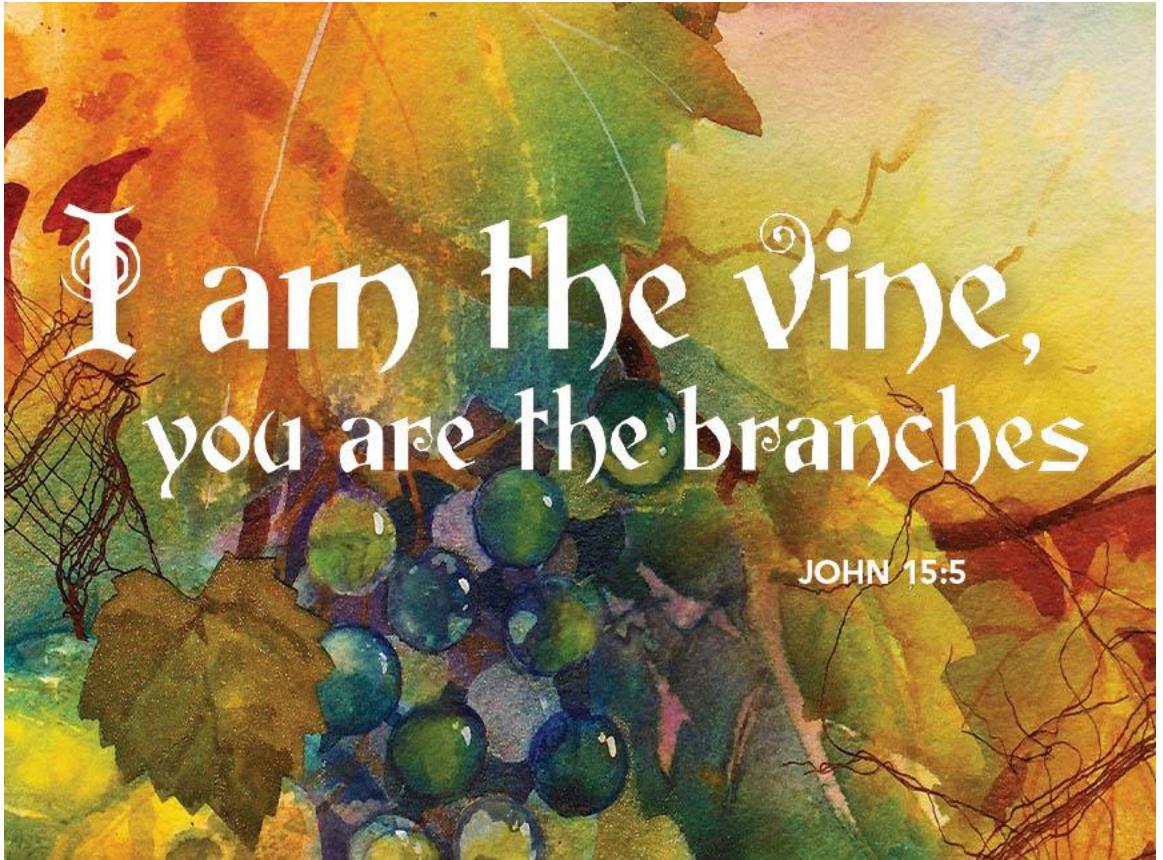


Fifth Sunday of Easter



2 May 2021

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
1900 St. Paul Street – Baltimore, MD 21218
410-752-5804

STAFF

Pastor Emily M.D. Scott

Administrator Stephen Kohler

Deacons Connie Lisch,

Woodland Pomeroy, Sue Romanic

Cantor James Harp

Sexton Jeffrey Spangler

Website: stmarksbaltimore.org

The Mission of St Mark's Church is to Embrace Diversity, Practice Hospitality, and Make Known Christ's Presence in Word and Deed

Welcome to worship at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are working to keep you, our congregants, and the wider community safe. We ask that you take an active part in these efforts. Please keep your mask on at all times and retain social distance of at least six feet between you and others. Restrooms are available on a very limited basis; speak to an usher if you have need. There is to be **no singing** by the congregation, though you are welcome to respond to the spoken elements of the liturgy. Finally, communion has been prepared with safety precautions, and will be distributed in one kind (bread only). Receive the host at the front of the church, then return to your seat. Pastor will indicate when it is time to consume the host.

There is an offering plate at the rear of the main aisle for you to place your offerings and contributions.

Finally, you are asked to please refrain from applause at the conclusion of the Voluntary at the end of the Liturgy. Following the Voluntary, you are asked to please leave the building to meet and greet one another on the portico. Thank you!



2 May, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

VOLUNTARY

Benedetto Marcello

Fuga del Nobil Veneto

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-The Assembly will please stand-

THE HYMN

EARTH AND ALL STARS

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

- 1 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!

- 2 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

- 3 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

- 4 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*

- 5 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*

GREETING

P. Alleluia! The Lord is risen!

C. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray:

C. **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.

-The Assembly will please sit-

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶An 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.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

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

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:25-31

We will read the psalm responsively with the lectern side in NORMAL print; and the pulpit side in BOLD print.

- ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.
- ²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**
- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.
- ²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**
- ²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.
- ³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**
- ³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There 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. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

-The Assembly will please stand-

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia! I am the vine and you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them will bear much fruit. Alleluia! (John 15:5)

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

-The Assembly will please sit-

SERMON

-The Assembly will please stand-

THE HYMN

ST. HELENA

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

- 1 There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.
- 2 There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given.
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.
- 3 For the love of God is broader than the measure of the sea;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we should take him at his word;
and our life will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

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

Petition response: **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

-The Assembly will please sit-

OFFERING

Benedetto Marcello

Love Divine

*Love divine, all love excelling, Joy of Heav'n to earth come down. Fix in us thy
humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesu! Thou art all compassion, pure,
unbounded love Thou art; visit us with Thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.
Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all Thy grace receive; hasten to return and
nevermore Thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy
hosts above; pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.*

(Charles Wesley)

-The Assembly will please stand-

OFFERING PRAYER

A. Let us pray:

C. **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.**

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

MYSTERY OF FAITH

P. ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C. **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

CONCLUSION OF THE THANKSGIVING

P. ...in your holy church, both now and forever.

C. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Alleluia! The risen Christ invites us to this table.

C. **Come, eat and be satisfied. Alleluia!**

-The Assembly will please sit-

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Those who wish to are invited to receive communion in one kind (bread only). Communion has been prepared with safety precautions. ***Keeping 3 pews apart***, approach the front of the church where you will receive the host. Hold the host in your hand while you return to your seat. Once everyone is seated, the pastor will invite the congregation to consume the host together.

THE HYMN

OMNI DIE

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

- 1 For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured, for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
- 2 By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored, by your call to heav'n above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.
- 3 With the saints who now adore you, seated at the heav'nly board, may the church still waiting for you keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.
- 4 In your service, Lord, defend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward; in the world to which you send us let your kingdom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855-1930, alt.
Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

-The Assembly will please stand-

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A. Let us pray:
- C. **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.**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

THE HYMN

AR HYD Y NOS

For the Fruit of All Creation

- 1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.
- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL

- A. Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.
- C. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

VOLUNTARY

Improvisation on EARTH AND ALL STARS

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.



The **Flowers** are given in loving memory of Eiko Matsuhashi Wolf on her birthday, 30 April, by Louis Wolf.



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S LITURGY:

Presider	Rev. Emily M. D. Scott
Assisting Minister	Deacon Sue Romanic
Lector/Petitioner	Louis Flake
Greeter	Pamela Johnson
Usher	Teri Lura Bennett
Cantors	Gabrielle Demers
	Lesley Procter
Organist	James Harp
Livestream	John Lisch
Technicians	Jeremy Weinstein
Sexton	Jeffry Spangler