

This Week's Words for Meditation

Heavenly Nourishment; Heavenly Caretaker

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the gardener."

John 15:1

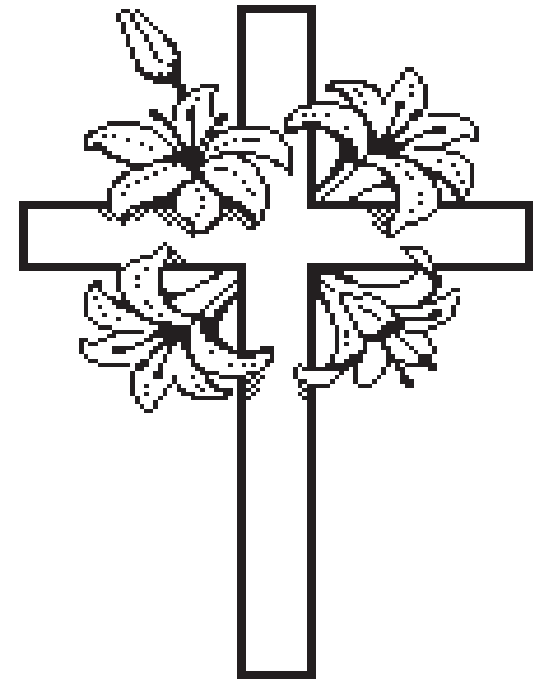
A friend of ours is an avid gardener. She is always out fussing in her garden, tilling, pulling weeds, fertilizing, watering, and pruning. You can imagine the results! Her garden is a showpiece. She loves to have others admire it just as much as she does herself.

Our heavenly Father has a similar interest in us. The crown of His creation, we receive His utmost care and attention. At our Baptism we are grafted to Jesus, our Savior and Lord, receiving from Him nourishment for our souls. Jesus poignantly explains this in John 15:5 when He says, "Apart from Me you can do *nothing*." Our lives are totally dependent on Him.

What an intimate, personal relationship this is. Nourished, forgiven, and groomed with perfect, never-ending care, we become an object of beauty to our God and a beautiful witness for others to see. The fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—can only be produced if we stay connected to the true vine, Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God for His perfect nourishment and care.

**O almighty God, keep us firmly rooted
in Your Word and nourished in body
and spirit, that all we are and do may
be pleasing in Your sight. Amen.**

James W. Freese



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSOURI SYNOD

BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR

MAY 2, 2021

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Welcome! The service is designed to honor God and encourage and feed His people. We hope your heart is open to Him today, and that you sense the warm presence of His Spirit.

All Saints Facebook page to access livestream:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/70694660512>

+ WE LIFT OUR HEARTS IN WORSHIP +

Prelude: "Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor", BWV 565, by J.S. Bach. Public domain.
"Duke Street", Setting by Bálint Karosi. From Hymn Prelude Library Volume Three.
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Organist: Christopher Mueller



Altar Flowers are placed to the glory of God by Diane Fairbanks.

+ WELCOME AND GREETING +

Pastor's Welcome

The Invocation for Easter Season

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

(Matthew 28:19b)

C: Amen!

Opening Hymn: #535 LSB "How Wide the Love of Christ" (v 1-4)

Verse 1: *How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race
But holds our one humanity Within its broad embrace.*

Verse 2: *How long the love of Christ! Its patience will not cease
Until this broken world is bound In everlasting peace.*

Verse 3: *How high the love of Christ! Beyond all thought it soars,
And yet upon our passing lives Unmeasured mercy pours.*

Verse 4: *How deep the love of Christ, Descending to a cross!
He bears within His wounded hands All human pain and loss.*

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., b. 1923

Tune: Johann M. Spiess, 1715-72; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music: Public domain

+ TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS +

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(1 John 1:8-9)

(A time of silent confession before God)

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

(1 John 1:12; Philippians 1:6)

Kyrie Lord, Have Mercy (p. 152) (Spoken by Pastor & Congregation)

(Mark 10:47)

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

_Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

_This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

+ FORGIVEN, WE NOW ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE +

PSALMODY: Psalm 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16 (Read responsively)

P: A little while, and you will see Me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see Me.

C: I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever.

P: Every day I will bless You and praise Your name forever and ever.

C: 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!

P: My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless His holy name forever and ever.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the † Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: A little while, and you will see Me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see Me.

Salutation and Collect for this Day

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Let us pray. 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.

C: Amen.

+ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +



The First Scripture Reading: Acts 8:26-40 (ESV p. 917)

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

26 Now 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. 27 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 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 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.

33

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 36 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?" 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 39 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. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading: 1 John 4:1-11 (ESV p. 1023)

Test the Spirits

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. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 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. 4 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. 5 They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. 6 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.

God Is Love

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 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. 10 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. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Easter Season Gradual (adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6)

P: Christ has risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,

C: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.

The Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8 (ESV p. 901)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Fifteenth Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

I Am the True Vine

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 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. 5 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. 6 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. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Children's Message: "Philip Shares Jesus"

The Message Hymn: #531 LSB "Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus" (v 1-3)

Verse 1: *Hail, Thou once de-spi-sed Jesus! Hail, Thou Galilean King!
Thou didst suffer to release us; Thou didst free salvation bring.
Hail, Thou universal Savior, Bearer of our sin and shame!
By Thy merit we find favor: Life is giv-en through Thy name.*

Verse 2: *Paschal Lamb, by God appointed, All our sins on Thee were laid;
By almighty love anointed, Thou hast full atonement made.
All Thy people are forgiven Through the virtue of Thy blood;
Opened is the gate of heaven, Reconciled are we with God.*

Verse 3: *Jesus, hail! Enthroned in glory,
There forever to abide;
All the heav'nly hosts adore Thee,
Seated at Thy Father's side.
There for sinners Thou art pleading;
There Thou dost our place prepare,
Ever for us interceding Till in glory we appear.*

Text: Hymns Addressed to the Holy, Holy, Holy, Triune God, London, 1757, sts. 1, 3a, 4a, alt.; A collection of Psalms and Hymns, London, 1760, sts. 2, 3b, 4b, alt.
Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, Halle, 1704, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
Text and music: Public domain

The Message: “**He is the True Vine: Rejoice and Bear Fruit!**” (John 15:1-8)

Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed (p. 158)

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 worshipped 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.

The Gathering of Offerings for the Lord's Work (*A Friendly Reminder to please continue offerings as you are able.*)

The Sanctus

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Consecration of Elements for Holy Communion

Distribution will take place in the Narthex at the conclusion of this worship service. Please make sure to sign in on the Communion Notebook.

The Prayers of the Church (after each petition, please respond with - “**Hear our Prayer**”)

O Lord, **have mercy.**

O Christ, **have mercy.**

O Lord, **have mercy.**

O Christ, **have mercy.**

The LORD's Prayer (p.162) (Spoken)

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.

Prepare to Receive Holy Communion

We practice Biblical Communion. It is a testimony to our unity in faith and doctrine. All who have been baptized, examined and absolved are welcome.

If you are not an active member of this parish or have not previously received communion from Pastor Dolby, please speak with him.

We invite you to read and understand Matthew 28:16-20, 1 Corinthians 11:17-34, 1 Timothy 4:16, and Mark 14:23-25.

Please Note: Should anyone be unable to partake of the wine, we will have a small amount of cups filled with grape juice available in the center of each communion tray for your use. Also, please note that gluten-free wafers are available in a small bowl on the wafer plate for anyone with a gluten allergy.

We receive Christ's Body and Blood in, with and under the bread and the wine, for the forgiveness of sins, united in the fellowship of faith and faithful in Christ, Christ's presence and peace.

The Benediction (p.166) (Spoken)

P: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Amen.

The Sending Hymn: #573 LSB "*Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee*"

Verse 1: *Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee;
That, I know, could never be;
For this heart would still refuse Thee
Had Thy grace not chosen me.
Thou hast from the sin that stained me
Washed and cleansed and set me free
And unto this end ordained me,
That I ever live to Thee.*

Verse 2: *It was grace in Christ that called me,
Taught my darkened heart and mind;
Else the world had yet enthralled me,
To Thy heav'nly glories blind.
Now I worship none above Thee;
For Thy grace alone I thirst,
Knowing well that, if I love Thee,
Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.*

Verse 3: *Praise the God of all creation;
Praise the Father's boundless love.
Praise the Lamb, our ex-pi-a-tion,
Priest and King enthroned above.
Praise the Spirit of salvation,
Him by whom our spirits live.
Undivided adoration
To the great Jehovah give.*

Text: Josiah Conder, 1789-1855, alt.

Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, Basel, 1745;

Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Text and music: Public domain

The Sending

P: Christ has risen from the dead! (Matthew 28:7)

**C: Alleluia! Christ Jesus abolished death and brought life
and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia!**

(2 Timothy 1:10b)

Postlude: "Boléro de Concert", by Louis-J.-A. Lefébure-Wély. Public domain.

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ENTER TO WORSHIP—DEPART TO SERVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Masks are required while in the buildings for all participants 5 years or older.

Preschool Phone Number Changed! The new number for Rise and Shine Preschool effective immediately is 425-869-6487.

Worship service recordings will continue to be provided on the church website in the days following each Sunday.

Worship services are currently, on a week-by-week basis, either being held at 9:30 AM in our Sanctuary or being live streamed in our Facebook account. Members can also view the recorded video later, on our website at: <http://www.allsaints-lcms.com>, when posted. Updates will also be posted on the website as things are subject to change due to COVID-19.

Sunday School classes currently remain virtual.



Scan using camera or vision on your smartphone. Its a quick way to get to our website.

PLEASE TAKE HOME THIS PRAYER LIST OF PEOPLE TO PRAY FOR

Below are names that Pastor has received over several weeks. Should you wish any names to be added or updated, please contact Pastor or Barbi in the office. If we do not receive updates, names will be removed from this list after 30 days and placed into the Lord's hands.

Dewey's brother, Surgery on right side of face went well. Should heal soon. Surgery on finger on right hand scheduled for Wednesday, pray that it will also go well and will heal quickly. (5-2)

My beloved aunt is in critical condition, fighting with covid. She is in hospital, her name is Sailaja (age 45). Her daughter is also infected. Kindly keep her in your prayers. (4-25)

From Pastor Bob & Marie - Our Daughter, Heather-Marie Porterfield Wilson was scheduled for brain surgery on Monday, April 26 at Harborview. Continued prayers for healing and strength are appreciated. (4-11)

Congratulations to Elizabeth Priya Jerrypothula and Ashish Surendranath. The wedding took place on April 24th, 2021 in Missouri City, Texas. God's Blessings to our dear sister in Christ and to her beloved fiance. (4-11)

Tara Caulfield, various health problems. We pray for healing and for the doctors to resolve the problems. (4-11)

Emily Andrews - My uncle with the brain tumor just finished his first course of treatment and got the results back from the MRI. More tumors grew in his brain. They aren't able to do any more surgeries after chemotherapy has started. Please pray for the family to find their peace with the situation. Finally, I hope this experience can help lead my aunt and uncle back to God and that He would reveal himself to the daughters. (4-18)

Friend of Marjaana, Continued prayers for Mervi and her family for strength, health, and the light of Christ. Last week they found out that the cancer has spread in her little son Titus' body, but is not in his bones. (4-11)

Uncle Lance, Continued healing for him as he was moved out of the ICU at hospital he's being cared for. (From Cherish, family friend of Shawna.)

