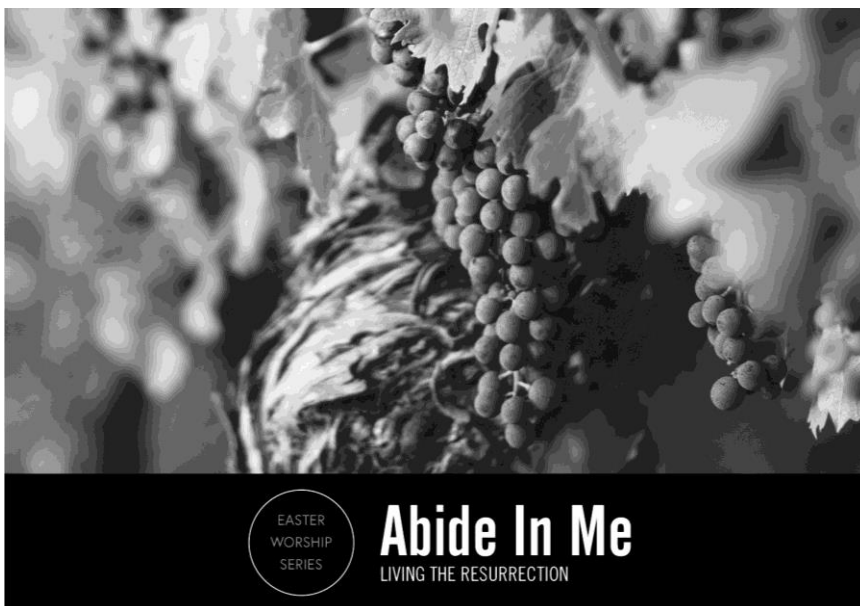


THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

Worship Focus

Living the Resurrection – Abide in Me



**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
9807 CHURCH ROAD
DALLAS, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567
calvarydallas.org**

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

M God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.





✘ The Word ✘

FIRST LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

*Philip shared the message of the Lord's victory with the Ethiopian eunuch.
Sharing Christ with others is an important fruit of faith.*

^{ACTS 8:26}Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” ²⁷So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

³⁰Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

³¹“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

³²The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture:

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before the shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

³⁶As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. Why shouldn’t I be baptized?” ³⁸And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

SECOND LESSON

1 John 3:18-24

*God wants us to believe in Jesus and to love one another.
The Spirit, as he gives us the power to do both, assures us of our standing with God.*

¹ JOHN 3:18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.
¹⁹This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.
²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

*The evidence of faith in Christ is a life marked by deeds of love.
Those fruits grow out of our fellowship with Christ and identify us as his disciples.*

JOHN 15:1 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

168 - With High Delight Let Us Unite



1 With high de - light Let us u - nite In songs of sweet
 2 True God, he first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
 3 Let prais - es ring; Give thanks and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, Each take your part,
 all sub - du - ing. His en - e - my Shall van - quished lie;
 ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us free
 His death has been death's un - do - ing. "And yours shall be
 To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall his love



For - ev - er, he Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
 Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave," Said he, who
 Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
 gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.
 free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536-99; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76, alt. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.
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Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART (448 448 44 44 8) *Cinquante Pseaumes*, Geneva, 1543, alt.

✠ Sermon ✠

John 15:1-8

Abide in Me!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

**C 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

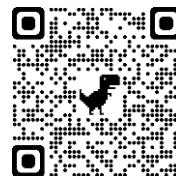
**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MUSICAL OFFERING

*We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of
God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.*

Offerings can be given in any of four ways:

- 1. Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary*
- 2. On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>*
- 3. On your phone with the Give+ app (a Vanco product)*
- 4. Scan the QR code to the right...*



Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, <https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the code to the left...

✘ Prayers ✘

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

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. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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 those who spurn your grace, that we may always confess Christ to be our only true God and remain faithful to Him. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father and Teacher of all truth, guide teachers and learners of Your Word, that they may increase in understanding, faith and love for Christ, the Lamb led to the slaughter in our place and risen from the dead. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, You are love and always reveal Your love through Your Son. Grant that all who come to Your feast of love may worthily eat of the Lord's Supper you have given us, so that whoever abides in this love forever abides in You, and You in him. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly 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, and Your saints shall bless You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

✠ The Sacrament ✠

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

761 - Christ Is With Me



1 We were bur - ied with him in - to death,
2 I have now been graft - ed to the vine,
3 I have now been cru - ci - fied with Christ.



That as he was raised by God's glo - ry,
Draw - ing life from roots rich in mer - cy,
I no long - er live; Christ lives in me.



We might walk in life made new by grace.
Bear - ing fruit as I a - bide in him:
Now I live by faith in God's own Son,



Hav - ing died with Christ, we shall live with
Fruit for - ev - er fresh, glo - ri - fy - ing
One who loved me so— gave him - self for



him.
God. Christ is with me
me.



ev - 'ry - where I go. Nev - er to



leave me, this I know.

Tune: CHRIST IS WITH ME (9 9 9 10 and Refrain)
Text, Tune: Gerald Patrick Coleman, b. 1953, alt. © 1992 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.
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✘ Sending ✘

PRAYER

M Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



John 15:4, NKJV

CLOSING HYMN

497 - This Is My Will



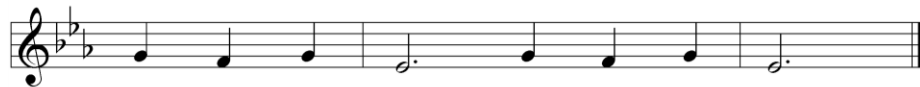
1 "This is my will, my one com - mand,
 2 "No great - er love can an - y have
 3 "I call you now no long - er slaves;
 4 "You chose not me, but I chose you,
 5 "All that you ask my Fa - ther dear



That love should dwell a - mong you all.
 Than that one die to save his friends.
 No slave knows all the mas - ter does.
 That you should go and bear much fruit.
 For my name's sake you shall re - ceive.



This is my will, that you should love
 You are my friends if you o - bey
 I call you friends, for all I hear
 I chose you out that you in me
 This is my will, my one com - mand,



As I have shown that I love you.
 What I com - mand that you should do.
 My Fa - ther say, you hear from me.
 Should bear much fruit that will a - bide.
 That love should dwell in each, in all."

Text: James Quinn, b. 1919, alt. © 1969 James Quinn, SJ (admin. Selah Publishing Co.). All rights reserved.
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Tune: SUANTRAI (LM) Gaelic melody, c. 19th century.

*After worship, please feel free to greet your neighbors OUTSIDE,
 keeping in mind the social distancing recommendations of six feet spacing.*