



*St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran  
Church*

*Paulding, Ohio*

*Sunday, May 2, 2021*

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*Service of the Word*

*10:30 a.m.*

**Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church** 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.

*\*please stand*

## **PRELUDE & QUIET MEDITATION**

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN**

*“Shout to the Lord”*

**ELW 821**

**My Jesus, my Savior,  
Lord, there is none like you.  
All of my days I want to praise  
the wonders of your mighty love.  
My comfort, my shelter,  
tower of refuge and strength;  
let ev'ry breath, all that I am  
never cease to worship you.**

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing  
power and majesty, praise to the King.  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
at the sound of your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;  
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.**

**\*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**

*“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”  
(verses 1 & 5)*

**WOV 671**

Refrain: **Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth;  
He is the king of creation. Refrain**

**Come, let us praise the living God,  
Joyfully sing to our Savior. Refrain**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

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.**

**FIRST READING**

**Acts 8:26-40**

<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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** (*read responsively*)

**Psalm 22:25-31**

<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**

<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. The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *"Thy Word is a Lamp"*  
*Sing twice*



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

**\*GOSPEL**

**John 15:1-8**

The Holy Gospel according to John the fifteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. <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."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**MORNING MESSAGE**

**Laurie Barnes**

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**\*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; 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**

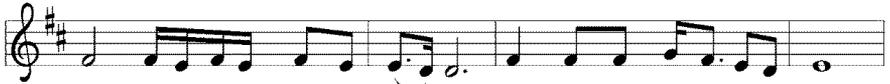
the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We 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. 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.

**\*PRAYER SONG AND PRAYERS**

**ELW 752**

*"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"*



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

*Each petition concludes: "Hear us, O God.,"*

*The congregation responds: "Your mercy is great."*

*Congregation is invited to kneel as able.*

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.

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 Carol Flint, Elaine Sierer, Mary & Steve Clark, Pat Ross, Lynn Conrad, Bud Cotterman, Betty Smalley, Jared DeLong, Sam Clippinger, Burl Barnes, Deb Howell and Ivan Aldred. Our friends Alice Hunt, George Hunt, Roberta Gray, Tom Zuber, Mick & Romaine Boundy, Josh Webb, Joey DenHerder, Kyle Schlatter, Brianna Rupp, Linda Girod, Kathy Laney, Camden Sprow and Nancy Kuns. Help us love one another in truth and action. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.**

For those responsible for safety and protection: for emergency responders and security guards, attorneys and advocates, civil servants and leaders of governments, our military personnel Jordan Phlipot, Taylor Hatcher, Jared DeLong, Miah Coil, Brad Crawford, Adam Deatrick, Adriana Gonzales, Ian Munger, Brendon Lothamer, Grace Basson, Westen Phlipot and Macy Iler that they witness to mercy and justice throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude:*

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.**

*The congregation sings the last line of "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" after the last petition. Congregation stands as able.*

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

**\*OFFERING CANTICLE**     *“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”*

**ELW 860**

**I’m so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I’m so glad Jesus lifted me.  
I’m so glad Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

**Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.  
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.  
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

**When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,  
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

## THANKSGIVING OF THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

**\*THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**\*BLESSING**

**The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*“Go Now In Peace”*

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.  
Amen, Amen, Amen**

**\*DISMISSAL**

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

**\*POSTLUDE**



**Birthdays:**

Kate Sinn.....	May 4
Marv Ankney.....	May 5
Elyse Boyer.....	May 6
Delaney Dachenhaus.....	May 6
Danae Myers.....	May 6
Jesse Philipot.....	May 7
Jared DeLong.....	May 9

**WHEN YOU PRAY, REMEMBER.....**

Carol Flint, Elaine Sierer, Mary & Steve Clark, Pat Ross, Lynn Conrad, Bud Cotterman, Betty Smalley, Jared DeLong, Sam Clippinger, Burl Barnes, Deb Howell and Ivan Aldred. Our friends Alice Hunt, George Hunt, Roberta Gray, Tom Zuber, Mick & Romaine Boundy, Josh Webb, Joey DenHerder, Kyle Schlatter, Brianna Rupp, Kathy Laney, Camden Sprow and Nancy Kuns.

**Those Serving In The United States Military:** Jordan Phlipot, Taylor Hatcher, Jared DeLong, Miah Coil, Brad Crawford, Adam Deatrick, Adriana Gonzales, Ian Munger, Brendon Lothamer, Grace Basson, Westen Phlipot and Macy Iler.

**Child Fund Orphans:** Andre & Ana

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 2, 2021:**

**OFFERING April 25: \$3102**

**NEEDED WEEKLY: \$3006**

**The flowers adorning our altar** this morning are given to the glory of God by Jane Stouffer.

You are invited to join Sunday school teachers, parents/students in prayer for our future at St Paul. We will be silently praying in our pews or at home on Sundays from 10:15-10:30 a.m.

If you are missing dishes they may be in the kitchen! Please check to see if you might have left anything behind. Thank you!

The kitchen is in need of a kitchen clean out! If you are able to donate some of your time, it would be greatly appreciated!

**THOSE SERVING SUNDAY, May 2, 2021:**

- Assistant Minister.....Renee Boss
- Pianist.....Bill Brune
- Reader.....Renee Boss
- Money Counters.....Dennis & Cheryl, Sue Beck
- A/V Tech.....C.W. Harper & Jon Rhodes

**THOSE SERVING SUNDAY, May 9, 2021:**

Pastor.....Pastor Clyde Singh  
Pianist.....Bill Brune  
Reader.....Dave Burtch  
Communion Assistants.....Cindy Kauser & Sandra Harper  
Usher.....Jim Phlipot & John Myers  
Money Counters.....Dan & Ethel, Karen Jacobs  
A/V Tech.....C.W. Harper & Jon Rhodes

**2021 Year of Generosity memory verse:**

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

This week’s Bible readings:

Monday, May 3, 2021.....Matthew 24  
Tuesday, May 4, 2021.....Matthew 25  
Wednesday, May 5, 2021.....Matthew 26  
Thursday, May 6, 2021.....Matthew 27  
Friday, May 7, 2021.....Matthew 28  
Saturday, May 8, 2021.....Luke 1  
Sunday, May 9, 2021.....Luke 2