *Refrain***

## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 OF INTERCESSION

Gathered in our homes on this fifth Sunday of Easter, let us unite in Christ to pray for all in any need.

God of triune mystery, as you have formed your church to be one fruitful vine, strengthen our churches and our ecumenical connections with Christians across the street and around the globe. Hear our prayer, O loving God:

**Make us one in you.**

As you blessed Philip the evangelist, nurture our missionaries and theologians, our seminaries, our Sunday schools, and all adult discussions of the faith.

Hear our prayer, O enlightening God:

**Make us one in you.**

As you brought the Ethiopian eunuch to baptism, lead all Christian communities to welcome people of every sexual orientation, every gender identity, every skin color, and all national backgrounds. Hear our prayer, O embracing God:

**Make us one in you.**

As you created an earth with countless forms of plant and animal life, train us to honor and maintain the bountiful earth that you intend for us and future generations.

Hear our prayer, O creating God:

**Make us one in you.**

As you have provided food and drink for humankind, give to all persons wisdom in their use of alcohol, and strengthen recovering alcoholics in maintaining their sobriety.

Hear our prayer, O empowering God:

**Make us one in you.**

As you call humankind to live in love with one another, bring peace to nations, to neighborhoods, and to homes. Protect the oppressed and the vulnerable in every land, show us the path to nonviolence in all things. Hear our prayer, O reconciling God:

**Make us one in you.**

As you have promised to hear the cries of all the needy, listen now to the countless people around the world who are suffering from sickness, from the coronavirus, from injustice, from abuse, from starvation. Hear our pleas for India. We pray especially for. . . .

Hear our prayer, O healing God:

**Make us one in you.**

As you have sustained each of us in your love, receive now the silent petitions of our hearts. Hear our prayer, O abiding God:

**Make us one in you.**

We remember those who have died in the faith, especially today Athanasius the theologian and those we name in our hearts. As you have promised to bring your people into your strong and tender embrace, preserve us until we enter with all the saints into your everlasting mercy. Hear our prayer, O eternal God:

**Make us one in you.**

Into your hands, O living God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Peace be with you.

 **Peace be with you.**

*Worshippers are invited to use their phones to text now or make a call later today to extend a message of peace to someone you love and care about.*

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256,  
or by following the link on the homepage of the website, [www.trinitylutheran.ws](http://www.trinitylutheran.ws).  
Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 North Main St., Greenville, SC 29601.

*Beloved, Let Us Love One Another*  
Van Denman Thompson

OFFERTORY HYMN

*Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

#535

*Refrain*

***Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.***  
***Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.***

**Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger. *refrain***

**Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,  
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel. *refrain***

Let us pray. God of love,  
**you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.**  
**Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.**  
**Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;**  
**for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.**  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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.

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.  
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.  
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.  
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,  
O God our strength and our song,  
you show us a vision of a tree of life  
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.  
Grant us such life,  
the life of the Father to the Son,  
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,  
life in you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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.**

## COMMUNION

*All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.*

*Worshippers who gather with family at home are invited to share the bread and wine with each other using these words spoken directly to each person, "The body of Christ given for you," and "The blood of Christ shed for you."  
Worshippers who are gathering with the community from their individual homes are invited to receive the bread and wine while saying these words, "The body of Christ given for me," and "The blood of Christ shed for me."*

## MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

The image shows a musical score for the Communion song "Lamb of God". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have". The second staff continues with "mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the". The third staff continues with "world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the". The fourth staff concludes with "sin of the world; grant us peace." The word "grant" is underlined with a curved line.

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.

**All my hope on God is founded who will all my  
trust renew, who through change and chance will guide me,  
only good and only true. God unknown, God  
alone, call my heart to be thine own.**

**Mortal pride and earthly glory, sword and crown  
betray our trust; what with care and toil we fashion,  
tow'r and temple, fall to dust. But thy pow'r, hour by  
hour, is my temple and my tow'r.**

**Great thy goodness, e'er enduring; deep thy wisdom,  
passing thought; splendor, light, and life attend thee,  
beauty springing out of naught. Evermore from thy  
store newborn worlds rise and adore.**

**Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of  
praise be done, high above all praises praising  
for the gift of God's own Son. Christ doth call one and  
all: ye who follow shall not fall.**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Wellspring of joy,  
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.  
Satisfy the hunger still around us,  
and send us as joyful witnesses,  
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom  
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Thine Is the Glory*

#376

(Verse 1)

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.  
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!**

### DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed.**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*We Know that Christ is Raised*  
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*Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen*  
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*Halleluiah! We Sing our Praises!*  
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*All My Hope on God is Founded*  
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## CHURCH STAFF

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Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig  
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook  
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