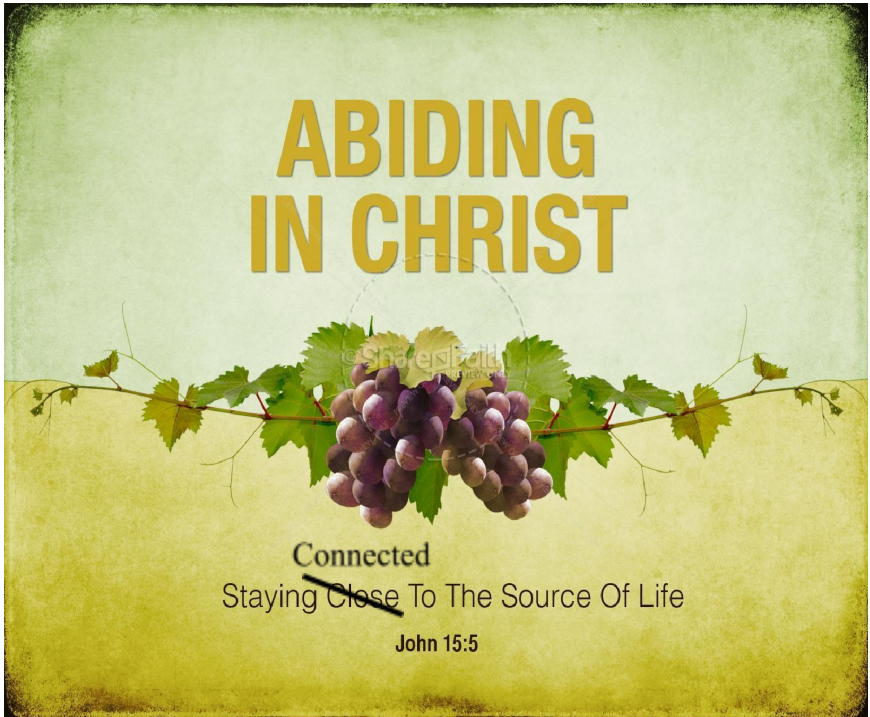


St. Johns Lutheran Church

I AM the Vine



You are the Branches

AS WE GATHER

One agricultural crop that is becoming better known in our days is the grape. Grapevines are everywhere in America, from New York and Virginia on the East Coast to California and Washington on the West Coast. Driving by a vineyard and seeing row after row of flourishing vines is a visually pleasant experience. Jesus speaks to the disciples and us that He is the true vine and we are the branches. He says that God looks for us to be fruit-bearing as we are grafted into our life-giving Lord. Through our worship together, we are nourished in fruitfulness by the Holy Spirit.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME GUESTS

We're glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. *(Please keep your distance though)* Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering.

PREPARATION

HYMN Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven *LSB 477*

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled--
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.**

**Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried:
Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.**

Stand

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Savior
Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia
to the triune Majesty.**

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 34:8; 104:24, 31; 147:11*

The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him,

in those who hope in His steadfast love.

Taste and see that the LORD is good!

Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

O LORD, how manifold are Your works!

In wisdom have You made them all.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

may the LORD rejoice in His works.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

As penitent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy.

Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your Law. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.

God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

Amen.

KYRIE **LSB 204**

Lord, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy

As you believe, so let it be.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ is given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

WORD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS... Glory to God in the Highest **LSB 204**

To God on high be glory

And peace to all the earth;

Good-will from God in heaven

Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!

We praise and bless You, Father;

Your holy name, we sing-

**Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heavenly King.**

**To You, O sole begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us , Jesus;
Receive our heart-felt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high.**

**For you a-lone are holy;
You only are the Lord,
For-ever and for-ever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad re-ply.**

SALUTATION

**The Lord be with you.
And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Risen and ascended Lord, You are the vine, and we are the
branches. Apart from You there is no life. By Baptism, You have
grafted us into Your gracious life. Cause Your Word to abide in us
and make us fruitful to the glory of Your Father, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

MEMORIZED WORD

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands. I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land. Psalm 143:5-6

FIRST READING *Acts 8:26–40* (video)

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, so he opens not his mouth. ³³In 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Christ has risen * from the dead.

**[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and *
honor.**

**He has given him dominion over the works * of his hands;
he has put all things un * der his feet.**

EPISTLE *1 John 4:1–11*

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Romans 6:9, John 14:23*

**Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will
never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.
Alleluia. If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My
Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our
home with him. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 15:1–8*

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

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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Blessed Spring

LSB 595

**O blessed spring, where Word and sign
Embrace us into Christ the Vine;
Here Christ enjoins each one to be
A branch of this life-giving Tree.**

**Through summer heat of youthful years,
Uncertain faith rebellious tears,
Sustained by Christ’s infusing rain,
The boughs will shout for joy again.**

**When autumn cools and youth is cold,
When limbs their heavy harvest hold,**

**Then through us, warm, the Christ will move
With gifts of beauty, wisdom love.**

**A winter comes as winter must,
We breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing
And trust the promise of the spring.**

**Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,
Be praised for this blest mystery;
That Word and water thus revive
And join us to Your Tree of Life.**

SERMON

APOSTLE'S CREED

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray with as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the

fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [*names*, and] all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We trust, O Lord, in Your kingdom, power, glory and great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

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.

Amen.

Alleluia!
Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb,
Heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain

Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Walking the way,
Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our eyes:
Breaking our bread,
Giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.

Refrain

Jesus the vine,
We are the branches;
Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth,
Christ to the people,
Gift of the future now flowing to me.

Refrain

Weeping, be gone;
Sorrow, be silent:
Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing:
“O grave, be open!”
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.

Refrain

**City of God,
Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life,
Saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the I AM!**

Refrain

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Dan Reh
Lector	Allen Dass
Elders	Al Bohannon & Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	Don Osiek, Ben Thomas, William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Pastor Tanney
Acolytes	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Greeter	Roger Schmidt
Worship Screen	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Bible Class	Pastor Michael Tanney

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.
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