

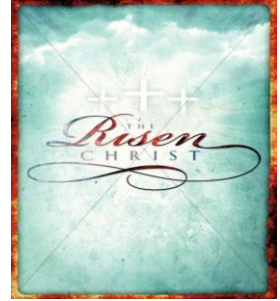


## LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A Growing Family of Faith*

May 2, 2021

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASTORAL GREETING**

#### **INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP** (please rise as you are able)

P: We are called together to worship today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen!**

P. Christ is risen. **C. He is risen indeed!**

P. Hope is alive. **C. A new age is dawning.**

P. Joy is alive. **C. Redemption is here.**

P. Love is alive. **C. Death cannot harm us.**

P. We are alive. **C. New life is within us.**

P. The church is alive. **C. God's spirit is within us.**

**ALL: God of resurrection, we come to celebrate you!**

**GATHERING SONG** "Halleluiah, Your Love is Amazing"

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

P: Most merciful God,

**C. We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** Congregational response: **AMEN**

**(Please be seated)**

**WORSHIP SONG** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

#### **SCRIPTURE LESSONS** FIRST LESSON

R. The first lesson is from the book of Acts, chapter 8, verses 26-40:

<sup>26</sup> Now 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?" 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.

R. This is the word of the Lord **C. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSIVE PSALM** R. The responsive Psalm is Psalm 22, verses 25-31:

R.<sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

**C.<sup>26</sup> The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!**

R.<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

**C.<sup>28</sup> For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.**

R.<sup>29</sup> All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

**C.<sup>30</sup> Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;**

R.<sup>31</sup> they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

R. Here ends the reading of the Psalm. Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

**GOSPEL LESSON** (Please rise as you are able)

P. The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter, verses 1-11:

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

<sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch in me 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. <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

P. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **NICENE CREED**

***I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***I 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.***

***I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

**(Please be seated)**

**SERMON SONG** "Have You Seen Jesus, My Lord?"

**MESSAGE** Pastor Michael Birnbaum

**OFFERING PRAYER and PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** (please rise as you are able)

*(Offering plates located at rear-thank you thank you, thank you!)*

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray.....**C. Bountiful God; we come with our offerings in response to your love. With the new life in Christ, we give ourselves in service to others. Receive the work we do and the gifts we bring, that they may become a blessing in your sight. AMEN**

*Following general prayers, you are encouraged to share other prayer concerns out loud.  
Please close your prayer concern with "Lord in your mercy".*

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

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 our thanks and praise.**

P. It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise your name and join their unending proclamation: **C. (singing) Holy, holy, holy,**

**My heart, my heart adores You!**

**My heart is glad to say, the words:**

**You are holy, Lord!**

**Communion Prayer, Consecration of Elements, Lord's Prayer**

**(Please be seated during distribution of communion)**

We welcome everyone to the Lord's Table who shares the Biblical belief that He is present (1 Cor. 10:16) and our sins are being forgiven as He promises (Matt.26:28). This sacrament is a truly wonderful opportunity to share this miracle and our oneness as the Body of Christ together! (1Cor. 10:17-18)

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE** "Thank the Lord" (please rise as you are able)

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING/BENEDICTION**

**SENDING SONG** "I'll Fly Away"

P. Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God!**

P. Christ is Risen! **C. He is Risen indeed!**

**God Bless You! Invite a friend or relative to worship with us!**



### COMING UP:

- May 3-Council Meeting 5 PM, at church
- May 5, 12, 19, 26-Men's Bible Study and Breakfast, Wednesday Lunch Group (contact Donna Ferguson for time and place)
- **May 9-Mother's Day**
- May 13, 27-Blessed and Unstoppable, IHOP 5:30
- **May 14 & 15-Parsonage Yard Sale!! DON'T MISS IT!!**
- May 16-Ascension Sunday
- May 22-Women's Bible Study, 11-12, at church
- **MAY 23-PENTECOST**
- May 30-Holy Trinity Sunday

### Hallelujah (Your Love is Amazing)

Chorus x2 Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah  
Your love makes me sing  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah  
Your love makes me sing

Your love is amazing, steady and unchanging  
Your love is a mountain firm beneath my feet  
Your love is a myst'ry, how You gently lift me  
When I am surrounded, Your love carries me

Chorus x1

Your love is surprising, I can feel it rising  
All the joy that's growing, deep inside of me  
Ev'ry time I see You, all Your goodness shines through  
I can feel this God song rising up in me

Chorus x1

Repeat verse 1 and chorus

*CCLI Song # 3091812 Brenton Brown | Brian Doerksen © 2000  
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11075449*

### When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride

See from His head His hands His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down  
Did ever such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown

Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were a present far too small  
Love so amazing so divine  
Demands my soul my life my all

*CCLI Song # 27893 Isaac Watts | Lowell Mason ©  
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### **Have you seen Jesus My Lord?**

Chorus Have you seen Jesus  
my LORD?

He's here in plain view  
Take a look, open your eyes  
He'll show it to you

Have you ever looked at the sunset  
with the sky mellowin' red  
and the clouds suspended like feathers?  
Then I say...you've seen Jesus my LORD

Chorus

Have you ever stood at the ocean  
with the white foam at your feet  
felt the endless thundering motion?  
Then I say...you've seen Jesus my LORD

Chorus

Have you ever looked at the cross  
with a man hangin' in pain  
And the look of love in His eyes?  
Then I say...you've seen Jesus my LORD

Chorus

Have you ever stood in the family  
with the LORD there in your midst,  
seen the face of Christ on your neighbor?  
Then I say...you've seen Jesus my LORD

Chorus x2

*CCLI Song # 66270 John Fischer © 1970 Fischer, John  
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### **Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise**

Thank the Lord and sing His praise;  
tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice  
and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises  
and leads His people forth in joy  
With shouts of thanksgiving.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

*Divine Service One, The Lutheran Service Book, CPH 2006)*

### **I'll Fly Away**

When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away  
To that home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away  
I'll fly away O glory, I'll fly away  
When I die hallelujah by and by  
I'll fly away

(Oh) Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away  
To a land where joys will never end, I'll fly away  
I'll fly away O glory, I'll fly away (in the morning)  
When I die hallelujah by and by  
I'll fly away

I'll fly away O glory, I'll fly away  
When I die hallelujah by and by  
I'll fly away  
When I die hallelujah by and by  
I'll fly away

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