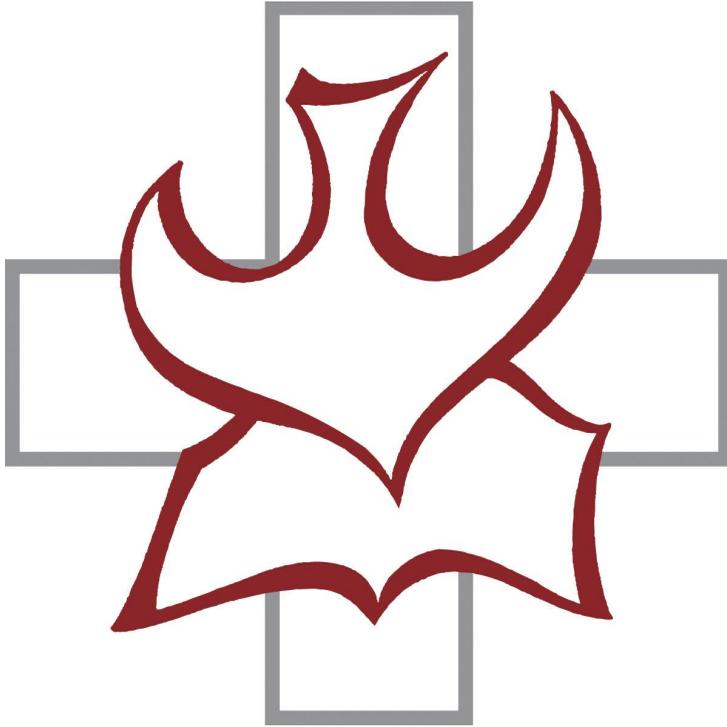




Sunday, May 2, 2021  
Rev. Kory Janneke, Pastor



### **As We Gather**

Welcome to St. Matthew! Whether you are participating today in-person or through Facebook, thank you for joining us to worship our Risen Savior! Our Scriptural focus today will be Jesus' words for us in John 15:1-8, in which He says to us, "I Am the Vine; you are the branches." How is Christ our "Vine"? What does it mean to live as His branches? The sermon will explore these questions about Jesus' statements in the Gospel reading.

We give thanks this morning for the work of God the Holy Spirit in the lives of Kendalyn, Anna, Brelee, Cade, and Jacob as they are confirmed in their Christian faith as part of today's service! Confirmation is a public affirmation of Baptism and faith in Christ following a time of instruction in the basics of the Christian faith. Please pray for our confirmands today and as they continue to grow in Christ!

This service will culminate in receiving Christ's gifts in the Lord's Supper. An explanation about St. Matthew's belief and practice regarding the Lord's Supper is found at the back of this worship folder.

Guests, please take a moment to fill out a brief information sheet at the podium in the entryway. If you have any questions or prayer requests to share today, or if you are interested in possible membership at St. Matthew, please speak with Pastor Kory before or after this service. May God strengthen your connection to Christ our Vine this evening and in the week to come!

## Pre-Service Music

### Processional Hymn: The Church's One Foundation

sts. 1-5



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;  
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,  
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war  
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.  
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more  
And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;  
One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,  
Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,  
O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.  
And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.  
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.  
That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face to face.

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## Welcome & Introduction

### Statements of Faith: Anna Lord and Cade Rezin

#### Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

#### Confession of Sins and Absolution:

**P** Our help is in the name of the **L**ord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O **L**ord, kept a record of sins, O **L**ord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.

### Psalm 150

**P** <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary;

**C** praise him in his mighty heavens!

**P** <sup>2</sup>Praise him for his mighty deeds;

**C** praise him according to his excellent greatness!

**P** <sup>3</sup>Praise him with trumpet sound;

**C** praise him with lute and harp!

**P** <sup>4</sup>Praise him with tambourine and dance;

**C** praise him with strings and pipe!

**P** <sup>5</sup>Praise him with sounding cymbals;

**C** praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

**P** <sup>6</sup>Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

**C** Praise the LORD!

### We Sing: “Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”

1 What is our hope in life and death  
Christ alone Christ alone  
What is our only confidence  
That our souls to Him belong  
Who holds our days within His hand  
What comes apart from His command  
And what will keep us to the end  
The love of Christ in which we stand

2 Chorus: O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death

3 What truth can calm the troubled soul  
God is good God is good  
Where is His grace and goodness known  
In our great Redeemer's blood

Who holds our faith when fears arise  
Who stands above the stormy trial  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh  
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

4 Unto the grave what will we sing  
Christ He lives Christ He lives  
And what reward will heaven bring  
Everlasting life with Him  
There we will rise to meet the Lord  
Then sin and death will be destroyed  
And we will feast in endless joy  
When Christ is ours forevermore

5 Chorus: O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death  
Chorus: O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death

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### Prayer of the Day

**P** 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.

### Epistle Reading: 1John 4:1-11

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>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.

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

## Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

## Children's Message

### We Sing: "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

*sts. 1, ref, 3, 5*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -  
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the  
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound-ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen-dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -  
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the  
ru - sa-lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch-



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

#### *Refrain*



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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## Sermon: "I am the Vine; you are the branches" (Text: John 15:5)

## Confirmation

**P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

## Profession of Faith

**P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

**R** *Yes, I do.*

**P** Do you renounce the devil?

**R** *Yes, I renounce him.*

**P** Do you renounce all his works?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you renounce all his ways?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**R** *Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

**R** *Yes, I believe 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.*

**P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**R** *Yes, 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.*

**P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

### Individual Blessing

**P** [*Name*], the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life † everlasting.

**C** Amen.

### Individual Confirmation Verses are Read

#### Prayer for the Newly Confirmed

**P** Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness

In the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ's Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord's Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

## Lord's Prayer

**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.

## We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

(For our guests and visitors, an explanation of our belief and practice regarding the Lord's Supper is found at the end of this service folder.)

## 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

## Words of Our Lord

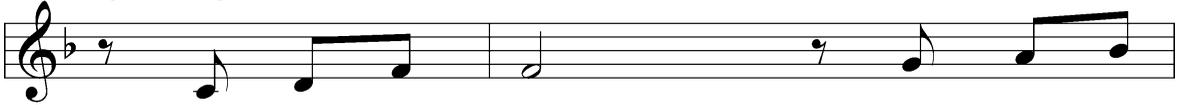
**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

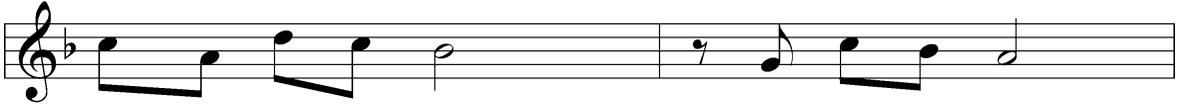
## Communion Distribution

*(Those seated on the north side of the sanctuary will commune first followed by those on the south side. Please come forward to the front step either individually or as a household. After receiving Christ's Body and Blood, you may return directly to your seat.)*

## We Sing During Communion: "What is this Bread?"



1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	That	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes! By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -



ris - en	from the	dead:	This	bread	we	break,
Je - sus	shed	for	mine;	The	cup	of
live	and	He	should	die	Un -	der
Word	and	prom -	ise	clear,	In	mouth
giv - en	and	set	free!	I	do	be -
				lieve		



This	life	we	take,	Was	crushed	to	pay	for	our	re -
Brings	His	em -	brace	Of	life	and	love	un -	til	I
My	God,	my	God,	Why	have	You	not	for -	sak -	en
He	makes	us	whole—	Christ,	tru -	ly	pres -	ent	in	this
That	I	re -	ceive	His	ver -	y	bod -	y	and	His



lease.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	peace.
sing!	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	King.
me?	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	free.
meal.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	real.
blood.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	good.

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## Choir Song: "A Mother's Prayer"

*(The women of the congregation are invited to sing with the choir.)*

Before you close your eyes to sleep I have a promise still to keep  
 As I hold you in my arms I pray your little frame grows strong  
 And that faith takes hold while you are young. This is my prayer for you

Hold my hand. I'll teach you the way to go  
 Through the joys through the tears The journey of these years  
 May you trust Him 'til the end May you trust Him in the end

This world is not as it should be But the Savior opens eyes to see  
 All that's beautiful and true Oh may His light fill all you are  
 And the jewel of wisdom crown your heart This is my prayer for you

Hold my hand I'll teach you the way to go  
 Through the joys through the tears The journey of these years  
 He is with us 'til the end He is faithful 'til the end

You'll travel where my arms won't reach As the road will rise to lead your feet  
On a journey of your own May my mistakes not hinder you  
But His grace remain and guide you through This is my prayer for you

Take His hand And go where He calls you to  
And whatever comes seek Him With all your heart  
This will be my prayer for you

Father hear my ceaseless prayer Oh keep her in your care

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### **Closing Prayer:**

**P** Heavenly Father, we thank You for having fed us with Your life-giving food.  
Strengthen us through the same and help us to rejoice in Your mercies that we grow  
daily as fruitful branches of Christ the Vine. Finally, in Your mercy, grant us a portion  
with the saints in light eternal. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with  
You and the Holy Spirit are one God, world without end.

**C** Amen.

### **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** Amen.

### **Sunday School Dismissal and Announcements**

*(Sunday school is offered for children in Pre-K through 6th grade. Parents, please  
accompany your children if they are attending for the first time today.)*

### **Recessional Hymn: O Gracious Lord with Love Draw Near"**

- 1 O gracious Lord, with love draw near  
To these, Your children gathered here;  
The Spirit's gift in them renew:  
The gift of faith that clings to You.
- 2 Sustain the work You have begun  
In these united to Your Son,  
For in that pure baptismal flood  
They have been cleansed by Jesus' blood.
- 3 Deliver them from ev'ry wile,  
From all that would their hearts beguile,  
From worldly ways and Satan's lies,  
That they may not Your Word despise.
- 4 Lord, keep them firm in their intent  
To You, Your Word and Sacrament.  
O make them bold, their faith to share  
And make them strong, each cross to bear.

5 O Father, grant that by Your grace  
They may Your will each day embrace;  
With fruits of faith their lives now bless,  
Till they at death Your name confess.

6 Then robed in white before Your throne,  
Your holy saints, by You foreknown—  
Predestined, called, and justified,  
Shall, crowned in light, be glorified.

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### **Takeaway for Today:**

***Jesus is the Source of our life both now and forever, physically and spiritually. How do you plan to draw closer to your life-giving Savior this week?***

### **A Note on Receiving the Lord's Supper**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and yet desire to receive the sacrament are asked to speak first with the Pastor. Thank you!

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