



Fifth Sunday of Easter

Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA

Forest City, Iowa

Pastors Rod Hopp & Zech Anderson, Intern Elizabeth Carr

April 28, 2024 9:15am

www.immanuelfamily.com

Building community in the name and likeness of Jesus Christ.

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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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 all honor and praise to you,

through the risen Christ, our source of living water,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING SONG: **"Shout to the Lord"**

#821 ELW

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.

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40 *Phillip teaches and baptizes an Ethiopian*

PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31 [read responsively]

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21 *God's love perfected in love for one another*

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8 *Christ the vine*

*Announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

*Conclusion: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

CHILDREN'S SERMON / SERMON

Intern Elizabeth

HYMN OF THE DAY: "**Just a Closer Walk with Thee**"

#697

APOSTLES' CREED

pg. 105

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: *L: God of grace, C: hear our prayer.*

Ruby Sue Albertsen

Donna Kvale

Jennie Spencer

Joann L. Bartleson

Chris McCormick

Lucky Truong

Liam Bartleson

Jill (Lewison) Nedved

Missionary Karen Anderson

Hayden Despenas

Tim Schmidt

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Magallanes

SHARING OF THE PEACE: *L: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "**We Are An Offering**"

#692

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION / LORD'S PRAYER / COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

SENDING SONG: **“Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Chorus

*My chains are gone I've been set free my God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains unending love amazing grace*

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures *[chorus]*

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow the sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below will be forever mine

Will be forever mine, You are forever mine

CCLI Song # 4768151 Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio © 2006 Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs

BLESSING: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

† † † † † †

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Worship Participants:

Assisting Minister/Reader: Dave Readinger

Greeter: Shirley Rollefson

Band: Karen Post-piano, Geno Lopes-bass, Antonio Lopes-percussion Altar Care: Joan Beebe

Song Leaders: Renae Hopp, Olivia Banta, Pastor Zech, Elizabeth May

Ushers: Gary McCarthy, Jim Lund, Tina Berg

Communion Set Up: Ruth Melby

Communion Servers: Tasha Banta, Melanie Westerberg

Coffee Fellowship: Library Committee

Audio/Video Techs: /Ken Ferjak

Today's 9:15 worship is broadcast at 11:00am over KLOW 107.3 FM. **Broadcast and altar flowers** are given in memory of husband Dennis Harringa (Apr. 11 b'day) and daughter Danelle Harringa (Apr. 27 b'day) from Judy Harringa.