

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024

9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “My Jesus I Love Thee” arr. Kristen Campbell
Luis Ramirez - Violin, Carla Barrows - Organ

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WELCOME Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “When Morning Gilds the Skies” LSB 807

When morning gilds the skies,
My heart, awaking, cries,
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
When evening shadows fall,
This rings my curfew call:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

When mirth for music longs,
This is my song of songs:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
God’s holy house of prayer
Hath none that can compare
With “Jesus Christ be praised!”

No lovelier antiphon
In all high heav’n is known
Than “Jesus Christ be praised!”
There to the eternal Word
The eternal psalm is heard:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Ye nations of mankind,
In this your concord find:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Let all the earth around
Ring joyous with the sound:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Sing, suns and stars of space,
Sing, ye that see His face,
Sing, “Jesus Christ be praised!”
God’s whole creation o’er,
Both now and evermore
Shall Jesus Christ be praised!

P This is the day which the Lord has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
C Teach me Your paths.

P Sanctify us in Your truth.
C Your Word is truth.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C 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.

LUTHER’S MORNING PRAYER

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE LSB 261 (Theron Jenkins, Soloist)

People: The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Cantor: *With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.
And you will say in that day:
“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,
make known His deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that His name is exalted.”*

People: The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Cantor: *Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

People: The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Cantor: *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.*

People: The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

FIRST READING Acts 8:26-40

R The First Reading is from the 8th Chapter of Acts.

R 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. (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING 1 John 4:1-11

R The Epistle Reading is from the 4th Chapter of 1st John.

R 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. (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM “O Love” by Elaine Hagenberg
Men’s Quartet (Theron Jenkins, Randy Boatright, Robert Gomez, Ross Krueger)
Rebecca Castillo, Cello

*O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go,
O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.*

*O Joy, O Joy, O Joy, that seeks me through the pain,
O Joy, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be that morn shall tearless be.*

*O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go,
O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
I give thee back the life I owe,
I give thee back the life I owe and in thy ocean depths its flow shall richer, fuller be.
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O Love, O Love, O Love,
O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go
O Love, that will not let me go.*

HOLY GOSPEL John 15:1-8

P Please stand...The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th Chapter.

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

P 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.” (ESV)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

RESPONSORY LSB 263

P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed

☐ 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Haley Davisson, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

MESSAGE. Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

MESSAGE RESPONSE "Love in Christ Is Strong and Living" LSB 706
Ross Krueger, Soloist

Solo: *Love in Christ is strong and living,
Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving.
May His will in us be done.*

All: *Love is patient and forbearing,
Clothed in Christ's humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring,
Reaching out in charity.*

All: *Love in Christ abides forever,
Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven,
Shall endure until life's end.*

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OFFERING

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING. "I Will Rise" by Christ Tomlin Men's Quartet

Theron Jenkins, Randy Boatright, Robert Gomez, Ross Krueger
Violin - Luis Ramirez

*There's a peace I've come to know
Though my heart and flesh may fail
There's an anchor for my soul
I can say "It is well"*

*Jesus has overcome
And the grave is overwhelmed
The victory is won
He is risen from the dead*

*And I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow, no more pain
I will rise on eagles' wings
Before my God fall on my knees
And rise I will rise*

*There's a day that's drawing near
When this darkness breaks to light
And the shadows disappear
And my faith shall be my eyes*

*Jesus has overcome
And the grave is overwhelmed
The victory is won
He is risen from the dead*

*And I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow, no more pain
I will rise on eagles' wings
Before my God fall on my knees
And rise I will rise*

*And I hear the voice of many angels sing,
"Worthy is the Lamb"
And I hear the cry of every longing heart,
"Worthy is the Lamb"*

*And I hear the voice of many angels sing,
"Worthy is the Lamb"
And I hear the cry of every longing heart,
"Worthy is the Lamb"*

*And I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow, no more pain
I will rise on eagles' wings
Before my God fall on my knees
And rise I will rise*

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PRAYERS LSB 265

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

LORD’S PRAYER

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.**

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE LSB 266 (Randy Boatright, Soloist)

Cantor: *Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.*

All: **Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Cantor: *Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed.
Raised from the dead, He will never die again.
Death has no more dominion over Him.*

All: **Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Cantor: *Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all.
Living, He lives to God.*

Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

All: **Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BLESSING LSB 267

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” LSB 922
Robert Gomez, Soloist

All: Go, My children, with My blessing,
Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
You are My own.
In My love’s baptismal river
I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing—
You are My own.

Solo: *Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son’s story;
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.*

All: Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit’s power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.

All: I the Lord will bless and keep you
And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you
And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you
And give you peace.

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POSTLUDE “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” Carla Barrows, Organ
arr. Kevin Hidebrand

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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