



Glenmoore PA 610-764-0057 www.livingwaterslc.us



Fifth Sunday of Easter May 6 2012

Order of Worship

As We Gather

Today's readings draw our attention to our Baptism and then to our Lord's command to love one another. Whenever we are able to produce such sweet fruit for God it is only because He has lavishly bestowed grace and forgiveness on us. He has pruned us as a faithful gardener would prune the vines of His vineyard. When and where God intervenes with His care, we bear much fruit and give Him the glory. Today we hear the words of Scripture in all of its blessed Law and Gospel. In response to His Word, we confess our sins, ready to receive His forgiveness for what is past and strengthened for future opportunities to love, to show mercy, and to forgive.

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn Chief of Sinners Though I Be 285

(congregation stands)

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Christ has risen from the dead.

People: God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor,

Pastor: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

People: He has put all things under His feet.

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40 (Philip baptizes an Ethiopian.)

Now 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. 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 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 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.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

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

Epistle

1 John 4:1-11 (God's love compels us to love.)

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. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 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. 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. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. 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.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 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. 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. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Praise

Majesty

BOTB 154

(congregation stands)

Holy Gospel

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the fifteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

John 15:1-8 (Jesus is the vine; we are the branches.)

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 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. 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. 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. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

(congregation be seated)

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: In today's Gospel we heard Jesus say, "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you." John 15:1-3
We became "branches" of Jesus the vine, like the Ethiopian in the reading from Acts, through our Baptism. The Holy Spirit

has enabled us to hear the Word our Lord speaks. That Word is His forgiveness, which takes away our sins and makes us fruitful for His purposes. Without such mercy and grace we cannot live as branches of our life-giving Vine. Let us consider our need for such forgiveness and confess our sins.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, living Vine,

People: we confess that we have been too casual in our relationship to You. We have taken for granted Your grace and mercy, poured out on us in Holy Baptism. We have not appreciated the gravity of our sins, the sacrifice of Your life for us, and the utter grace which You offer in Your full and free forgiveness. We have not recognized our heavenly Father's pruning as the loving action it truly is. By Your Holy Spirit, increase in us true devotion to Your will and a desire to bear fruit worthy of Your holy name. Forgive us, restore us, and set our feet on the path of true discipleship.

Pastor: In the Epistle St. John wrote, "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. . . . By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit." ¹ John 4:10, 13 As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Collect

Pastor: John reminds us that "perfect love casts out fear." ¹ John 4:18 Because of God's forgiving love, we are freed from fear and enabled to joyfully respond to our Lord's desire for us: "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples." John 15:8 Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will.

People: Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;

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

People: Amen.

Sharing the Peace of the Lord

(congregation be seated)

**Children's Message
Message**

(congregation stands)

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 the 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.

Dedication of Offerings

Pastor: Let us pray. Accept, Lord our God, our tithes and offerings,
symbols of all that You have graciously given us. Use them for
Your purposes and guide us in our decisions as we seek to be
godly stewards of the gifts You have entrusted to our care.
We pray in the name of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus
Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For missionaries and teachers, translators, and medical personnel who bring the Word of God to remote parts of the world, that God would guide them as He did Philip to use every opportunity to invite many people to the waters of Holy Baptism, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the nations of the world, that God would raise up leaders who would strive for peace across their borders and just societies within their lands, so that the Gospel may be preached to the joy and edifying of many people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who face this day in fear from oppression, in pain from illness, in sorrow from loss, or in pessimism from loss of job, home, or friends [including. . .], that our heavenly Father would surround them with people to convey His love and compassion, and bring them to restored peace, security, health, and healing, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who work for the common good, those who tend fields and those who sit in legislatures, those who manufacture goods and those who provide services, those who teach and those who learn, that God would bless them as they seek to use the gifts and talents He has entrusted to them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For ourselves as we are about to receive our Lord Jesus under bread and wine, that the Holy Spirit would keep us firm in faith that we may receive the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation in this Sacrament, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

+ SACRAMENT +

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Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *[Psalm 136]*

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: LSB

Sanctus

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You did not leave Your fallen creation to itself. You promised our first parents a Savior; You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You sent prophets and apostles to speak Your Word, pruning away error and nourishing fruitful living. Most of all, we give thanks that You sent Your Son, who by the sacrifice of Himself made forgiveness available to all who would call on Him in faith. Grant us now to approach His table with joy and the full assurance of sins forgiven. To You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all praise and glory now and forever.

People: Amen.

Words of Institution *Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body given for you. This do in remembrance

of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Revelation 22:20

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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God
You take away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us
Lamb of God
You take away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us
Lamb of God
You take away the sin of the world
Grant us peace

Distribution

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord and sing his praise;
tell everyone what he has done.
Let all those who seek the Lord
rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises
and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

People: for His steadfast love endures forever. *Psalm 118:1*

Pastor: We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You have strengthened our faith through this Sacrament. Go with us now so that we may live out this day as fruitful branches of the Vine, Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Benediction

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

People: Amen.

(congregation be seated)

Announcements

Closing Hymn You Will I Love My Strength 375

Dismissal

Pastor: As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. *Joshua 24:15*

People: We also will serve the LORD, for he is our God. *Joshua 24:18*

Announcements

County Food Bank and Lord's Pantry Volunteers Tues 6 pm-8pm.

Offering – We don't collect offering during the service. Your giving is from blessings in your life. It should never be considered as payment for services rendered. We do have an offering basket available if you feel moved to support sharing the Word of God.

Keep up to date on all activities by checking the website regularly.

If you would like to be on the prayer chain please email Carl Emberger at carl.emberger@livingwaterslc.us

Do you know of a need in our community?

Feel free to call with questions and concerns 610-764-0057

Daily Readings

May 7	1 Samuel 1:1-2:21	John 5:1-23	Psalms 105:37-45	Proverbs 14:28-29
May 8	1 Samuel 2:22-4:22	John 5:24-47	Psalms 106:1-12	Proverbs 14:30-31
May 9	1 Samuel 5:1-7:17	John 6:1-21	Psalms 106:13-31	Proverbs 14:32-33
May 10	1 Samuel 8:1-9:27	John 6:22-42	Psalms 106:32-48	Proverbs 14:34-35
May 11	1 Samuel 10:1-11:15	John 6:43-71	Psalms 107:1-43	Proverbs 15:1-3
May 12	1 Samuel 12:1-13:23	John 7:1-30	Psalms 108:1-13	Proverbs 15:4
May 13	1 Samuel 14:1-52	John 7:31-53	Psalms 109:1-31	Proverbs 15:5-7

Coloring Page

