

# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

**A Community of Faith:** *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



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.

*1 John 4:9*

## Order of Worship

*April 28, 2024 10:45 AM*

# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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## Introit

*Psalm 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*

A little while, and you will see me no longer;  
and again a little while, and you will see me.  
I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.  
Every day I will bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.  
The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,  
and all your saints shall bless you!  
My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

## Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

*If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.*

*Thank you.*

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

## Divine Service, Setting One

### Prelude

### Welcome

### Opening Hymn

#### Where Charity and Love Prevail

LSB 845



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There  
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His  
3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let



God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er  
char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and  
we our faults con - fess, And let us love each  
all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry



by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.  
mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.  
oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.  
that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

5 Let us recall that in our midst  
Dwells Christ, His only Son;  
As members of His body joined  
We are in Him made one.

6 For love excludes no race or clan  
That names the Savior's name;  
His family embraces all  
Whose Father is the same.

## Invocation

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

- L** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

- L** 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.**

- L** 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.
- C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Psalm

*Psalm 150*

*Spoken responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!  
Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty heavens!

**<sup>2</sup>Praise him for his mighty deeds;  
praise him according to his excellent greatness!**

<sup>3</sup>Praise him with trumpet sound;  
praise him with lute and harp!

**<sup>4</sup>Praise him with tambourine and dance;  
praise him with strings and pipe!**

<sup>5</sup>Praise him with sounding cymbals;  
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

**<sup>6</sup>Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Kyrie

LSB 152

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** 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.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**



# This Is the Feast

LSB 155

*Refrain*

**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**L** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**L** Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. 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; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading

*Acts 8:26–40*

<sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>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 <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>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.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>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?" <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>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. <sup>40</sup>But 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.

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup>By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup>And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**



## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

- L** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

- L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**



**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.

Hymn of the Day

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633 sts. 1, 5-8



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
5 Might-y Vic-tim from the sky, Hell's fierce  
6 Now no more can death ap-pall, Now no  
7 Eas-ter tri-umph, Eas-ter joy! This a-  
△ 8 Fa-ther, who the crown shall give, Sav-ior,



our vic-to-ri-ous King, Who has washed us in the tide  
pow'rs be-neath You lie; You have con- quered in the fight,  
more the grave en- thrall; You have o- pened par- a- disc,  
lone can sin de- stroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
by whose death we live, Spir- it, guide through all our days:



Flow- ing from His pierc- ed side. Al- le- lu- ia!  
You have brought us life and light. Al- le- lu- ia!  
And Your saints in You shall rise. Al- le- lu- ia!  
New- born souls in You to be. Al- le- lu- ia!  
Three in One, Your name we praise. Al- le- lu- ia!



## Prayer of the Church

- L** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Response after each petition*

- L** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** Holy Father, You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear and answer our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, and Your saints shall bless You; for You live and reign with the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- L** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** **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.**

## Benediction

LSB 166

- L** The Lord bless us and keep us.  
The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.  
The Lord look upon us with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give us peace.
- G** Amen.

## Closing Hymn

### When Morning Gilds the Skies

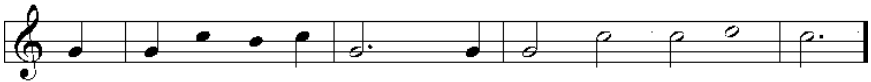
LSB 807



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 c - 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 c - 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!

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## Postlude

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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# Resources for Meditation this Week

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

28 April 2024

### Readings

Acts 8:26–40

1 John 4:1–11 (12–21)

John 15:1–8

### ***Jesus Christ Is the True Vine Who Bears Much Fruit in Us***

*“God is love,”* and He has manifested Himself to us by sending *“his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him”* (1 John 4:9, 16). By the ministry of the Gospel, *“he has given us of his Spirit,”* so that we also believe and confess *“that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh.”* In this way, we *“abide in him and he in us,”* and we *“love one another”* (1 John 4:2, 7, 13). Such divine love is exemplified in Philip’s preaching of *“the good news about Jesus”* to the Ethiopian eunuch. And when *“they came to some water,”* the eunuch was baptized into the very Gospel that Philip had preached (Acts 8:35–38). That Ethiopian was thereby grafted into *“the true vine,”* Jesus Christ (John 15:1), just as we are. Already we are clean because of the Word that Christ has spoken to us and by the washing of water with His Word. We now abide in Him by faith in His forgiveness. As He abides in us, both body and soul, with His own body and His blood, He *“bears much fruit”* in us (John 15:3–5).



**Readings**

Acts 10:34–48

1 John 5:1–8

John 15:9–17

***The Lord Jesus Is with His Church in the Apostolic Ministry of the Gospel***

The crucified and risen Lord Jesus is with His Church through the word of His apostles, who *“are witnesses of all that he did.”* He was anointed by God *“with the Holy Spirit and with power,”* and *“he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil,”* and so He was with those whom He sent *“to preach to the people”* (Acts 10:38–42). The Holy Spirit is bestowed on those who hear that apostolic preaching, who are *“baptized in the name of Jesus Christ,”* so that *“everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name”* (Acts 10:43–44, 48). For as He came by the water of His Baptism, even to the blood of His Passion, so the Spirit testifies to the truth with *“the water and the blood”* in the apostolic ministry of the Gospel (1 John 5:6–7). By these means, Christ Jesus speaks to us, that His joy may be in us and that our *“joy may be full.”* For this purpose, He appointed the apostles to *“go and bear fruit”* in order to make known His divine friendship to us (John 15:11, 15–16).

