

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

810-364-7081

1023 Michigan Ave. Marysville, MI 48040

Our Mission

Journeying together in love for God and for all people.

Our Vision

A world where all people will experience love
and know their value in the eyes of God.

Welcome to Worship!

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

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.

Fed by God, Nourished by Christ

Imagine a nursing baby at its mother's breast—what a blissful picture of love, joy, peace, and contentment! This image can help us understand who we are as God's beloved children and how tenderly God cares for us. God's grace is unconditional, just as a mother's milk flows to an infant without anything to do with deserving. In today's gospel reading, the vine-and-branches metaphor is another image of how intimately connected Jesus is with us and how crucial it is that we, the branches, hold on to him as our vine.

"Apart from me," says Jesus, "you can do nothing." Apart from its vine, a branch can do nothing—cannot live long, cannot produce grapes, cannot nourish people and animals. Apart from its mother or another devoted caregiver, a newborn can do nothing—cannot feed itself, cannot become or stay healthy, cannot grow and bear the fruit of life and love for others. Apart from God's love and care, which Christians know in Jesus, the whole web of humanity fails to thrive.

A nursing mother sets her face and does whatever is needed—two or three times a night at first, even through mastitis, weariness, and boredom—to feed and impart life to her little one. Jesus' face is set toward the cross as he shares farewell counsel with his disciples. He, too, is ready and determined to do whatever it takes—even dying on a cross—to sustain the vineyard-world with abundant life.

The imagery of vine and branches, juxtaposed with that of God breastfeeding her babies, comes alive when we celebrate the eucharist. At the table, Jesus feeds us with his own body and blood, pouring life and nourishment into us. We are called to abide in him forever—an invitation to grace-filled, permanent relationship. In Jesus the true vine, we his branches enjoy a continual flow of grace, mercy, and love. In turn, we are energized to bear the fruit of his love, joy, and peace for the world.

ELW = red hymnal

ACS = purple hymnal

Gathering

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

Prelude

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
The wellspring of grace,
Our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

...In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.
Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

...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.
Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Hymn

O Blessed Spring

ELW 447

Greeting

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

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

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 - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Continues on next page

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

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.

After the reading: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:25-31 *Spoken responsively*

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.

After the reading: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

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

Pastor sings the proper verse:

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit.

Repeat Alleluia.

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.

Before the reading: The holy gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Mike Opfermann

Song of the Day

Live in Me

Soloist: Verses

Refrain: All

REFRAIN



1. Live in me, I'll live in you—
2. Live in me, I'll live in you—



1. and my words will stay with you—
2. and your words speak ev - er true—



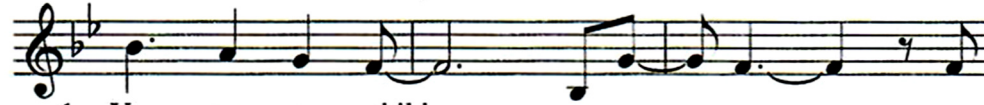
1. Ask what you will of me—
2. Ask what you will of me—



1. I am glo - ri - fied in you—
2. You are glo - ri - fied in me—



1. in your bear - ing of this fruit—
2. where I go and when I speak.



1. You are my child— for - ev - er, and
2. I am your child—



I will live in you—

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

*We respond to each petition: God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

At this time, we share God's peace with our neighbors. Congregation is then seated for the offering.

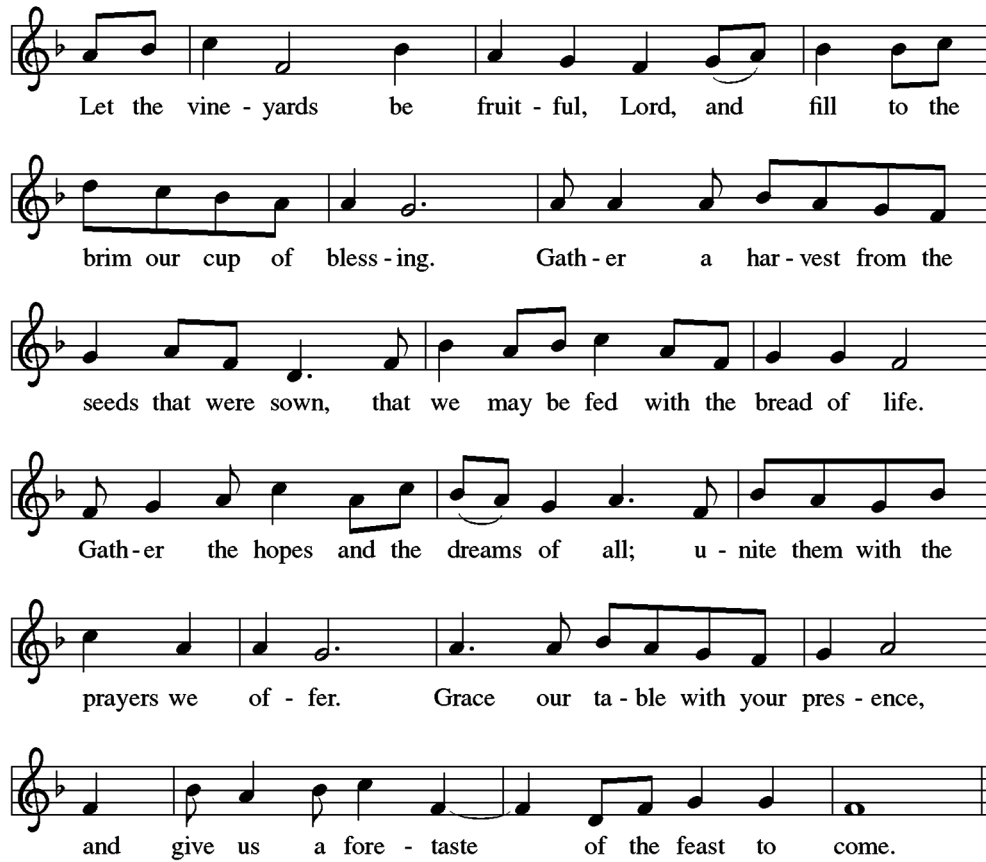
Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

The Table is prepared as offering and worship record cards are collected and brought forward.

Offertory

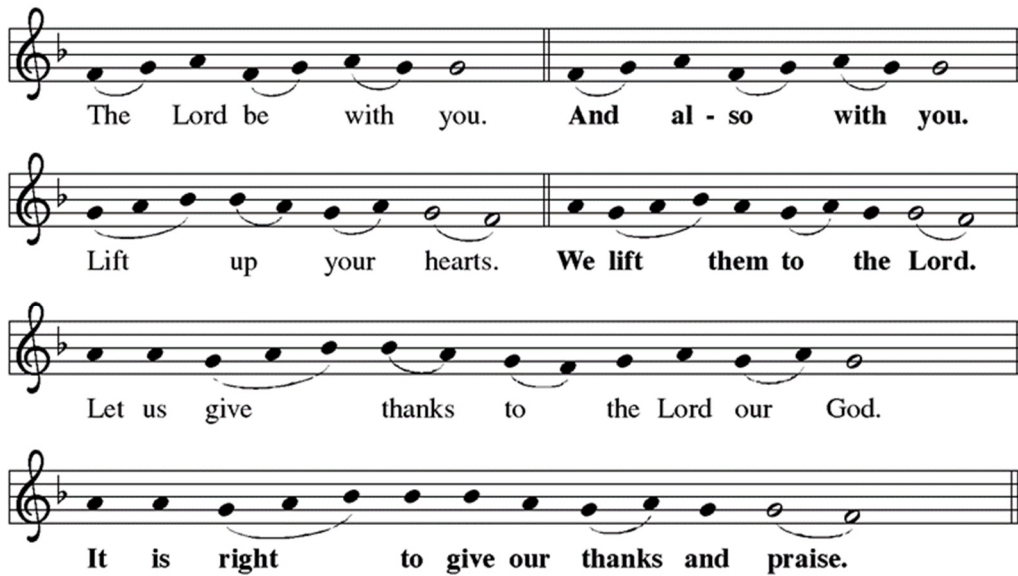


Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

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.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

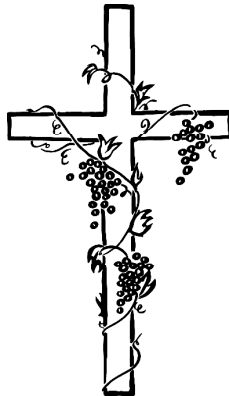


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...

...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

...To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

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

Come and eat at God's table.

Thanks be to God.

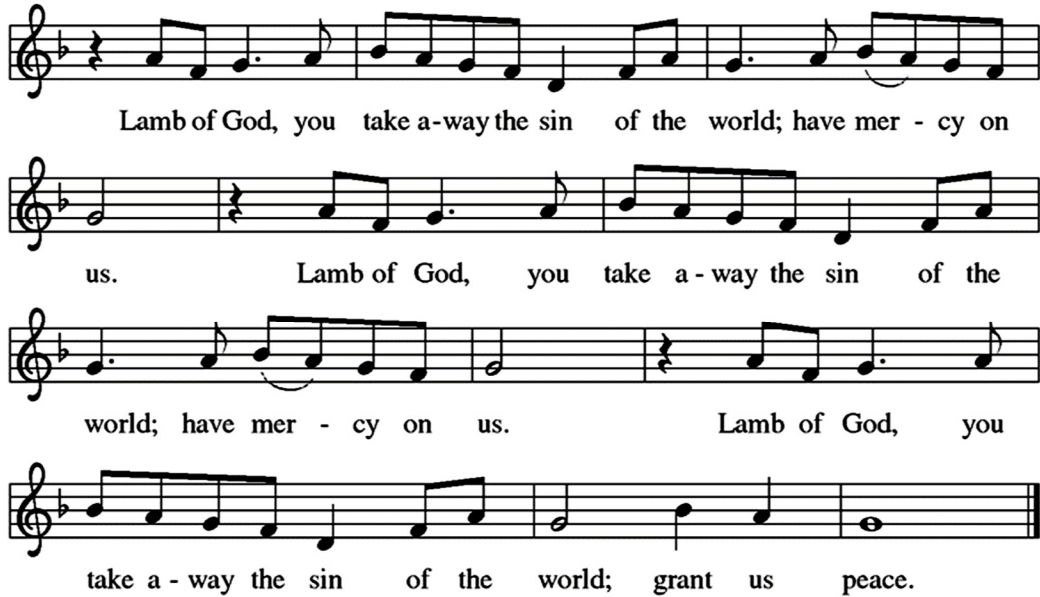
Communion

All are welcome to Christ's table!

In this meal, we meet Jesus and the expansive life He brings. An usher will invite you forward to receive bread from Pastor. You can then receive red wine from the chalice or an individual cup. White grape juice is also available in individual cups. As you return down the side aisle, you may dispose of your cup in the basket. If you would like to receive communion from Pastor, but are unable to come up front, please let an usher know and Pastor will come to you.



Lamb of God



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.

Communion Songs

Jesus, Name Above All Names

**Jesus, name above all names
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord
Emmanuel, God is with us
Blessed Redeemer, living Word**

**Jesus, loving Shepherd
Vine of the branches, Son of God
Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor
Lord of the universe, Light of the world**

*Now the Green Blade Rises
May This Church Be like a Tree: Que esta iglesia sea un árbol*

**ELW 379
ACS 1042**

Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Song After Communion



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Prayer after Communion

Shepherding 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.
Amen.**

Sending

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

Announcements

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

Amen.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Jesus, Name Above All Names – Text and music by Naida Hearn © 1974 Scripture in Song, a division of Integrity Music, Inc. CCLI License #1184383

Live in Me – Words & Music by Ed Bolduc © 1998 World Library Publications. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-702972.

Join us next Sunday:

“Abide in my love”



Coffee Bar opens at 8:45am

Worship at 9:30am

Coffee with Luther (Fellowship) at 10:30am



The Beacon: Pilgrim's Weekly E-news



Scan for this week's news



Scan to subscribe to our emails

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	This Morning April 28	Next Sunday May 5
Musician:	Michelle Carlson	Cindy Rogers
Worship Assistant:	Nadine LaGruth	Rick Carlson
Worship Coordinator:	Everette Yaek	Sue Winzeler
Usher:	Peggy Yaek	Tom Roehl
Acolyte:	OPEN	Keagan Mischka
Reader:	Bill Kauffman	Sandy Roehl
Communion Assistant:	Alison Jackson	Lynn Winzeler
Greeter:	Geof Kusch	Anita Varty
Coffee Bar Attendant:	Jenifer Kusch	Rick Carlson
Coffee With Luther Host:	Katie V. & Peggy Y.	OPEN
Altar Guild:	Sally McDonald -----	Tammy Bakko Jenna Jackson
Bread Baker:	Angie Tucker	Tammy Bakko
Offering Tellers:	Fred Russell Nadine LaGruth	Fred R. & Doreen V. Jean R. & Mike M.

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers sign up sheet is in the hallway.

Stay Connected

www.pilgrimchurchofmarysville.org
facebook.com/plcmarysville

Pastor Mike: plcpastor@pilgrimchurchofmarysville.org
Michelle, Dir. of Music: plcmusic@pilgrimchurchofmarysville.org
Sheri, Office Manager: plcoffice@pilgrimchurchofmarysville.org

WIFI: PILGRIM Password: YouAreLoved

Next Week's Texts

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

