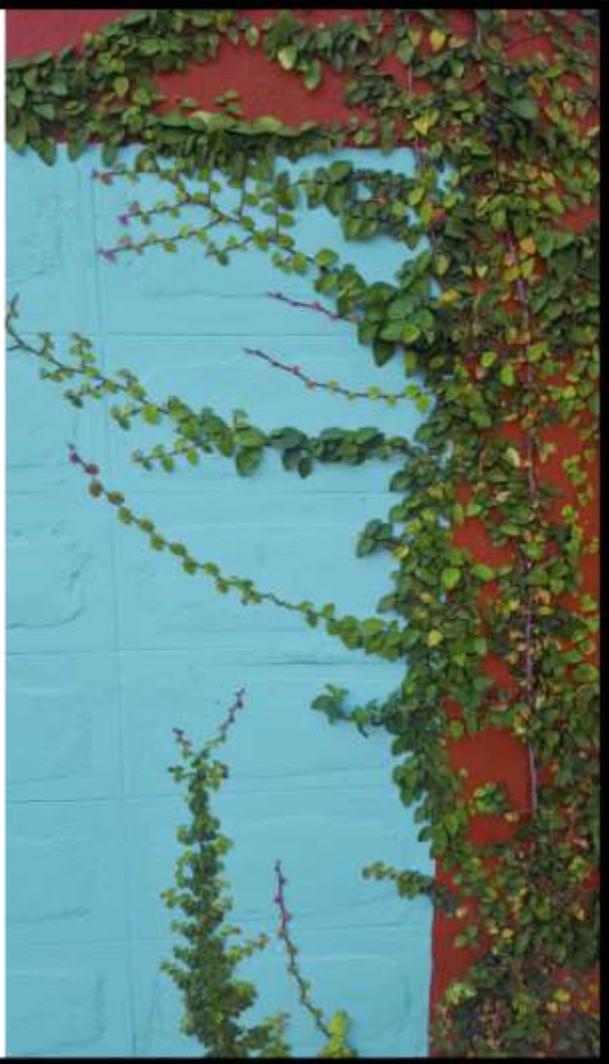


OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 2, 2021

**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.**

John 15:4



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1822 East Lincoln Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 662-3935

Website: www.OurRedeemerLCMS.net

Email: office@OurRedeemerLCMS.net

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OUR MISSION

“The Our Redeemer church family exists to **welcome** people to faith;
help people **grow** in the faith that works in real life;
and **serve** our community and the world together in **Jesus’** name.”

GUESTS AND MEMBERS – WELCOME TO OUR REDEEMER

We’re happy that you’ve joined us in worship, especially if you are a visitor with us.
We pray that the Lord who led you here would lead you into a time of knowing Him better,
trusting in Him more, and growing deeper in His love as He places His Word
and cross before your eyes, ears, and hearts.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS & LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE

Please see an usher for assistance with these items.

COVID-19 Reminder

As ministry opportunities sponsored by Our Redeemer continue to resume onsite and elsewhere, the leadership of our congregation recognizes the new challenges that exist when gathering together. Below is a reminder to consider before participating in any worship service or activity:

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and agencies recommend social distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the congregation of groups of people. We are doing everything we can to be compliant with all regulations and ensure your safety. We have put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but we cannot guarantee that you or family members will not become infected with COVID-19.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
DIVINE SERVICE SETTING I

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

LSB 469



1 “Christ the Lord is ris’n to - day!” Saints on earth and an - gels say;
2 Love’s re - deem - ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won;
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, re - ply.
Lo! Our Sun’s e - clipse is o’er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.
Death in vain for - bids His rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

- 5 **Soar we now where Christ has led; Foll’wing our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise; Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.**
- 6 **Hail the Lord of earth and heav’n! Praise to Thee by both be giv’n!
Thee we greet triumphant now: Hail, the resurrection, Thou!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

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

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

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: 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.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PSALM

Psalm 150

P: Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!

C: Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!

P: Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

C: Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

P: Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

C: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

All: 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.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

LSB 156



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P: 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 A - men.

FIRST READING

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.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 John 4:1-11

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.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156

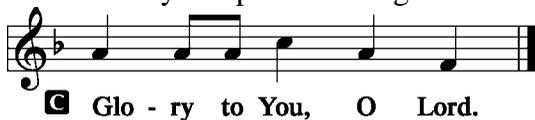


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the fifteenth chapter.



Glo - ry 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.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SERMON HYMN

“Thine Forever, God of Love”

LSB 687



- 1 Thine for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne a - bove;
- 2 Thine for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in Thee their rest!
- 3 Thine for - ev - er, Lord of Life! Shield us through our earth - ly strife.
- 4 Thine for - ev - er! Shep-herd, keep These Thy frail and trem-bling sheep;
- 5 Thine for - ev - er! Thou our guide, All our wants by Thee sup - plied,



Thine for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!
 Sav - ior, guard - ian, heav'n-ly friend, O de - fend us to the end!
 Thou, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.
 Safe a - lone be - neath Thy care, Let us all Thy good-ness share.
 All our sins by Thee for-giv'n; Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

SERMON

“Connected to the Vine”

John 15:1-8

Sermon Notes and Additional References

When disconnection happens in life...

God does not want us to disconnect from Him.

Branches only have life that flows from being connected to the vine.

Our connection to Christ started at baptism.

God uses households to keep us connected to Him through His Word.

God even uses challenges to make us even more connected to Him.

And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. *(Hebrews 11:39-40)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

HOLY COMMUNION ... Because we believe Jesus' word that in communion He gives us His body and blood, forgives our sins, and strengthens our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ, we welcome to communion those

- * who are part of God's family through baptism;
- * who are growing by the power of the Holy Spirit in true faith in Jesus as their savior;
- * who are truly repentant and sorrowful for their sins; and
- * who intend by the power of the Holy Spirit to amend their lives.

If you feel your relationship with God is not of this nature, you may still receive a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms), rather than communing to your spiritual harm. For those communing, both wine and grape juice are available.

(Pastor and an Elder will bring communion to the pews beginning on the east outside aisle followed by the center and then west outside aisle. Please remain seated.)

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” *LSB 463 v. 1-3*



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set



praise of love that still a - bounds: “Christ has tri - umphed!
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: “Christ has tri - umphed!
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer



He is liv - ing!” Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
 He is liv - ing!” Now still He comes to give us
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 life And by His pres - ence stills all
 day That by our lives we tru - ly



here: “Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!”
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 say: “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Weekly Worship Meditations and Preparation Thoughts

For meditation from Sunday's worship: Read John 15:1-8

-Put John 15:7 somewhere you can see it so God's Word can abide in you this week.

-Pray for or encourage a confirmand – present or past.

For preparation for next week: Read John 15:9-17

-When have you experienced God making your joy full?

-Do you struggle more with seeing yourself as a servant of God or a friend of God?

Serving Us Today

Pastor - Rev. Peter Weeks

Director of Youth and Family Ministry - Arlyn Meyer

Organist - Rhoda Kolbus

Elders	8:00 am	Danny Kiedaisch	(212-0504)
	10:30 am	Jeff Kuenneth	(533-5844)
Ushers	8:00 am	Gerry Christman (Lead) and Bob McCuen	
	10:30 am	David Liebers (Lead) and Mark Semingson	
Altar Guild	8:00 am	OPEN	
	10:30 am	Jeff and Connie Kuenneth	

Altar Flowers

*The flowers on the altar are sponsored by Mike and Kelly Olson
in celebration of Maia's confirmation today and
in honor of all her fellow confirmands on this blessed Confirmation Day.*

Acknowledgments

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