

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

Invocation

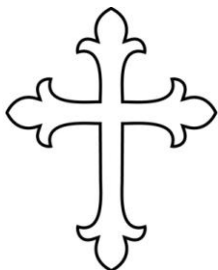
- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.
C Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.


Confession & Absolution

- P** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
- C** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.
- C** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
- P** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.
- C** Amen.



Hymn

His Mercy is More



What love could re-mem-ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
 What pa-tience would wait as we con-stant-ly roam? What
 What rich-es of kind-ness He lav-ished on us. His
 ni-scient, all know-ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown
 Fa-ther, so ten-der, is call-ing us home? He
 blood was the pay-ment; His life was the cost. We
 in-to a sea with-out bot-tom or shore, our
 wel-comes the weak-est, the vil-est, the poor. Our
 stood 'neath a debt we could nev-er af-ford. Our
 sins, they are man-y; His mer-cy is more.
 sins, they are man-y; His mer-cy is more. Praise the Lord,
 sins, they are man-y; His mer-cy is more.
 His mer-cy is more. Strong-er than dark-ness,
 new ev-'ry morn. Our sins, they are man-y; His mer-cy is more.

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Psalm

Psalm 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21

- P** I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- C** Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
- P** The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- C** All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!

P My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Acts Reading

Acts 8:26–40

²⁶An 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.
²⁷And 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 ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now 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,
³³so he opens not his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And 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?” ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And 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. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 15:1–8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

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

¹[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.
²Every 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. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. ⁵I 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. ⁶If 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. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn

They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love

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Epistle

1 John 4

¹Beloved, 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. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and 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. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We 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.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In 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. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Prayer

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead, whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

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.

Holy Communion

Distribution Hymn

Lord from Sorrows Deep I Call (Psalm 42)



Lord, from sor-rows deep I call when my hope is shak - en;
Storms with - in my trou - bled soul, ques - tions with - out an - swers;
Should my life be torn from me, 'ev - 'ry world - ly plea - sure;



torn and ru - ined from the fall, hear my des - pe - ra - tion.
on my faith these bil - lows roll, God be now my shel - ter.
when all I pos - sess is grief, God be then my trea - sure.



For so long I've pled and prayed, "God come to my res - cue!"
Why are you cast down my soul? Hope in Him who saves you.
Be my vi - sion in the night; be my hope and re - fuge.



E - ven so, the thorn re - mains; still my heart will praise You.
When the fires have all grown cold, cause this heart to praise You.
'Til my faith is turned to sight, Lord my heart will praise You.



Oh, my soul, put your hope in God, my help, my rock, I will praise Him.



Sing, oh, sing, through the rag - ing storm; You're still my God, my sal - va - tion.

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Distribution Hymn #749

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad To make the wound-ed whole;

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad To heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged And think my work's in vain,
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, If you can - not pray like Paul,
 3 Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, For Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain

But then the Ho - ly Spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
 You can tell the love of Je - sus And say He died for all.
 And if you lack for knowl - edge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text & tune: African American Spiritual; text & tune: public domain

Distribution Hymn O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus! (To the tune

Ebenezer)

1 O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
 Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
 rolling as a mighty ocean
 in its fullness over me.
 Underneath me, all around me,
 is the current of thy love;
 leading onward, leading homeward,
 to thy glorious rest above.

3 O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
 Love of ev'ry love the best:
 'tis an ocean vast of blessing,
 'tis a haven sweet of rest.
 O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
 and it lifts me up to glory,
 for it lifts me up to thee.

2 O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
 Spread his praise from shore to
 shore;
 how he loveth, ever loveth,
 changeth never, nevermore;
 how he watches o'er his loved ones,
 died to call them all his own;
 how for them he intercedeth,
 watcheth o'er them from the
 throne.

Text: Thomas John Williams, tune: S. Trevor Francis;
 text & tune: public domain

Nunc Dimittis

- P** Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace according to Your Word.
- C** For my eyes have seen Your salvation,
Which You have prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn #803

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!

2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,

△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke; tune: Ludwig van Beethoven; text & tune: public domain

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Announcements

Bible Study – Today 12:30 PM (Zoom). Please text Pastor Mueller if you have not yet attended and

would like a Zoom invitation link sent to your email.

Sunday Evening Prayer - 5:30 PM

Wednesday Evening Zoom Bible Study (*The Screwtape Letters*) 7:00 PM

Contact Aaron for a Zoom invitation.

Titus 2: Women of Faith Bible Study - Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Please note that we will not meet on May 8th.

Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study is preparing for a new study based on the book "Man-Up: The Quest for Masculinity" by Jeffery Hemmer. If you would like to participate, please contact Cheryl via email cheryl@stjamesglencarbon.org or call the church office 288-6120 by May 15th. The book cost is \$16.00

Jr. High & Sr. High Youth Group (6th-12th Grade)

Join us Tuesday night at church for Bible study, fellowship and fun from 6:30-8:00 PM.

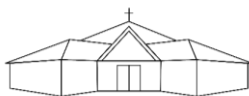
Congregation Voters Assembly - Today. All members of St. James Lutheran Church are invited, after the 10:15 service, to vote on the final approval for CCLS to use our facilities for their micro-school.

Calling All Puzzle People! St. James is starting a puzzle library. If you have puzzles you've completed and would like to share, bring them to the bookshelf by the upstairs coat rack. Then feel free to borrow any puzzles there to complete!

Metro-East Lutheran High School (MELHS) is accepting letters of interest and resumes for a **Part-Time Upper Level High School English** position available starting August 2021. If you are interested please contact Dr. Jay Krause, Principal, at jay.krause@melhs.org.

MELHS is looking for **HOST FAMILIES** for International Students who are interested in attending Lutheran High for the 21/22 school year. If you are interested in finding out more about opening your home to a foreign student please contact Dr. Jay Krause at jay.krause@melhs.org.

Metro-East Lutheran High School's music department will host an outdoor concert this Sunday, May 2, at 3 p.m. in the school parking lot. All are invited to bring their lawn chairs and enjoy the music, which will include selections from the MELHS band, choir, strings ensemble and guitar ensemble.



St. James Lutheran Church
146 North Main
Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034
877-212-2222

Aaron Mueller, Pastor
566 Glen Crossing
Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034
618-272-1111