



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024

### Trinity Lutheran Church and School

40 West Nicholal Street

Hicksville, New York 11801

#### *Our Ministry Staff*

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#### Mission Statement

*Trinity is a caring family where people gather to know, worship, serve, and share Jesus.*

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

## Welcome

When Jesus uses the image of the vine and speaks of vineyards, He is choosing something very familiar to His hearers. Viticulture is well known around the world. More than eighteen million acres worldwide is used for growing grapes—from Panama to Tajikistan to Zimbabwe! Today, the cultivation of vineyards is still an important agricultural component in both Israel and the Jordan, lands where Jesus walked and taught. Life in the vineyard is vital! As branches grafted to the Vine that is Christ, we are vitalized by His power. As we worship, God’s life-supporting power infuses us! It is time to continue growing!

## Holy Communion

We believe that Christ’s body and blood are truly present in Holy Communion, and that we receive the forgiveness of sins along with the bread and wine in this Holy Meal. As a “Family Church,” we invite those who share this understanding, and who desire God’s forgiveness and strength, to join with us in receiving Holy Communion. If you have any questions, please speak to the pastor at any time. All worshippers are asked to fill out the “Fellowship Pad” in the pew and pass it down. After all have signed, please leave the pad at the end of the pew to be picked up after worship. Please stand where indicated with a ❖. Thank you!

## PRELUDE

“Cantilene, from Trois Pieces, Op.29”

- Gabriel Pierné

## GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ❖ OPENING HYMN

“Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death”

LSB 697



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And  
2 To us on earth He came to bring From  
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who  
4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its  
sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's  
died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle  
con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.  
u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.  
hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.  
forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

### ❖ INVOCATION

**P** *In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C** **Amen.**

### ❖ EASTER PROCLAMATION

**P** *Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### ❖ CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

**P** *Even on this festival day, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** *Let us pray. Almighty God, heavenly Father,*

**C** **We confess that we have not remained strong in faith. We have not always let the sure news of your resurrection dispel the fear that wells up within us. We have thought, spoken, and acted in weakness. We have not loved you with our whole hearts, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We deserve your judgment in time and eternity. Forgive us and renew in us the sure hope of joining saints and angels around the eternal feast which you have prepared for all who call your Son their Savior and Lord.**

**P** *By his suffering and death our Lord has paid for our sins, and by his rising has destroyed the power of death. As a called and ordained servant of our risen and triumphant Lord Jesus 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.*

**C** **Amen.**

❖ **HYMN OF PRAISE** *This is the Feast*

*Refrain*

**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

❖ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** *Let us pray.*

*O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. 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; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C** **Amen.**

## **CHILDREN ARE NOW DISMISSED TO ATTEND CHRIST'S KIDS**

### **FIRST READING**

Acts 8:26-40

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.

**R** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **EPISTLE**

1 John 4:1-11

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.

**R** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

❖ **ALLELUIA** (*Sing twice before the Gospel and once after*)

LSB 952

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

❖ **HOLY GOSPEL**

John 15:1-8

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

**C** **Glo - ry to You, O Lord.**

“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. 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.

**P** *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

❖ HYMN

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

LSB 680



1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -  
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly Thine the  
 3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the  
 4 Thine the king - dom Thine the prize Thine the  
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night No more



lu - ias an - gels raise Thine the ev - er - last - ing head  
 prom - ise let there be Thine the vi - sion Thine the tree  
 ta - ble we the guest Thine the mer - cy all from Thee  
 won - der full sur - prise Thine the ban - quet then the praise  
 dy - ing on - ly light Thine the riv - er Thine the tree



Thine the break - ing of the bread Thine the glo - ry Thine the  
 All the earth on bend - ed knee Gone the nail - ing gone the  
 Thine the glo - ry yet to be Then the ring - ing and the  
 Then the jus - tice of Thy ways Thine the glo - ry Thine the  
 Then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly Then the ho - ly ho - ly



sto - ry Thine the har - vest then the cup Thine the  
 rail - ing Gone the plead - ing gone the cry Gone the  
 sing - ing Then the end of all the war Thine the  
 sto - ry Then the wel - come to the least Then the  
 ho - ly Cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee Thine the



vine-yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
won - der all in - creas - ing at Thy feast at Thy feast.  
splen - dor Thine the bright - ness on - ly Thee on - ly Thee.

## SERMON

“Pruned to Produce”

Pastor David Wackenhuth

+ *Please turn and face your fellow members across the center aisle* +

## ❖ 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 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.**

## ❖ PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### OFFERING

+ *Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad at this time* +

**OFFERING VOLUNTARY “Andante, from Sonata No. 6 in D Minor” - Felix Mendelssohn**

## ❖ OFFERTORY



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our



cup of bless-ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were  
 sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
 hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we  
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and  
 give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

❖ THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** *Lift up your hearts.*

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have shown mercy to all in Christ our Redeemer, the Vine divine. Receive our thanks that as branches of the Vine, we are created to bear fruit. Unite our praises with those of all the faithful who are connected to Christ;*

therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

### ❖ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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, which is 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

**P** *As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

### ❖ 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.

❖ **AGNUS DEI** *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

LSB 633

1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to  
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death’s dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal  
 our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael’s hosts tri - um-phant go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love  
 Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
 Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;  
 You have conquered in the fight,  
 You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text and tune: Public domain

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

LSB 469



1 “Christ the Lord is ris’n to - day!” Saints on earth and an - gels say;  
2 Love’s re - deem - ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won;  
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.  
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, re - ply.  
Lo! Our Sun’s e - clipse is o’er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.  
Death in vain for - bids His rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.  
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Soar we now where Christ has led;  
Foll’wing our exalted Head.  
Made like Him, like Him we rise;  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav’n!  
Praise to Thee by both be giv’n!  
Thee we greet triumphant now:  
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

Tune and text: Public domain

❖ **HYMN OF THANKSGIVING** *Thank the Lord*



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

❖ **CLOSING PRAYER**

**A** *Let us pray.*

*Holy Father, we ask You now, by this blessed food and drink, to deliver Your Church from every evil, to teach it to love You perfectly, and make it truly one, even as this bread was made from many grains of wheat to become the carrier of the body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the wine was drawn from the fruitfulness of many grapes. Grant that we ever abide as branches of the Vine, Christ Himself, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*

**C** **Amen.**

❖ **BENEDICTION**

**P** *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.*

**C** **Amen.**

❖ HYMN

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

LSB 465



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -  
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set  
 △ 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



praise of love that still a - bounds: “Christ has tri - umphed!  
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: “Christ has tri - umphed!  
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer  
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: “Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!” Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and  
 He is liv - ing!” Now still He comes to give us  
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's  
 Al - le - lu - ia!” Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 life And by His pres - ence stills all  
 day That by our lives we tru - ly  
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: “Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!”  
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!  
 say: “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”  
 God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

❖ DISMISSAL

**A** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**A** *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

“Prelude, from Trois Pieces, Op.29”

- Gabriel Pierné

*We welcome and thank Pastor David Wackenhuth, Regional Vice-President, LCMS-Atlantic District, for leading our time of worship this morning,*

We also welcome and thank our guest organist for today, Mr. Brian Manzo.

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