

May 2, 2021

Easter 5 Now the Feast and Celebration

We welcome you with open arms and open hearts!

Faith Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, Bible-reading, welcoming spiritual home for seekers, believers, and everybody between. We are a family of God "because God first loved us." (1 John 4:19) Because you are here, you are part of the family—Welcome.

If you are new to Faith, we would like to be in touch with you. Please share your contact information with the church office,

406-363-2964, or faithlutheran59840@gmail.com.

Welcome to Faith and thank you for worshipping with us!

# **God Gathers The Body Of Christ**

(Now the Feast Liturgy is located inside the back cover of the red hymnal.)

#### Prelude

Colleen Southwick, Accompanist Tom Anderson, Guitarist

**Call To Worship** 

Scott Southwick

# Welcome and Prayer Requests

AM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

# All: And also with you.

(A time for prayer and meditation)

AM: Any prayer requests? Please notify the church office to submit names of those you wish to be included in the prayers. No formal offering will be taken today, please leave in the offering plate on the table in the narthex.

Faith is a family of God built on love: worshiping, welcoming, serving and growing in Christ's name

#### **Gathering Hymn**

"Now the Green Blades Rises"

ELW#379



Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengeslinge, Köln, 1623 Text © 1958 Service Book and Homeal, admin. Augsburg Formes.

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# **Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness**

PM: 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 and self-examination.)

Most merciful God,

- All: have mercy on us. We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.
- PM: 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 Jesus Christ.
- All: Thanks be to God!

# Kyrie (Sung)

AM: In peace, in peace, let us pray to the...

# Refrain:

# All: Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

NtF p. 3

- AM: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the.... (*Refrain*)
- AM: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the...(*Refrain*) AM: Help, save and defend us, O God.

#### All: Amen.

(<u>Now the Feast Liturgy</u> is located inside the back cover of the red hymnal.) **Hymn of Praise** "Now the Feast..." NtF p.4 **Prayer of the Day** (Sung)

AM: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

AM: Let us pray. (Spoken)

All: 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. Amen.

(AM: please be seated for the readings)

# God Speaks To Us In The Word

**First Reading** 

(Spark Bible p.510)

Acts 8:26-40

**Lector:** A reading from the 8th chapter of Acts:

#### First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside 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 silent before its shearer,
    - so he does not open 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>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

# Psalm 22:25-31

Lector: give response directions for congregation

- <sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
  - I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

- <sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.
- <sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

#### <sup>30</sup>Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

# **Second Reading**

#### 1 John 4:7-21

Lector: A reading from the 4th chapter of First John:

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: 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 loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives 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 do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So 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. <sup>17</sup>Love 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. <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 reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those 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. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

#### Lector: Word of God, Word of life All: Thanks be to God

#### Kids' Talk

**Brooke Kimzey** 

(AM: Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)

#### **Gospel Acclamation** (sung)

#### All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life: Alleluia, Alleluia!

#### Gospel

John 15:1-8

NtF p. 7

# PM: The Gospel according to St. John, the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter: All: Thanks be to God

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide 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. <sup>5</sup>I 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. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." PM : This is The Gospel of our Lord

#### All: Praise to you, O Christ

#### Sermon

Pastor Paul Anderson

(AM: Please stand as you are able for the Hymn of the Day)

Hymn of the Day "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen" ELW#377 Vv. 1,2,4

#### Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



#### We Respond To God's Word

The Apostles' Creed (AM leads)

ELW p. 105

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(AM: Please be seated for the prayers)

# The Prayers of the Church

ELW#232

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

# "Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you."

A brief silence.

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Provide for the needs of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

# Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

# Amen.

# "Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you."

# **Pass the Peace**

PM: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

# All: And also with you.

Take a moment to pass the peace with those around you, and send a message of peace to those listening and watching with you.

Offering	"As the Grains of Wheat"	NtF p.9	
Refrain:	As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill Were gathered into one to become our bread; So may all your people from all the ends of earth Be gathered into one in you.		
Verse 1)	L E	s this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, lay we share the presence of your love. ( <i>Refrain</i> )	
Verse 2)	Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come, When all creation shares this feast with you. (Refrain)		

# **Offering Prayer**

- AM: Let us pray. God of love,
- All: 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. Amen.

# Jesus Comes To Us In His Supper

Dear members and friends of Faith: as you trust the God you see in Jesus, please be welcome to share his meal. Christ offers here and now his body and blood, his death and resurrection, as a demonstration that God "loves you to death" and is present to, in, and through you now and forever. Communion will be served in individual portions

The Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

PM: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

> In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

#### All: Amen

#### **Lord's Prayer**

Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4

- PM: Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba we pray.
- All: 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.

#### Distribution

PM: Jesus Christ is the host of this meal, and he invites you to share a meal with him–an act of friendship, hospitality, and a glimpse of the feast that is to come. So come, eat, and trust that his promise of forgiveness and everlasting life is for you!

#### **Blessing:**

- PM: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.
- All: Amen

# **Post Communion Prayer**

- AM: Wellspring of joy,
  - All: 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. Amen.

# Benediction

PM: May the Christ who walks on wounded feet Walk with you on the road.
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands Stretch out your hands to serve.
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart Open your hearts to love.
May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet, And may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.
Amen

#### Announcements

(<u>Now the Feast Liturgy</u> is located inside the back cover of the red hymnal.)

# Sending Song (Perm req)

"Shout To The Lord"

ELW#821

# God Sends Us Into The World

#### Dismissal

- AM: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- AM: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
- All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

#### Postlude

#### **Thanks to our Worship Assistants!**

Today May 2nd	May 9tl	n
Accompanist	Colleen Southwick	Susan Peterson
Call To Worship	Scott Southwick	
Ushers	Judy Wilson	
Lector	John Trangmoe	
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Scott Southwick	
Projection	Rod Pogachar	
Video	Cole Kimzey	

**Pray for our Members and Friends...** Please call or email us with your prayer requests.

*Prayers for safety and healing*: Richard Castor, Dan and Jodi Mithcell, Terilee, Darcie Darlington, Garrett Park, Kerry Lee, Carl Wooleck, Crystal, Lonnah H, Jacob, Nevaeh, Racquel, Pat, Carl, Wanda Huddleson, Shirley McGourty, Morry Mitteness, Millie and Erv Unruh.



**Prayers for comfort:** Family and friends of Elaine Wasem

Discovery: Clara Felton The Beehive: Yvonne Olson Valley View: Ruth Dillon Remington: Charles Olson Home Nursing Care: Virginia Rotering, Smitty Incarcerated: George Davis At Home: Bertie Senn

Please let us know if you are having surgery or know of someone who is, or if you or someone you love is in the hospital. We are here to help support in any way we can, especially with prayers.

# This prayer list will be refreshed monthly.

# Please feel free to resubmit.

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