

PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAY, MAY 2

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!



THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.

Amen.



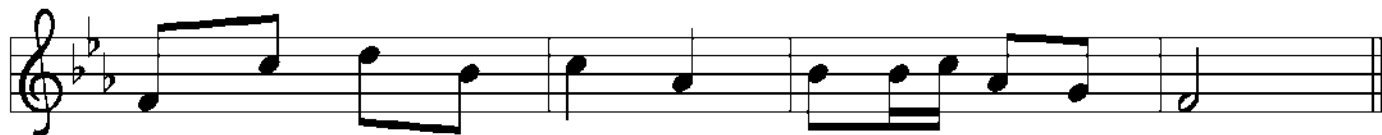
1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

OPENING DIALOGUE

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, Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 22:25-31

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: 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

Refrain F Dm Gm C

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord;

F Dm Gm C F

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.

F Dm B^b C

2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

F Dm B^b C *Refrain*

Je - sus has died and has ris - en.

GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8

The Gospel according to St. John the fifteenth chapter..

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.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

MESSAGE

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.



1 O bless - ed spring, where word and sign em - brace us
 2 Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain
 3 When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
 heav - y har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will
 last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take
 this blest mys - ter - y: that word and wa - ter thus re -



be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
 rain, the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
 move with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
 wing and trust the prom - ise of the spring.
 vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

NICENE CREED

Let us profess our faith with the words of the Nicene 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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Provide for the needs of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit (*especially with Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria and those we name before you*). With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION

Communion is received at the very end of the worship service.

The Pastor will come to your seat.

*Worshippers are encouraged to receive the bread and wine, to eat and drink,
and leave as you are comfortable.*

Elements at in-person worship are wine & juice made with grapes and gluten free bread.

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 God thanks and praise

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.
The God of life, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



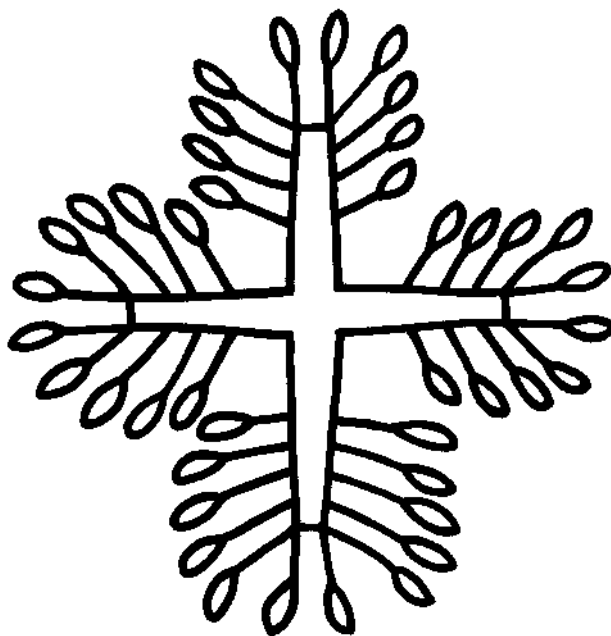
- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain

Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!



Prayers for Week of May 2

TODAY we pray for:

Anthony Schiavone
Joan Snyder and family as they mourn the death of Russ Snyder
Mary—cousin of Mandy Munson
Vera Wagenfuhr
Ron Walker
Ed Nagy
Chris Benz and family
Debbie
Ben
Nancy Miller
Brian
Allen Whitley
Roger Camp
Krisida Alberto

- all in our hearts and minds today.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Stacy Dambaugh; Pat Kizuka; Polly Gillis; Louise Ench, Kathy Long; Gener Ernst, Barbara Hewlett, Scott; Barbara Lynn Grabher, daughter in law of Erika and Ed Burke; Kyle; Bill Smith, step-father of Rebecca Koreck; Lena; Leslie, friend of Diane Teig, Jack Baskow; Claudia and Geof Bromfield, Scott & Lia Wycoff; The Fenner family; John Worrell—brother in law of Bill Baur; Mike Goyda; Lis Verbeck; Lois Snyder; David & Angie Wasgatt; John Deaton; Joan Sandstorm; Delores Sipe; Doug Price; Bob Waller; Kent Hardel; Gretchen Platz; Ellen Hall; Nanci Hunsinger, Claire Schoening; Tyler, Bill Howerin; Marcia Burton; Gina Clay

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl
For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Pastor Paige Evers
For our staff; Pastor Tara, Susan Wells Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones
For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference
For all pastors and church leaders
For our country; the United States, leaders and citizens.
For all of our global neighbors, stricken by the corvid-19 virus.

**To request a prayer, or update prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481)
or email office@glcde.org.**

Grace is worshipping in-person Sunday at 11:00am

Outdoor and livestreamed worship at 11AM. We will be singing and celebrating Holy Communion at this service. All are welcome to attend in-person or online. Please keep in mind that if it is raining, in-person worship will be cancelled and participants are welcome to watch worship livestreamed via our website (www.glcde.org) or our Facebook page. Worshippers are asked to wear a mask; you are also asked to bring your own seating for the parking lot or the grassy bank across from the portico. Worshippers can bring up the bulletin on their phones or print a copy to use and limited copies will be available. Parking in Grace's lot may be limited, but we may use Cooke Elementary School's parking lot if needed. Registration for this worship service is not needed but you will be asked to check-in as you arrive and to provide contact information as needed as this is a requirement of the State of Delaware for contact tracing purposes if necessary

In Christ, Pastor Tara Magoon

Adult Ed on Sunday Mornings at 9:30am

Please join us on Sunday at 9:30 AM on Zoom for Adult Ed as we continue with Session 2 Bible Study of **Songs of the Faithful: Studies in Psalms**.

Encountering the Grace of God, even in despair, is our greatest gift and source for hopefulness.

- Please note that the 1-hour meeting time has changed to 9:30 AM for the remaining 5 sessions to accommodate attendees who will be joining the Grace Lutheran Church service at 11:00 AM in person.

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184540007?pwd=VW5Vb25JanJNdjdRK2hkRnZQZVpKdz09>

Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007

Passcode: Connect (5655226)

SAVE THE DATE—VBS 2021

Save the Date: Grace VBS will take place in the **evening**,
during the week of **July 19-23**.

While we don't know exactly what Grace VBS will look like this year in the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, we do know that we can TRUST JESUS in our “Rocky Railways” adventure for Pre-K and Elementary School age kids.

Mark your calendars!

Interested in volunteering this year? Email or text Kevin and Laura at kevmackiewicz@gmail.com or (302) 545-3731.

