



## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024

### Opening Hymn #732

### *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

1. Now all the vault of heaven resounds  
In praise of love that still abounds:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
“Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”  
[Refrain]  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
2. Eternal is the gift He brings,  
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Now still He comes to give us life  
And by His presence stills all strife.  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
[Refrain]
3. Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
Set heart and will on things above  
That we conquer through Your triumph;  
Grant grace sufficient for life’s day  
That by our lives we truly say:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
[Refrain]

4. Adoring praises now we bring  
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!  
Be to the Father and our Lord,  
To Spirit blest, our most holy God,  
All the glory, never ending!  
[Refrain]

### **Invocation**

**P:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C: Amen**

### **Confession and Absolution**

**P:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**P:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen**

### **Kyrie & Gloria in Excelsis – sing**

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord have mercy on us.

1. Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise;  
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.

We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King

2. Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,  
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within

3. Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,  
At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** Let us pray...

... through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

### **The First Lesson – Acts 8:26-40**

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not 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> And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”<sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.<sup>36</sup> And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?”<sup>38</sup> And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.<sup>39</sup> And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.<sup>40</sup> But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

## **Psalm of the Day- Psalm 150**

**WS p. 29**

*Antiphon – This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad! This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!*

1 Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctu- | ary;\*

**praise him in his mighty | heavens!**

2 Praise him for his | mighty deeds;\*

**praise him according to his excellent | greatness!**

3 Praise him with | trumpet sound;\*

**praise him with | lute and harp!**

4 Praise him with tambou- | rine and dance;\*

**praise him with | strings and pipe!**

5 Praise him with sounding | cymbals;\*

**praise him with loud clashing | cymbals!**

6 Let everything that has breath | praise the LORD!\*

**Praise | the LORD!**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*Antiphon – This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad! This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!*

### **The Second Lesson – 1 John 4:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. <sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that 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 have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

### **The Gospel – John 15:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. 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. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

**P:** Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it.

### **The Alleluia – sing**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**These words are written that we may believe  
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Confession of Faith – Apostles’ Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
Born of the virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The holy Christian Church,  
The communion of saints,**

**The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn of the Day #736**

***At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing***

1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide  
Flowing from His pierced side.  
Alleluia!

2. Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie.  
You have conquered in the fight;  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!

3. Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!

4. Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!

5. Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days,  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

## Sermon Text – John 15:1-8

### Sermon

#### *Joined to Christ*

<https://ministrybymail.clclutheran.org/archive/2016/04-17-16.htm>

### Offertory – sing

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

### Offering of Thankful Hearts

#### Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: Lord God, Your only Son came in the flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. Protect us from all false teaching and the spirit of the Antichrist, that we may always confess Christ to be our only true God and remain faithful to Him.

**<sup>1</sup> Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!**

**Death no longer can appall me;**

P: Merciful God, You hear and answer Your children in their hour of need. [*Give aid to \_\_\_\_\_.*] Grant that they would bear their crosses with faith, ever looking to You, and so fix their hearts where true joy is found.

**Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!**

**From the grave Christ will recall me.**

P: Almighty God, give health and guidance to our president and all in authority, that they may serve honorably and in accord with Your good order.

**Brighter scenes will then commence;**

**This shall be my confidence.**



P: Heavenly Father, You have grafted us onto the vine of Your Son. Prune us and cut off from us all sin and dead works, that we may always draw life from Your Son and produce the fruits of faith and good works.

**<sup>3</sup>Jesus lives! For me He died.  
Hence will I, to Jesus living,**

P: Savior of all people, in the water of Baptism You welcome sinners into Your kingdom and give them life. Grant that we would always honor and extol this gift, and let nothing prevent people from it.

**Pure in heart and act abide,  
Praise to Him and glory giving.**

P: O God, You are love, and You always reveal Your love through Your Son. Grant that whoever abides in this love forever abides in You and You in him.

**All I need God will dispense;  
This shall be my confidence.**

P: Holy Father, You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear and answer our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

### **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.**

### **The Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C: Amen**

### **Closing Hymn #342** *Chief of Sinners Though I Be*

1. Chief of sinners though I be,  
Jesus shed His blood for me;  
Died that I might live on high,  
Lived that I might never die,  
As the branch is to the vine,  
I am His, and He is mine.

2. Oh, the height of Jesus' love!  
Higher than the heavens above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea,  
Lasting as eternity.  
Love that found me--wondrous thought!--  
Found me when I sought Him not.

3. Jesus only can impart  
Balm to heal the smitten heart;  
Peace that flows from sin forgiven,  
Joy that lifts the soul to heaven;

Faith and hope to walk with God  
In the way that Enoch trod.

4. Chief of sinner though I be,  
Christ is All in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known,  
All my sorrows are His own.  
Safe with Him from earthly strife,  
He sustains the hidden life.

5. O my Savior, help afford  
By Thy Spirit and Thy Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray,  
Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply  
While I live and when I die.

### **Silent Prayer**

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