

5th Sunday After Easter

May 2, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We offer our worship to God! Join in as you are able with all song and prayer, knowing that God hears us. Thank you for being a part of the virtual worship experience. If you are a Facebook user, "check in" and let your friends know you are here!

Offerings. Although we have moved to gathering 'in spirit' instead of 'in person,' the staff continue to ensure that our church ministry continues, and our regular bills continue to come in. Please mail your offering to at:

Christ Lutheran Church
ATTN: Cyndy Wedryk
60 55th Street
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

St. James Lutheran Church
5129 Wolf Road
Western Springs, IL 60558

To make your CLC offering online, go to www.yourchrist.org and click on the "Give" button.

To make your St. James offering online, go to www.stjamesws.org and click the tithe.ly link.

Questions? If you have a question about the worship, life and ministry of this congregation, email Rachel Krohn, Pastoral Assistant at office@yourchrist.org for Christ Lutheran or stjames.ws@gmail.com for St. James or Pastor Erin at pastor@yourchrist.org. You may also call the church at 630-325-2220 for Christ Lutheran or (708) 246-6228 for St. James, or visit www.yourchrist.org or www.stjamesws.org for St. James

Need something? Social distancing and self isolation can be difficult for individuals and families for a variety of reasons. If you find that you are anxious, worried, feeling hopeless, or just need spiritual support, please give us a call. Pastor Erin will be happy to provide care via phone or a virtual platform. If you find that you need something else – groceries, help contacting medical professionals, etc., please also give us a call. The church's councils are committed to ensure that everyone in the congregation has what they need to weather this challenging time.

ZOOM INFORMATION:

Telephone Number **1-312-626-6799**

Meeting ID: **973 434 409**

Password: **216714**

[Link to Zoom Worship](#)

Greeting

"The Table"

Recorded by the CLC Worship Band

Verse 1 I will feast at the table of the Lord
I will feast at the table of the Lord
I won't hunger anymore at His table

Repeat Verse 1

Chorus Come all you weary come and find
His yoke is easy His burden is light
He is able He will restore
At the table of the Lord
At the table of the Lord

Verse 2 There is peace at the table of the Lord
There is peace at the table of the Lord
I won't worry anymore at His table

Verse 3 There is healing at the table of the Lord
There is healing at the table of the Lord
Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table

Bridge I know He has a place for me
Oh what joy will fill my heart
With the saints around the mercy seat of God

Repeat Chorus

Verse 4 I'm invited to the table of the Lord
I'm invited to the table of the Lord
He says come just as you are to His table

Thanksgiving for baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: People of God, in the overflowing waters of baptism, God washes us clean to begin anew each moment. Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. (*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*)

Pastor: 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 the wideness of your love, afraid of what others might think or say. Breathe your life into your church when we cower in fear, afraid that following your footsteps to stand up for those most in need will mean there is not enough for us. 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. Give us courage for the living of these days. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Read by Rob Sorensen

Leader: 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.

All: Amen.

Song

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

Recorded by the CLC Handbells

First Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Read by Debra Joslin

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.

Gospel: John 15:1-8

[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."

Sermon **Pastor Erin Clausen**

Song **"Alleluia, Jesus is Risen"**
Recorded by the CLC Choir

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!

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*

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*

Prayers of the People

Read by Rob Sorensen

(inspired by Psalm 116 & Luke 24:13-31a)

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
All: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Leader: Risen Lord, hear our cry for help –
 for those surrounded by the shroud of death
 for those covered by the mantle of dying
 for those hemmed-in by illness, visible or veiled
 hear our cry for help...
 for those weighed down with worries
 for those carrying the burden of distress
 for those overwhelmed by isolation
 hear our cry for help...
 for those who are weary
 for those who are tattered and worn
 for those who collapse from exhaustion
 hear our cry for help...

Risen Lord, hear our cry of thanksgiving –
 for the graciousness with which you hear
 for the patience with which you listen
 for the grace with which you care
 hear our cry of thanksgiving...
 for the ways you accompany us through deep valleys
 for the ways you lead us to still meadows
 for the ways you provide all we need
 hear our cry of thanksgiving...
 for transforming death in resurrection life
 for blessing and breaking ordinary bread
 for opening our eyes to recognize you
 hear our cry of thanksgiving...

Risen Lord, hear our cry for communities of faith –
 that we retain memory of being together

that we embrace unity in the reality of distance
that we foresee a future side-by-side, hand-in-hand
hear our cry for communities of faith...
that we sense purpose beyond ourselves
that we perceive the needs of creation
that we stretch ourselves to respond
hear our cry for communities of faith...
that our ways be formed by Your Way
that our lives be shaped by Your Life
that our love be Your Love
hear our cry for communities our faith...
And hear us as we pray together....

~ written by Katherine Kussmaul, Saint Giles Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, NC. Posted on [Liturgy Link](#)

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Prayer

Pastor: 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.

All: Amen.

Communion

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:
**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.**

Pastor: The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

Communion Slide Show **“Big House”**

Prayer after Communion

Pastor: 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.

All: Amen.

Blessing

Pastor: May the celebration of resurrected life bring new hope to your being.
May the victory over earthly death turn your eyes to the promises of heaven.
May the empty tomb help you to leave your sorrows at the foot of the cross.
So that God's hope, promises and ✠ forgiveness reign in your life forever.
Amen.

Song **“Because of Your Love”**

Recorded by the CLC Worship Band

Verse As we come into Your presence
We remember ev'ry blessing
That You've poured out so freely from above
Lifting gratitude and praises
 compassion so amazing
Lord we've come to give You thanks
For all You've done

Chorus Because of Your love we're forgiven
Because of Your love our hearts are clean
We lift You up with songs of freedom
Forever we're changed because of Your love

Repeat Verse

Repeat Chorus x 2

Dismissal

The Giron Family

Leaders: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Leaders: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**