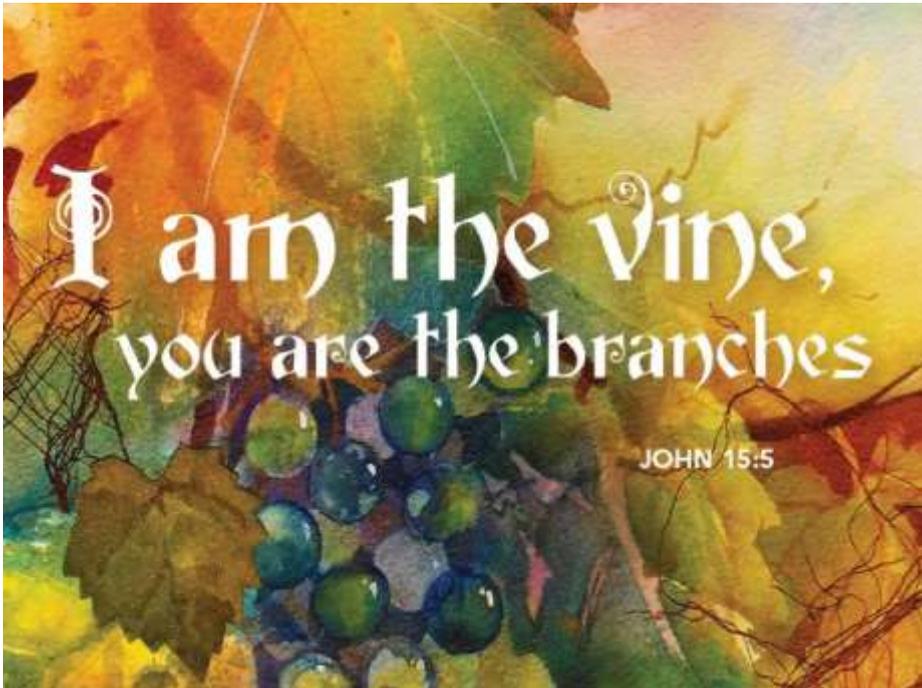


Fifth Sunday of Easter



May 2, 2021 | 9:00 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church... Holy Spirit, guide my listening and response to the Word of God today, as you did with Philip and the Ethiopian so long ago (Acts 8:26-40).

PRELUDE

P The Lord is risen!

C **He is risen indeed!**

P That you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

C **The Lord is risen!**

P He is risen indeed!

C **Alleluia!**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may speak the responses softly and sing softly if wearing a facemask.

OPENING HYMN "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" (vs. 1 & 5) ELW #389

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.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess to God and to one another our sins and our failure to love our neighbor.

C **God of mercy,
we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. *John 15:5*
We have not loved others as you have loved us.
We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you.
Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love
and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

P You have already been cleansed by the word that God has spoken to you. *John 15:3*
In baptism God claimed you
and joined you to Christ, as branches to a vine.

Believe the promise given to you:
in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

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.**

LESSON: 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.

PSALM 22:25-31

L ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

C ²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

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

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

L 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.

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

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

LESSON: 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

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 Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Sunday School Choir

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

ELW #449

APOSTLES' CREED

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C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilot,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P 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.

C **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ, be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P God of love, 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.

C **Amen.**

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| COMMUNION HYMNS | “Lamb of God” | page 154 |
| | “Abide with Me” | ELW #629 |
| | “Praise and Thanksgiving” | ELW #689 |
| | “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” | ELW #779 |

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Wellspring of joy, 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.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P 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.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” (vs. 1 & 4) ELW #367

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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