

# EASTER



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**Rev. Debra North, Pastor**  
**Ms. Molly Finkbiner, Director of Music**  
**Ms. Maritza Oquendo, Parish Secretary**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Sunday, May 2, 2021

**PRELUDE  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: (spoken) "Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather" ELW 530**

- 1 Here, O Lord, your servants gather, Hand we link with hand;  
Looking towards our Savior's cross, joined in love we stand.  
As we seek the realm of God, we unite to pray;  
Jesus savior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.
- 2 Many are the tongues we speak, scattered are the lands,  
yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's demands.  
E'en in darkness hope appears, calling age and youth:  
Jesus teacher, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.
- 3 Nature's secrets open wide, changes never cease.  
Where, o where can weary souls find the source of peace:  
Unto all those sore distressed, torn by endless strife:  
Jesus healer, bring your balm, for you are the Life.
- 4 Grant, O God, and age renewed, filled with deathless love;  
Help us as we work and pray, send us from above  
Truth and courage, faith and pow'r, needed in our strife:  
Jesus, master, be our Way, be our Truth, our Life.

*Text: Tokuo Yamaguchi. 1900-1995: tr Everett M. Stowe,*

## THE INVOCATION

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.**

## KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

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

## 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.**

*(You may be seated)*

## FIRST LESSON

The first lesson is found in **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.

Word of God word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 22:25-31** (Read responsively.)

<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 LESSON**

The second lesson is found in **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.

Word of God word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *(Please stand as you are able.)*

***Alleluia. I am the vine, you | are the branches Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit. Alleluia. (John 15:5)***

### **GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to **John 15:1-8**

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

[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."



The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE** *(You may be seated.)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *(spoken)* - "**When Love Is Found**" - **WOV 749**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

- 1 When love is found and hope comes home,  
sing and be glad that two are one.  
When love explodes and fills the sky,  
praise God and share our maker's joy.
- 2 When love has flow'ed in trust and care,  
build both each day that love may dare  
to reach beyond home's warmth and light,  
to serve and strive for truth and right.

- 3 When love is tried as loved-ones change,  
hold still to hope though all seems strange,  
till ease returns and love grows wise  
through list'ning ears and opened eyes.
- 4 When love is torn and trust betrayed,  
pray strength to love till torments fade,  
till lovers keep no score of wrong  
but hear through pain love's Easter song.
- 5 Praise God for love, praise God for life,  
in age or youth, in calm or strife.  
Lift up your hearts. Let love be fed  
through death and life in broken bread.

Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936. © 1983 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

### **THE NICENE CREED** (Epiphany, Baptism of our Lord, Transfiguration)

**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**

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. **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. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**Here other intercessions may be offered.**

### **PRAYER LIST**

*Eliza, Judy H., Mya, Anneliese, Gertrude, Tim, Pr. Debby, Eddie, Cheryl, Carol, Bruce, Denis, Megan, Gertrude, George, Mike, Jennifer, Sue, Tina, Alex, Donna, Ginger, Karen, Janet, Rachel, Jenn, Ginger, R.C., Richard, Forrest, Roy, Jeanine, Leslie, Cory, Shirley, Deb, Kathy, Tom, Glen, Margery, Lillian K., Bruce and Members of the armed services, the congregation of Holy Trinity of Dingmans Ferry.*

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit (*especially with Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria and those we name before you*). 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.**

## **PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**  
(*Please share Christ peace in social and acceptable ways.*)

## **SPECIAL MUSIC: "In the Garden" by Charles Austin Miles,**

*sung by Phil Newlander.*

## **OFFERING**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. The gifts are brought forward.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

*(Please remain standing as you are able.)*

Merciful Father, **our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.  
The God of life, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: *(spoken)* "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" - LBW 499

- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| 1 | Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,<br>tune my heart to sing thy grace;<br>streams of mercy, never ceasing,<br>call for songs of loudest praise.<br>While the hope of endless glory<br>fills my heart with joy and love,<br>teach me ever to adore thee;<br>may I still thy goodness prove. | 3                                      | Oh, to grace how great a debtor<br>daily I'm constrained to be;<br>let that grace now like a fetter<br>bind my wand'ring heart to thee.<br>Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;<br>prone to leave the God I love.<br>Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;<br>seal it for thy courts above. |
| 2 | Here I raise my Ebenezer:<br>"Hither by thy help I've come";<br>and I hope, by thy good pleasure,<br>safely to arrive at home.<br>Jesus sought me when a stranger,<br>wand'ring from the fold of God;<br>he, to rescue me from danger,<br>interposed his precious blood.                    | Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt. |   |

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please take this booklet and joy scripture reading and puzzle on page 11 and 12)*



He is  
**RISEN**

## Acknowledged Credits

### PRELUDE:

**"Now The Green Blade Rises," Michael Burkhardt.**

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### GATHERING:

**"Here O Lord Your Servants Gather,"** Everett M. Stowe, Tokuo Yamaguchi.

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**HYMN OF THE DAY** (*spoken*) – **"When Love Is Found," Brian Arthur Wren.**

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**SPECIAL MUSIC: In the Garden, sung by Phil Newlander.**

**"In the Garden," Charles Austin Miles.**

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### OFFERING:

**"Like The Murmur Of The Dove's Song (Bridegroom)," Carl P. Daw Jr., Peter Warwick Cutts.**

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**SENDING HYMN:** (*spoken*) **"Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing,"** Text: Robert Robinson, Tune: J. Wyeth,  
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### POSTLUDE:

**"Psalm 23," Michael Burkhardt.**

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## Scripture Reading: John 15:1-8

*Humility is not thinking less of yourself,  
it's thinking of yourself less. —Rick Warren*

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**D**o you sometimes have trouble taking orders, following directions, doing what you're told? Oh, not *all* the time; just sometimes?

I feel that way at times when I just want to do things my way and at my own pace. I resent being rushed, or listening to someone tell me there's a better way.

I was reminded of this when a friend from southern California visited us at our home in Oregon. He told me a story about his trip north, the last 100 miles of which involved driving in the evening from Interstate 5 to the Oregon coast.

"I was driving west on Highway 20," he said, "and it was getting dark fast. I noticed that about five cars were following me. My speed was about 60 mph, and I wasn't comfortable going faster on a winding road with which I was unfamiliar.

"Finally, I pulled over in a small town, and the cars went by. Then, I began to follow them, and it was easy to follow them because their red taillights showed me the way. Every time we approached a curve in the road, I knew if I needed to brake or slow down. They showed me the path.

"In short, I was able to travel faster and more safely when following others than when trying to lead them."

This was a good lesson for me to remember. *One needs to know when to lead and when to step out of the way.* No one does *everything* better than everyone else. We all can learn from other people. We should not be embarrassed to step aside and follow and learn from someone else.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Lord, keep me from pride. Help me to accept the help that others offer. Amen.*

### Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Luke 14-17  
**Monday:** 1 Samuel 4-7  
**Tuesday:** 1 Samuel 8-10  
**Wednesday:** 1 Samuel 11-13  
**Thursday:** 1 Samuel 14-16  
**Friday:** 1 Samuel 17-20  
**Saturday:** Psalms 43-45

## Verse to Remember

“Why are you cast down, O my  
soul ... Hope in God.”

—Psalm 43:5

May 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## HIDDEN MESSAGE

Using the clues provided, write the answers in the spaces provided. The first letter of each word should reveal a hidden message when read from top to bottom.

1. King of the beasts \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
2. Short for margarine \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
3. Montpelier is its capitol \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
4. Electrical fish \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
5. Greasy \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
6. Counterpart to monk \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
7. Second book of the Bible \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
8. Continent south of Europe \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
9. Ark-builder \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
10. Egg-shaped \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
11. A levy on one's income \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
12. Top of human body \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
13. Associated with tides \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
14. Decay \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**Message:**

\_\_\_\_\_

## DOUBLE TROUBLE

Below are four 5-letter words. ALL of the letters are used only twice. Notice that there are two O's, so you can't use another O. Notice the J in the first word, for example. There's another J in these four words. Where is it? Fill in the blanks.

J \_ \_ T \_ \_ Y

\_ O \_ \_ R \_

B \_ \_ A \_ \_ D

\_ N \_ \_ O \_

**Answers to Double Trouble:**  
 JETTY BOARD BRAND ENJOY

**Answers:**  
 1. lion  
 2. oleo  
 3. Vermont  
 4. eel  
 5. oily  
 6. nun  
 7. Exodus  
 8. Africa  
 9. Noah  
 10. oval  
 11. tax  
 12. head  
 13. ebb  
 14. rot  
**Message:**  
 Love one another.