

5th Sunday of Easter – May 2, 2021

# Peace Lutheran Church



# West Seattle, Washington

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.

We will celebrate Holy Communion this day. If you would like to participate from your location, you are invited to gather the elements you will need—the bread and wine/juice—so that you will be prepared for when the time comes to share the Sacrament.

# + GATHERING +

#### **PRELUDE**

## Prelude in B-Flat Major

Kramer

#### WELCOME

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



#### GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

# + WORD +

#### FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

Kathleen Keyes

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, the Ethiopian is baptized by Philip.

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.

33In 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.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

**CHILDREN'S TIME** 

Nicole Klinemeier

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

This Joyful Easter Tide

**ELW #391, verse 1** 



- P The Holy Gospel according to St. 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 would bear fruit, for apart from him, they could do nothing.

[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,

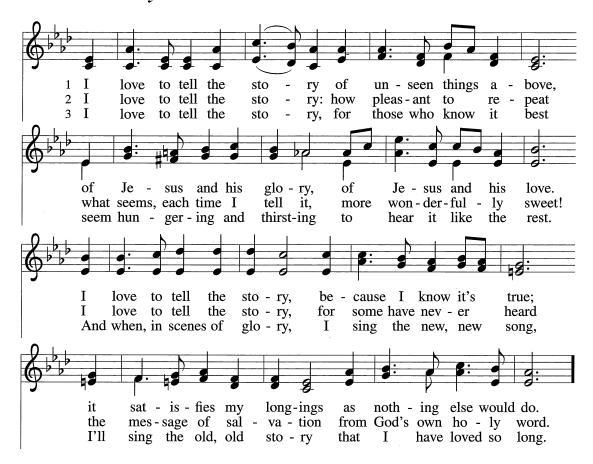
and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

- P The Gospel of the Lord
- C Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON Pastor Erik Kindem

# HYMN OF THE DAY I Love to Tell the Story

**ELW #661** 



#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Chris Kindem

- A 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.
  - Petitions are offered that end with:
    - A Hear us, O God.
    - C Your mercy is great.

When all petitions have been offered:

- A 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

# + MEAL +

#### THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

#### **OFFERING**

Your gifts support the ongoing ministry of our congregation and ELCA ministries around the world. You can give an offering today by connecting to our secure <u>Tithely Giving Page</u>. Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!

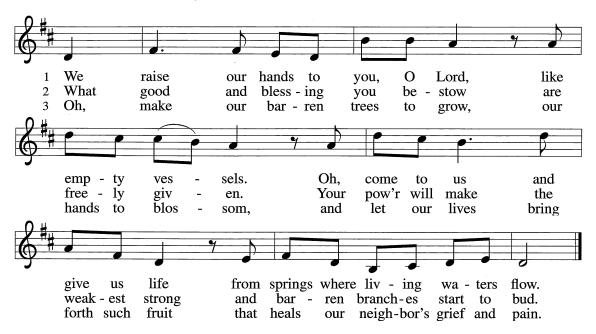
As we prepare now for Eucharist, it is time to gather the elements you've set aside.

Choose someone who will lift up the elements at the appropriate time,
following Pastor Kindem's leadership.

#### **OFFERTORY**

We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord

**ELW#690** 



#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A Let us pray. God of love,
- C 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 Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### THE 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.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, compassionate and vulnerable God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. He is the true Vine, who gave himself that we might have life; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

- P Blessed is our brother Jesus, who walks with us the road of our grief, and is known again in the breaking of the bread.

  Who on the night he was handed over to death, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said: (lift the bread)
- C Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- P Again, after supper, he took the cup, (*lift the cup*) gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
- C This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for forgiveness and healing. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- P For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P Come now, disturbing Spirit of God, breathe on these bodily things and make us one body in Christ.
- C Open our graves, unbind our eyes, and name us here; touch and heal all that has been buried in us, that we need not cling to our pain, but may go forth with power to release resurrection in the world.
- P To you, O Holy Trinity, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (ecumenical)

- P In Jesus we are bold to pray:
- C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.
- C Thanks be to God!

Take the gifts of bread and wine/juice into your bodies now, giving thanks for these gifts of grace!

Any elements remaining can become part of your midday meal this Easter Day.



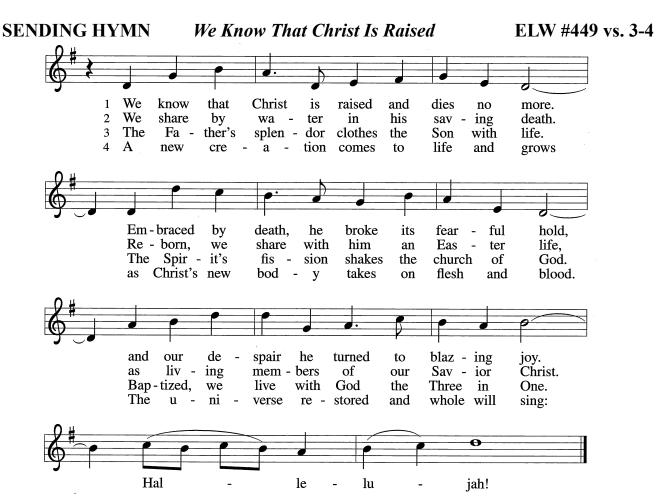
#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Let us pray. 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 life may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **BLESSING**

- May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Christ.
  - The Sacred Trinity, Creator, + Redeemer, and Advocate, bless you now and forever.
- $\mathbf{C}$ Amen.



#### **DISMISSAL**

- Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!  $\mathbf{C}$
- Go in peace. Share the good news.
- Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** 

Postlude in E-Flat Major

Fischer

# **PERMISSIONS**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The final Sunday of our Faith Formation Program Year is May 23, Pentecost Sunday.

# **CHRISTIAN ED/FAITH FORMATION**

### ADULT SUNDAY CLASS @ 8:45am

Last Sunday we began conversation on the book, *The River than Made Seattle*, by BJ Cummings. Ms. Cummings will be one of our guests in June for our Season of Creation, whose theme is RIVERS. If you'd like to join the class via ZOOM, please let Pastor Erik know and he will send you an invitation on Sunday morning.

## ABC'S, THE BIBLE, AND YOU—Hey, kids, are you age 3 through 2nd grade

And do you like stories? Join Julie and Melanie on Zoom for a Bible story each week. You'll also get to do crafts and sing fun, silly songs, and see you friends. Sounds like a blast! Class will run from 9:45 to 10:15 or so.

WHIRL KIDS calling all 2nd to 5th graders. Chris will meet you on Zoom for Whirl videos, digging into the Bible, and talking about life together. Don't miss out! Class will run from 9:45 to 10:30.

YOUTH ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:45. So what did happen after the Resurrection? How did the church start? Where did the disciples go? We will be exploring these ideas Sunday mornings through Kahoot games.

## RECONCILING IN CHRIST AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME

Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness, in a world that can be filled with alienation and brokenness. In faithfulness to the Gospel and to our Lutheran heritage, we answer Christ's call to be agents of healing and safety, particularly for people who have been marginalized by our society.

As a Christian community, we invite all people to join us as we work to better understand the meaning of grace for our lives. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities into the life and mission of our congregation.

## CONTRIBUTORS TO TODAY'S SERVICE

Presider: Pastor Erik P. Kindem, Assisting Minister: Chris Kindem,

Children's Minister: Nicole Klinemeier

Musicians: Minister of Music Jon Lackey, Accompanist James Jelasic

Lector: Kathleen Keyes

Production Techs: Alex Wren, manager, Dustin Smith, Joey DiJulio

Office Administrator: Kathleen Keyes

To learn more about our congregation and its mission, contact us:

www.PeaceLutheranSeattle.org

**Peace Lutheran Church** 

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