

Season of Easter

Our Lord is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!

Fifth Sunday of Easter Service With Holy Communion

PREPARATION

(Please Stand)

In the name of the Father

and of the Son †

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

AT 329 This Kingdom

**Jesus, God's righteousness revealed,
the Son of man, the Son of God,
His kingdom comes.**

**Jesus, redemption's sacrifice
now glorified, now justified,
His kingdom comes.**

**And this kingdom will know no end
and its glory shall know no bounds,
for the majesty and power
of this kingdom's King has come.
And this kingdom's reign
and this kingdom's rule
and this kingdom's power and authority –
Jesus, God's righteousness revealed.**

**Jesus, the expression of God's love,
the grace of God,
the Word of God revealed to us;
Jesus, God's holiness displayed,
now glorified, now justified,
His kingdom comes.**

And this kingdom will know no end

**and its glory shall know no bounds,
for the majesty and power
of this kingdom's King has come.
And this kingdom's reign
and this kingdom's rule
and this kingdom's power and authority –
Jesus, God's righteousness revealed.**

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And this kingdom's reign
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Jesus, God's righteousness revealed.**

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CONFESSION OF SINS

Friends in Christ, let us humble ourselves before God to confess our sins, and ask him to forgive us through his Son, Jesus Christ.

Father, I confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, words and actions. I am not worthy to be your child. For Jesus' sake, have mercy on me.

Graciously forgive me my sins, help me in my weakness and strengthen me by your Spirit.

My friends, Jesus died and rose for you so that you may receive forgiveness for all your sins. So by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare that your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with you. Receive his grace therefore with a rejoicing heart and serving mind.

Amen.

Last six verses of Psalm 22

Women

When your people meet, you will fill my heart with your praises, LORD, and everyone will see me keep my promises to you.

Men

The poor will eat and be full, and all who worship you will be thankful and live in hope.

Women

Everyone on this earth will remember you, LORD. People all over the world will turn and worship you, because you are in control, the ruler of all nations.

Men

All who are rich and have more than enough will bow down to you, Lord. Even those who are dying and almost in the grave will come and bow down.

Women

In the future, everyone will worship and learn about you, our Lord.

Men

People not yet born will be told, "The Lord has saved us!"

All Together

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for evermore. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

(Please stand)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer for the Day

Let us pray that we love others.

[silence]

Merciful Father, you have reached out to all people through your Son Jesus, who died for us all. Encourage us to live as your chosen people and give of ourselves to others. We ask this through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40 "Philip and the Ethiopian"

(after the reading)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-21 *"Love one another, as God loved us"*

(after the reading)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

John 15:1-8 *"The true vine and the fruitful branches"*

(after the Gospel has been read)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' 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,
dead, and 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.**

AT 382 I am the vine

**I am the vine and you are the branches.
You make the wine and I'll take the chances.
I will be with you in joy and sorrow,
I will be with you today and tomorrow.**

**I am the vine and you are the branches.
You make the rhyme and I'll call the dances.
I will be with you in joy and sorrow,
I will be with you today and tomorrow.**

*Jesus, we will be joined forever.
Jesus, you are the lifeline.
Jesus, we are entwined together now.*

**I am the vine and you are the branches.
You ask the questions, I'll have the answers.
I will be with you in joy and sorrow,
I will be with you today and tomorrow.**

**I am the vine and you are the branches.
You start to shine as your life advances.
I will be with you in joy and sorrow,
I will be with you today and tomorrow.**

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Sermon

AT 462 "Hand in hand"

(Offering)

**When I consider God's design,
raging seas and searing sands
I hold my breath, but even more
I stand in awe.**

**When all creation joins in praise,
hand in hand, hand in hand.
All creation joins in praise,
hand in hand.**

**When I consider Jesus Christ,
beaten, killed and broken man,
I hold my breath, but even more
I stand in awe.**

**When broken people come to him,
hand in hand, hand in hand.
Broken people come to him,
hand in hand.**

When I consider human kind,

**feuding tribes from every land,
I hold my breath, but even more
I stand in awe.
When black and white return to Christ,
hand in hand, hand in hand.
Black and white return to Christ,
hand in hand.**

**When I consider God's own church,
sinful sort of saintly band,
I hold my breath, but even more
I stand in awe.
When sinners come to share God's meal,
hand in hand, hand in hand.
Sinners come to share God's meal
hand in hand.**

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OFFERING PRAYER

(Please stand)

Loving heavenly Father, thank you for giving us new life through your Son. Make us fruitful branches of the true vine. Help us to keep trusting in him and to show your love by loving other people. Lead us to live in harmony with one another and to help others in need. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Concluding Prayer

Thank you, Father, that you hear us and care for us in all our needs. Open our eyes that we may see you in your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 BLESSING

AT 301 Prayer of Peace

**May the Father of love stir you deep in your heart.
May the Son bring His tears to your crying.
May the Spirit of love rise anew ev'ry day,
and compassion flare up in your soul.**

**May you live day by day and for those whom you meet.
May you care, though your heart will be broken.
May your voice be as one with the cry of the poor,
and the hungry be filled with your food.**

**May your love in your deeds work for peace on this earth,
for our God dwells within those who suffer.
May you ache for the time war will pass from your life,
and your freedom frustrate Caesar's pow'r.**

**May the Father of love stir you deep in your heart.
May the Son bring His tears to your crying.
May the Spirit of love rise anew ev'ry day,
and compassion flare up in your soul.**

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