

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Testimony Weekend

April 29, 2018

11:00 am



AS WE GATHER

In one of His several “I am” statements, Jesus says, “I am the vine. You are the branches.” Inviting His hearers to a place of rest and refuge, He says, “Abide in Me.” In the Epistle, John correlates confessing that Jesus is the Son of God with experiencing and coming to trust in the love God has for us. Abiding in Jesus means abiding in God’s love. And God Himself abides in us. This relationship of abiding in Jesus, who Himself is love, was experienced by the Ethiopian eunuch when Philip told him the Good News about Jesus and the Ethiopian was baptized.

PRE-SERVICE “The Table” Tomlin

Instrumental



WELCOME

OPENING SONG “Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)”

Bleecker/Hall

**One day when heaven was filled with His praises, One day when sin was as black as could be,
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin, Dwelt among men my example is He.
The Word became flesh and the light shined among us. His glory revealed.**

**CHORUS: Living, He loved me, dying He saved me. Buried, He carried my sins far away.
Rising, He justified freely forever.
One day He's coming, O glorious day, O glorious day.**

**One day they led Him up Calv'ry's mountain. One day they nailed Him to die on a tree.
Suffering anguish, despised and rejected, Bearing our sins my Redeemer is He.
The hand that healed nations stretched out on a treeAnd took the nails from me. CHORUS**

**One day the grave could conceal Him no longer, One day the stone rolled away from the door.
Then He arose over death He had conquered. Now is ascended my Lord evermore.
Death could not hold Him, the grave could not keep Him From rising again CHORUS**

**One day the trumpet will sound for His coming,
One day the skies with His glories will shine.
Wonderful day my beloved one bringing. My Savior Jesus is mine. CHORUS**

Glorious Day. O Glorious Day.

CCLI #219979 Used by permission



RECOGNITION OF BAPTISM OF TITUS VARNER SHIPPY

LSB pg. 268

(Please Stand)

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: Christ is risen!
Men: *He is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

Pastor: Christ is risen!
Women: *He is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

Pastor: Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(If you would like private confession and absolution, please call the office at (314) 832-5600 to make an appointment with Pastor Clark)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*

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

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
People: **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.**

Pastor: 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. *[John 20:19-23]*
People: **Amen.**

[OR]

Seminary Student: 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. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*
People: **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will.

People: **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;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)



FIRST READING Acts 8:26–40 (Philip is sent to meet the Ethiopian eunuch to tell him The Good News about Jesus.)

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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



EPISTLE 1 John 4:1–11 (Test the spirits. God is love.)

¹ 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. 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)



HOLY GOSPEL *John 15:1-8* (Jesus is the vine. We are the branches.
Abide in Him and abide in love.)

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹“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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please Be Seated)

PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMATION VERSE TESTIMONIAL ESSAYS

<i>Saturday 5:00 pm:</i>	<i>Noah Matthew Clark</i>	<i>Proverbs 3:5-6</i>
	<i>Liam Brady Rabun</i>	<i>Revelation 21:6-7</i>
<i>Sunday 8:15 am:</i>	<i>Sophia Rose LaBrier</i>	<i>1 John 4:19</i>
	<i>Anna Marie Muhlke</i>	<i>Matthew 5:16</i>
<i>Sunday 11:00 am</i>	<i>Jordan Elizabeth Ingrham</i>	<i>John 8:32</i>
	<i>Nathanael Kenneth Mays</i>	<i>Psalms 16:8</i>
	<i>Gavin Victor Schulz</i>	<i>John 14:6</i>



SONG OF THE DAY SONG OF THE DAY “Cornerstone”

Mote/Liljero/Myrin/Morgan/Batchelder-Bradbury

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name REPEAT**

**CHORUS: Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all**

**When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale**

My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil **CHORUS**

He is Lord Lord of all **CHORUS**

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

Faultless stand before the throne

CCLI #219979 Used by permission



SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray together in Christ Jesus for all people according to their needs. Lord Jesus Christ, You are greater than all and have been given the name that is above every name. Grant us discernment to test all spirits. Tune our hearts to listen to Your voice, and draw us away from the voices that clamor to deceive us according to the spirits of this age. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Gracious King, Your kingdom is greater than all, and Your rule is limitless and unbounded. Grant that the rulers of the kingdoms of this world would bow their knees to Your gracious reign, seeking only the knowledge of Your will and the power to carry it out. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Great Physician, Your healing power is greater than all the technology of human invention. Be at work for good through the vocations of all healthcare professionals, workers, and caregivers that those who suffer any affliction of body, mind, or spirit, [*including . . .*], would know the nearness of Your presence and experience the joy that comes from abiding in Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Christ Jesus, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

(Please Stand)

OFFERTORY “Christ Be My Leader” *AGPS* 81

**Christ be my leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care;
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.**

**Christ be my teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him, though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.**

**Christ be my savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.**

CCLI #219979 Used by permission



✠SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT✠

We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christian to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, our duty, and our delight to give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty God, but chiefly do we praise You for the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, whose death has paid the price of our sins and whose life bestows upon us everlasting life. With angels, archangels, with Peter and Paul, and with all the saints in light, we join in praising Your name and singing their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

LSB 161

**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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 162

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

Pastor: 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. *Matthew 6:9-13*

PAX DOMINI *The Peace of the Lord John 20:19*

LSB 163

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

People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION SONGS "Come Thou Fount" Robinson

BOB 37

**Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.**

**Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry Me to realms of endless day.**

CCLI #219979. Used by permission.

"My Victory"

Mulligan/Crowder/Cash/Bentley

**You came for criminals And ev'ry Pharisee
You came for hypocrites Even one like me**

**You carried sin and shame The guilt of ev'ry man
The weight of all I've done Nailed into Your hands**

**CHORUS: Oh Your love bled for me
Oh Your blood in crimson streams
Oh Your death is Hell's defeat
A cross meant to kill is my victory**

**Oh Your amazing grace I've seen and tasted it
It's running through my veins I can't escape its grip
In You my soul is safe You cover ev'rything CHORUS**

**Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away our sin Who takes away our sin
The holy Lamb of God Makes us alive again Makes us alive again**

REPEAT BRIDGE, CHORUS

Oh a cross meant to kill is my victory

CCLI #219979 Used by permission

(Please Stand)



BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

LSB 166

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG “10,000 Reasons”

Redman

CHORUS: **Bless the Lord O my soul. O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before. O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name**

**The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes **CHORUS****

**You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find **CHORUS****

Interlude

**And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore **CHORUS X2****

**Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name**

CCLI #219979 Used by permission

POSTLUDE *Instrumental Music*

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2017 Concordia Publishing House.

All rights reserved. Used by permission

Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012046