


**FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



Arise, Shine
for your light has come.
The glory of the Lord
rises upon you.

Isaiah 60:1

APRIL 28, 2024

The Divine Service

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

AS WE GATHER

How far can the human voice travel? Scientists tell us that the normal outdoor range for an adult voice traveling through still air is about 180 meters or 590 feet. Communication in Silbo, a whistled language of Spanish-speaking inhabitants of the Canary Islands, can travel five miles under ideal conditions. The sound of a voice traveling across still water at night can range up to 10.5 miles. Voices can carry! The message that the voices carry is what is most important. The spoken message about Jesus shared by Philip the deacon with the Ethiopian stranger made an eternal difference in that man's life. The words that we speak and the messages that we share are of great importance and have the divine potential to "spread the reign of God the Lord" (LSB 830:1).

Prelude

Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T 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. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession and Absolution

- 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 With Joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in the name of the Father and of the T son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

Processional Hymn

"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

LSB 474 sts. 1, ref, 5



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
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 -
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!
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



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



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


Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009; Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–87; Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828; Tune: © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828

Kyrie


A *In peace, in peace...*

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*



Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have




mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

A *For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the... Refrain*

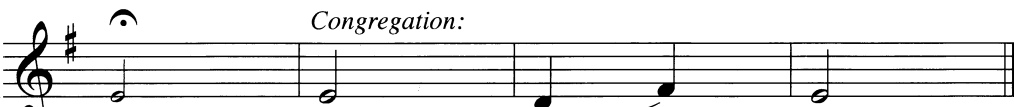
A *For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the... Refrain*

Assistant:



Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:



God. A - men.

Hymn of Praise

"Now the Feast"

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

to Refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *to Refrain*

Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And Also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray. Risen and ascended Lord, You are the vine and we are the branches. Apart from You there is no life. By Baptism You have grafted us into Your gracious life. Cause Your Word to abide in us and make us fruitful to the glory of Your Father, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

The First Reading

Acts 8:26–40

²⁶An 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. ²⁷And 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 ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And 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?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And 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. ⁴⁰But 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

¹Beloved, 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. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and 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. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We 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. ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In 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. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, 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.**

Gospel Processional



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every 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. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. ⁵I 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. ⁶If 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. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By 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.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

LSB 845 sts. 1, 4

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let
God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er
all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry
by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.
that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

Sermon

"Get the Wax Out!"

Pastor Scott Henze

Apostles' Creed

- C **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.**

Prayer of the Church

*Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy..." Congregation responds, "**Hear our prayer**"*

Offering

"Holy"

Choir, 11:00 a.m.

Offertory Prayer

- P God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Receive now these gifts you have first given and fill us with good things at your table, that we might joyfully and generously share all you have given us, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

A word about Holy Communion

We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.

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.**

Proper Preface

The Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord)

Agnus Dei

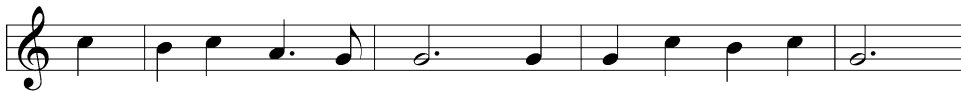


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you are the way of mer - cy and
world:
love. have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

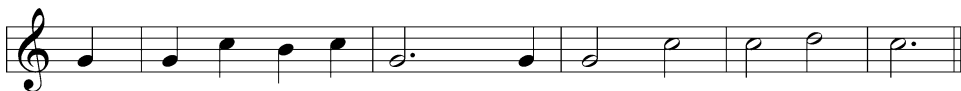




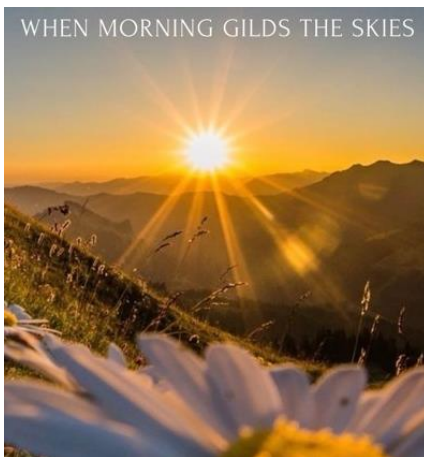
1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, My heart, a - wak - ing, cries,
 2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, This is my song of songs:
 3 No love-lier an - ti - phon In all high heav'n is known
 4 Ye na - tions of man - kind, In this your con - cord find:
 5 Sing, suns and stars of space, Sing, ye that see His face,



"May Je - sus Christ be praised!" When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
 "May Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's ho - ly house of prayer
 Than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word
 "May Je - sus Christ be praised!" Let all the earth a - round
 Sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,



This rings my cur - few call: "May Je - sus Christ be praised!"
 Hath none that can com - pare With "Je - sus Christ be praised!"
 The e - ter - nal psalm is heard: "May Je - sus Christ be praised!"
 Ring joy - ous with the sound: "May Je - sus Christ be praised!"
 Both now and ev - er - more Shall Je - sus Christ be praised!



"Jesus Loves Me"

LSB 588 sts. 2, 1s, ref-s, 2s



2 Je - sus loves me! He who died Heav-en's gates to o - pen wide.
1 Cris - to me a - ma, bien lo sé; su Pa - la - bra me ha - ce ver
2 Cris - to me a - ma, me sal - vó, en la cruz por mí mu - rió;



He has washed a - way my sin, Lets His lit - tle child come in.
que los ni - ños son de a - quel quien es nues - tro a - mi - go fiel.
mi pe - ca - do per - do - nó; vi - da e - ter - na me do - nó.

Refrain



Sí, Cris - to me a - ma; sí, Cris - to me a - ma;



sí, Cris - to me a - ma; la Bi - blia di - ce a - sí.

Closing of the Table

Jesus  & me!

Post-communion canticle

Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -
mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.
Praise to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements


Benediction

Recessional Hymn


“Lift High the Cross”

LSB 837 *sts. ref, 2, 4, 1s*


Refrain




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a-dore His sa-cred name.



2 Led on their way by this tri-um-phant sign,
4 O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree,



Refrain

The hosts of God in con- qu'ring ranks com-bine.
As Thou hast prom- ised, draw us all to Thee.

1s Venid, creyentes, a Jesús seguid,
al rey de reyes vuestro amor rendid. Estribillo

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.; (1s): tr. Leopoldo Gros, 1925–2013 Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947 Text (1s): © 1991 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828 Text (sts. ref, 2, 4) and tune: © 1974 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000828

Dismissal

P Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

C **Disciples making disciples.**

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online giving

 **St. Paul**
LUTHERAN CHURCH
& PRE-SCHOOL