

**Faith Lutheran Church - Worship and Communion**

**April 28, 2024 at 9:30 AM**

***Fifth Sunday of Easter***

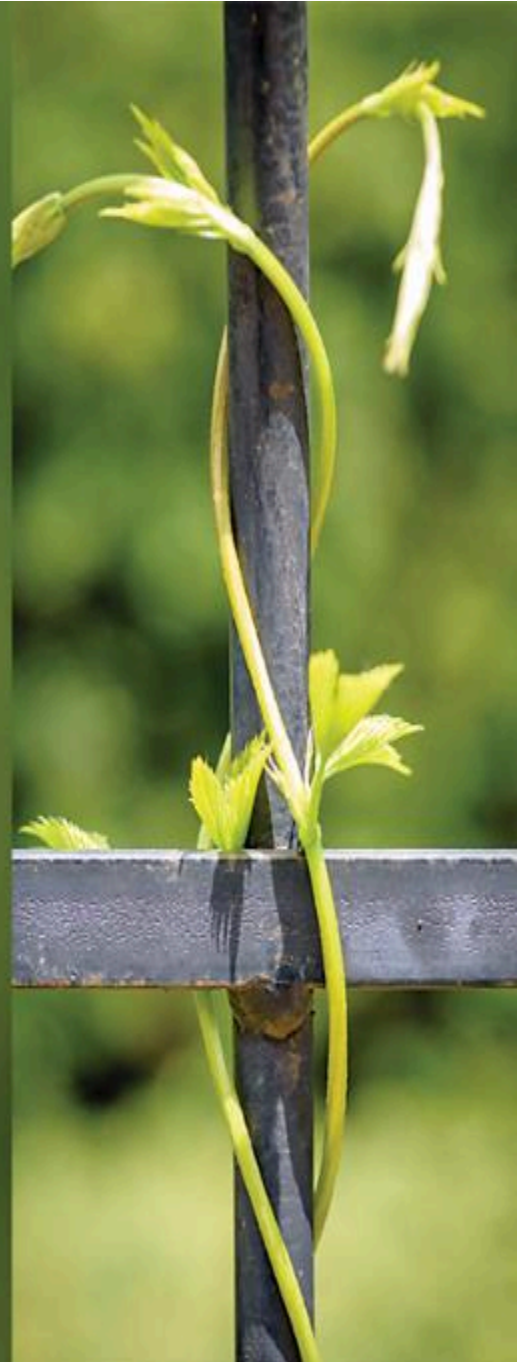
To join with video, go to our website and follow the video link

([www.faithlutheranreno.org](http://www.faithlutheranreno.org)) or find us on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@faithlutheran-reno>

I am  
the vine,  
you are the  
branches

JOHN 15:5



**Welcome!** We are a family of faith, and glad you are here! Congregation responses appear in bold throughout the bulletin and hymnal.

**Children's Bulletins** are available in the narthex (entrance area), providing activities on today's scripture readings. Please enjoy.

God is present in **Holy Communion** and welcomes all who are hungry. You are welcome to the table. Non-communing children and adults may come forward for a blessing. Let an usher know if you would like communion at your seat.

**In Our Worship on the Fifth Sunday of Easter:** Christ shares his life with us as the vine. Christ/vine and we/branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding. In Acts, we hear the story of proclamation and baptism in the "Get up and Go" and "Join it" commands to Philip, and to us as branches!

## - GATHERING -

### PRELUDE

### EASTER PRAISE

*(when bell rings, please stand and join in song)*

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the  
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

### WELCOME & THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.  
**Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.**

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the  
dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.  
**In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.**

Look, here is water!  
**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.  
**We rejoice with glad hearts, giving you praise, through Christ our source, in  
the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever Amen.**

Look, here is water!  
**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

**GATHERING HYMN**      *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*      **ELW #384**

### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the  
Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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**-WORD-**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40**

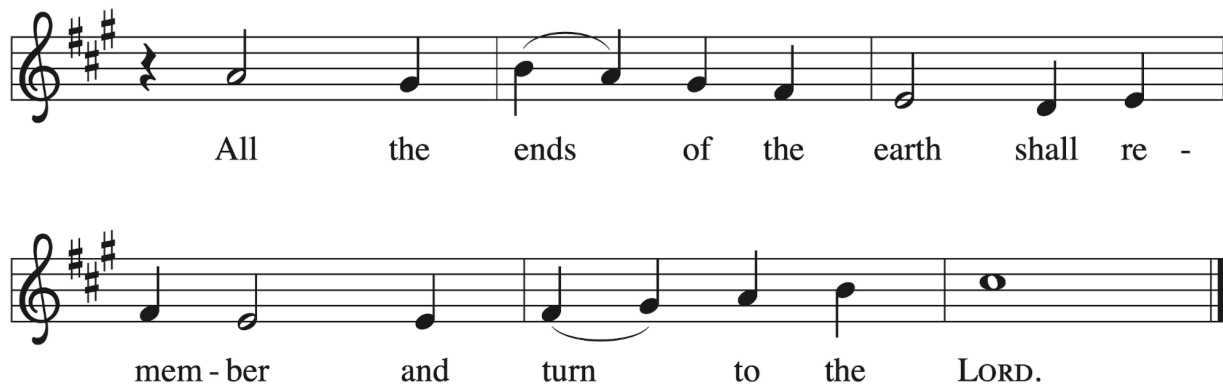
An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road  
that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up  
and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace,

queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside 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 silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31

### *Refrain*



All the ends of the earth shall re -

mem - ber and turn to the LORD.

From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

**I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.**

The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,

**Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

**all the families of nations shall bow | before God.**

For dominion belongs | to the LORD,

**who rules o- | ver the nations.**

### ***Refrain***

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;

**all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,**

**Shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.**

Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,

**whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,

**saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!"**

### ***Refrain***

## **SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love

because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### EASTER GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please Stand as you are able*

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter, **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### HOLY GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

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

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

***"I am the vine; you are the branches."***

**SERMON**

***Branches of Proclamation***

**Rev. Shaun O'Reilly**



**HYMN OF THE DAY**

***Abide with Me***

**ELW #629**

**EASTER CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**NICENE CREED**

**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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**Risen Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.****- MEAL -****OFFERING****OFFERING HYMN****ELW #182***Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.***OFFERING PRAYER****GREAT THANKSGIVING**The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe ... .. now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE 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.**

## COMMUNION

*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,  
Grant us peace.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

### Now We Join in Celebration

**ELW #462**

Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation,  
dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder;  
for the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence,  
stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.

Lord, as round this feast we gather, fill our hearts with holy rapture!  
For this bread and cup of blessing are for us the sure possessing  
of your loving deed on Calv'ry, of your living self, our vict'ry,  
pledge of your unfailing presence, foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.

Lord, we share in this communion as one fam'ly of God's children,  
reconciled through you, our brother, one in you with God our Father.  
Give us grace to live for others, serving all, both friends and strangers,  
seeking justice, love, and mercy till you come in final glory.

**Lead Me, Guide Me \*****ELW #768**

**Refrain**    Lead me, guide me along the way,  
                   For if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
                   Lord let me walk each day with thee.  
                   Lead me, Oh Lord, leadth me.

I am weak and I need thy strength and power  
 To help me over my weakest hour.  
 Help me through the darkness thy face to see.  
 Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me. **Refrain**

Help me tread in the path of righteousness,  
 Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
 I am putting all my trust in thee.  
 Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me. **Refrain**

I am lost if you take your hand from me.  
 I am blind without thy light to see.  
 Lord, just always let me thy servant be.  
 Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me. **Refrain**

**Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am\*****ELW #814**

Take, oh, take me as I am;  
 summon out what I shall be;  
 set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION****- SENDING -****ANNOUNCEMENTS & BLESSING****SENDING HYMN*****Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*****ELW #363****DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Christ is the vine, you are the branches.

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

*\*denotes favorite hymn of congregation*



*Flowers today are given by Perralina Palm in celebration of her and William Foster's birthdays.*

**Serving Today:** Greeter, Kathy W. / Acolyte, Storey Family / Reader, LindaLu M. / Asst Minister, Todd Mauldin / Cantor, Todd M. / Ushers, Betty T. & Debbie H. / Altar Guild, Betty T & Annette W. / Tech Support, Riley C. & the FLC Tech Team / Counters, Davyann S. & Theresa W. / Coffee after Worship, Perralina P. Today's musicians are: Samatha White, pianist and Olivia Knock, cellist

### - Activities at Faith -

- **Lunch Bunch** - Wed, May 1st @ Noon. Please join us for this monthly potluck the first Wed of the month at the back tables in the sanctuary.
- **See our May Newsletter** - in the Narthex or online!
- **Sunday Adult Forum and Kids' classes** - following worship today @ 11am.
- **Bible Study - Every Tuesday @ 1:30 pm**, in person and via Zoom.
- **Saturday Faith Formation Class** - "Why the Church Year?" @ 1pm.

### -Shared Harvest in May-

For the Month of May we need 56 Cans of **Canned Vegetables**, 42 Cans of **Chili**, 42 Sleeves of **Saltine Crackers**, 42 Cans of **Tuna**, and **Laundry Detergent** in unlimited quantities. Packing will be on Sun, May 19th, 1pm @ Lord of Mercy, Sparks.

### Our Giving and Tithes:

Monthly church budget for 2024 is: **\$15,530.00**

Recent giving for the month of **March 2024** was **\$17,817.00**

**Online Giving** through Tithe.ly.com for **Mar 2024** was **\$100.00**. You may give through our website, click on "Support Faith" at the top of our homepage.

	<b>May 2024</b>			
<b>Task</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Greeter</b>	Erica Wilfrid	Judy Carlin	Welmerink Family	Betty Thompson
<b>Acolyte</b>	O'Reilly Family	Welmerink Family	Pesis Family	Storey Family
<b>Reader</b>	Pam Shannon	Judi Hein	Bob Tonkins	Linda Zimmerman
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Cindy Thompson	Erica Wilfrid	Louis Ling	Sharon Scagliotti
<b>Cantor</b>	Matthew Rhiley	Riley Cloyd	Louis Ling	Richard Scoggins
<b>Usher</b>	Betty Thompson & Annette Warner	Matthew Rhiley & Tom Landis	Annette Warner & Debbie Hansen	Tom Landis & Matthew Rhiley
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Trish Dyer & Kathy Wilson	Annette Warner & Betty Thompson	Sharon Scagliotti & Trish Dyer	Annette Warner & Betty Thompson
<b>Piano/Organ</b>				
<b>Accompanying Musician</b>				
<b>Counters</b>	Katie Weldon & Sigrun Coffman	Davyann Schalnath & Linda Zimmerman	Davyann Schalnath & Stan Pesis	Theresa Wolken & Sigrun Coffman
<b>Coffee after Worship</b>	Judy Carlin	Zimmerman Family	Eileen Way	

Come to Worship. Go to Serve. Embrace the Community.  
[www.faithlutheranreno.org](http://www.faithlutheranreno.org)