



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

1187 C.R. 128 & U.S. Rt. 20

Fremont, Ohio 43420

Pastor Tim Miller

93.1FM

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Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Setting 3 with Holy Communion

*Congregation please stand as you are able.

Introduction

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

(8:00) Prelude - Praise Choir: *You Are Holy*

Marc Imboden

(10:30) Prelude: *This Joyful Eastertide*

John Barr

Welcome & Announcements: Joys and Concerns

Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

***(8:00) Gathering Song:** *You Are Holy*

You are holy (You are holy)
You are mighty (You are mighty)
You are worth (You are worthy)
Worthy of praise (Worthy of praise)
I will follow (I will follow)
I will listen (I will listen)
I will love You (I will love You)
All of my days (All of my days)

You are Lord of lords; you are King of kings.
You are mighty God, Lord of everything.
You're Emmanuel, you're the Great I Am,
You're the Prince of Peace who is the Lamb.
You're the living God, you're my saving grace.
You will reign forever; You are ancient of days.
You are Alpha, Omega, beginning and end.
You're my Savior, Messiah, Redeemer, and friend.
You're my Prince of Peace and
I will live my life for You.

Repeat from the beginning...

***(10:30) Gathering Song:** *The Day of Resurrection!* **ELW 361**

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***Greeting**

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

C: And also with you.

***Invitation to Worship**

P: Jesus, you did everything to show us both your love and your Father's love. You became a small dependent child to show us yourself in your weakness. You worked for many years as a simple carpenter to show us that you wanted to be with us in our daily work. You were tempted in the desert to show us how to resist the forces of evil around us.

C: What sacrifice the Son of God has given for me.

P: You surrounded yourself with disciples to show us to share our vision with others and to work together in ministry. You preached the word of God to show us truth and how to become ourselves, witnesses to truth.

C: What sacrifice the Son of God has given for me.

P: You healed the sick and raised the dead to show us that you have power over death. You were transfigured to show us your divine splendor. You went the long road of suffering and death to show us that you love us and that you have redeemed us.

C: What sacrifice the Son of God has given for me. Amen.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

C: 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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

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.

R: A reading from Acts, the eighth chapter.

²⁶An 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.) ²⁷So 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 ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading

the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”³¹ He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.³² 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.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.³⁶ 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?”³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.³⁹ 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.⁴⁰ 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.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalms 22:25-31

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, 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.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

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

Second Reading:

1 John 4:7-21

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.

R: A reading from 1 John, the fourth chapter.

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.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation:** *Lord, Be Glorified*

In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;

In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

***Gospel**

John 15:1-8

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.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

***Sermon Hymn:**

Gather Us In

ELW 532

***Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

R: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

R: We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for people to be named)*. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(10:30) Sr. Choir:

Abide in Christ

G. Parker

Offering

*Offering Prayer

P: Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving

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, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

***Thanksgiving at the Table**

P: 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.

P: With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Lord's Prayer

P: 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.**

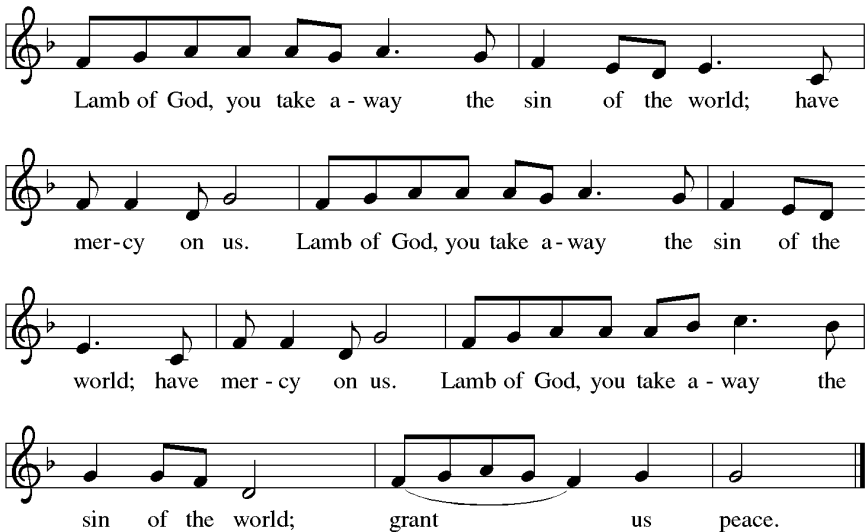
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion

Communion will be continuous. The ushers will invite you to come forward by the center aisle. You will be handed the bread with the words, "The Body of Christ given for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!" Step to the Communion Assistant and take the cup. They will speak the words, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!" Empty cups may be placed in the basket as you return to your seat by the side aisle.

If you prefer gluten- free bread, please let the Pastor know. If you prefer grape juice, please let the Communion Assistant know. If you prefer not to receive or have children who have not yet received, please let Pastor Tim know and he will offer a blessing.

Communion Hymns:

(8:00) TBOB 86 *Here I Am, Lord*

(8:00) TBOB 88 *Here Is Bread*

(10:30) ELW 574 *Here I Am, Lord*

(10:30) ELW 385 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*

***Post Communion Blessing**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***Prayer After Communion**

P: Shepherd God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Blessing**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

***(8:00) Sending Song:**

Shout to the North

TBOB 197

***(10:30) Sending Song:**

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!

ELW 380

***Dismissal**

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

***(8:00) Postlude:**

Shout to the North

Martin Smith

***(10:30) Postlude:**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Kenneth Logan

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JESUS SAID, “My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples” (John 15:8, NRSV). Part of discipleship is worship, which strengthens us to bear the fruit of love. Welcome.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today in honor of Angi Miller’s Birthday and of Mother’s Day for Elaine Cordova, by Tim Miller.

THE SCHEDULES FOR OUR HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES are in the office on the shelf. Please consider attending and supporting our youth. Thanks.



WANTED: Dave Ring is looking for more volunteers to learn how to run the camera and tape the services for Facebook. There is a need for both Sunday services. Youth are welcome as well. We really need more help and would love to teach you the ropes. Either talk to Dave or call him at 419-334-4145. There is a sign-up sheet in the coat room area. Please prayerfully consider giving it a try! Thank you!

ASSISTING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Parm Boyer **Pianist:** Becky Fox

Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown **Flautist:** Marilyn Ring

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Greeter: Gary & Bonnie Overmyer Randy & Peggy Koch

Lector: Jim Seibert Evan McBride

Acolyte: Lillian Harder Evan McBride

Communion: J. Neill/S. Reed Randy Koch & Randy Brown

Counters: Niki Wasserman* & Nicole Weiker

Fellowship Time Host: Nielsen and Seibert

Altar Guild: Sandie Reed & Sarah Wilson

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Organist:** Darla Brown

Sr. Choir Director: Darla Brown

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Greeter: Bob & Sandie Reed Gil & Amy Wagner

Lector: Sandie Reed Amy Wagner

Acolyte: Mason Harder Julia Norris

Communion: A. Gazdecki/S. Reed Angi Miller & Amy Wagner

Counters: Dave Kocsis* & Judi Neill

Fellowship Time Host: Adult II Sunday School Class

Altar Guild: Margie Roach & Marie Reisel

PRAYING DAILY



For healing and hope: Pat Copley, Connie Diekman, Mary Ann Diekman, Roger Goehring, Della Humbarger, Denny Krumnow, Bill Leutenegger, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Bob Schneider, Dorothy Swedersky, Janet Tressler, Ray Vogel, Carnetta Weber. Mark Coleman, Emili Egbert, Jay Kinchy,

Rick & Brenda Myer, Carol Robinson, Vern Swick.

For the Family of: Sandy Vollmar, Cinda Jones, Larry Aldrich

For our Military: Noah Egbert, Troy Halfhill, Daniel Linder, Katie Olmstead, Tony Rozzi, Christopher Templeton, & Joshua Tooman.

For our Bishops: Bishop Christian Ndossa, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and NWOS Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff

For our partner congregation in Bumila, Tanzania

And its pastor: Pastor Peter Magasi

FAITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF – April 28 to May 5

Sunday

Apr. 28-----8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time

Monday

Apr. 29-----10 a.m. Valley View Bible Bingo

Tuesday

Apr. 30-----

Wednesday

May 1-----6:30 p.m. Bell Choir
 7:30 p.m. Praise Choir
 7:30 p.m. Senior Choir

Thursday

May 2-----9-3 p.m. Fellowship & Sew Day
 3 p.m. Christ Care

Friday

May 3-----

Saturday

May 4-----9:15 a.m. Christ Care

Sunday

May 5-----8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time
 1-3:30 p.m. Hall Reserved for 4-H, Jackie Seibert

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024: ATTENDANCE: 146 – OFFERING \$5,352.25
NOISY OFFERING, SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024: \$167.45
