

Salem Lutheran Church

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Pastor Betty Lou's Mobile Phone ~ 443.465.6668

MAY 2, 2021 ~ 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.

GATHERING & WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

This Joyful Eastertide

ELW 391 vs 1 & 3

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
has sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain

Had Christ, who once was slain,
not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain.
But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen, arisen.

Death's flood has lost its chill
since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver. *Refrain*

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934
Music: Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.; arr. hymnal version
Tune Name: Vruechten; arr. @Augsburg Fortress
Reported to OneLicense Song #53096

GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

READINGS:

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. ⁵I 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. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The Gospel of the Lord given to you. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL BLESSING

Let us pray,

Jesus, we believe you are present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We love You above all things and we desire to receive You into our souls. Since we cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace You as You are already there, and because of You we are united with You in death and in life. Never permit us to be separated from You. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*******ANNOUNCEMENTS*******

Thank you to Cathy Hoefler and her music and song leadership.

If you would like to place flowers on the altar for Sunday worship the Flower chart is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Our Daily Bread ~ Thank you for caring for the less fortunate and your generosity. ***We look forward to May 10th for the next casserole pickup.***

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of our congregation during these unprecedented times. As it becomes clear that we're in this phase for a longer haul, we want to say a particular thanks for your faith, your generosity, and your perseverance. Your faithful stewardship of all God's gifts is the heart of disciple-making and neighbor-loving.

Mason Dixon Food Pantry ~ Thank you for donating non-perishable food items for folks in the community. Sarah Keller takes the items to Mason Dixon at least once a month. The collection bin is located under the coat rack in the Narthex.

Spring has sprung along with flowers, growing grass and weeds. Thank you for lending your hands and heart to care for the church entrance flowerbeds. What a beautiful way to welcome folks to worship!

Geraniums for Pentecost are ordered. They are \$3.50 a plant. Please contact Mike Whitacre to place an order. **Salem's in-person Sunday Worship will continue in the foreseeable future** until such time the State deems it necessary to make changes due to COVID. We will have one service at 9:00AM. Please RSVP with pastor, wear masks and maintain CDC guidelines.

ONLINE DONATIONS ARE *OPTIONAL* ~ If interested, **CLICK ON THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OF SALEM'S WEBSITE TO DONATE!** <http://www.salemjarrettsville.org/>

Salem's Lenten Project ~ *Gruff the Goat has a new home with Sarah Keller*

Want to spread encouragement? Let's send notes / cards of care to Charlie Phoebus.

Sterling Care Riverside C/O Charles Phoebus
1123 Belcamp Garth - Room 102 ~ Belcamp, MD 21017

To send cards of cheer to David Storf as he recovers from a broken leg the address is below:

Stella Maris
Sister McNally Building Rehab Center
c/o David Storf Rm #115
2300 Dulaney Valley Road
Timonium, MD 21093

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

David Storf, Ben & Caitlyn Taylor, Gloria Mallard, Brent Przychoda, Family and friends of Jim McMahan, Cathy Marowski, Georgia Coleman, Mildred Taylor, Carol Porter, Cindy Miller, Charlie Phoebus, Austin Phoebus (military), Deana Vanhart, Faith LeBrun, Howard Kramer, James Rickman, Mike, Thelma Preisinger, Brenda Baker, Kimberley, Donna Glorioso, John Bragg, Jenny's mom and sister Donna, Norma Knudsen, Rachel's baby girl Diana, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Karen, Donna Miller, Laura Riley, Judy Newsome, Bruce Greer, Debbie McDonald, Michelle Harshman, Lisa Barwick, Dorothy Portera, Nick Carmichael, Walt Karoll, Marianna Putnam, Dawn Weaver, Joan Burleigh, Donald Rembert, Steve Sussan, Betty Burnet, Carrie Claus, Dorothy Long, Bailey Law, Pr. Myers, Maurice Grove, Nancy Roschli, Margaret Shank, Jim McNicholas, Aunt Marie, Joan Evans, Steve Norman, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, Jumela Beecher, Seth Bates, Steve White, Margret Krebbal, Frank Gailitz, Dan Gnau, Paula Feldman, Dolly Suiratt, Talu Elvove Arikan, Jim Bair, Craig Perry Beel, Joyce Craig, Aston Dean, Kattie Hale, Ray Morrison, Nicole Phelps, Kim Scott, Natalie Szparza, Pat Ward, Curtis Waters, Jason Whitney, Karen Wiley, Nick Wingate, and Jeanie Z., Will & Bernadine Boyce, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl.

Please contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates concerning the prayer list.

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