

# Easter 5



*A*  
**LOVE**  
*that never fails*

May 2, 2021

# St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church

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**W**elcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

## **☞ Prayer before worship**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your might power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin, nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

## CHRISTIAN LOVE

490

## Love in Christ Is Strong and Living



1 Love in Christ is strong and liv - ing,  
 2 Love is pa - tient and for - bear - ing,  
 3 Love in Christ a - bides for - ev - er,



Bind - ing faith - ful hearts in one;  
 Clothed in Christ's hu - mil - i - ty,  
 Faint - ing not when ills at - tend;



Love in Christ is true and giv - ing—  
 Gen - tle, self - less, kind, and car - ing,  
 Love, for - giv - ing and for - giv - en,



May his will in us be done!  
 Reach - ing out in char - i - ty.  
 Shall en - dure un - til life's end.

Text: Dorothy R. Schultz, b. 1934. © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: DOROTHY (87 87) Ralph C. Schultz, b. 1932. © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.  
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## STAND

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

## LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** The Lord be with you.



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

**M:** Let us pray. (*Pastor says prayer of the day*)



**C:** A - men.

## THE WORD



### FIRST LESSON

**Acts 11:19-26**

<sup>19</sup>Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that took place at the time of Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. <sup>20</sup>But there were some men from Cyprus and Cyrene who came to Antioch and also began to speak to the Greeks, preaching the good news about the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup>The Lord's hand was with them, and a large number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

<sup>22</sup>A report about this reached the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to go on to Antioch. <sup>23</sup>When he arrived and saw God's grace, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with devoted hearts. <sup>24</sup>He was a good man who was full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a large number of people were added to the Lord.

<sup>25</sup>Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul. <sup>26</sup>When he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year they met with the church and taught a large number of people. It was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians.



Sing to the LORD a new song,\*  
for he has done marvelous things.

The LORD has made his salvation known\*  
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness  
to the house of Israel;\*  
all the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.

***Refrain***

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,\*  
burst into jubilant song with music;

make music to the LORD with the harp,\*  
with the harp and the sound of singing.

Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.\*  
He will judge the world in righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy Spirit,**  
**as it was in the beginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

***Refrain***



## SECOND LESSON

## 1 JOHN 4:1-11

<sup>4:1</sup>Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit who does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard is coming and is already in the world. <sup>4</sup>You are from God, dear children, and you have overcome the false prophets, because the one in you is greater than the one in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world. That is why they speak from a worldly perspective and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. The one who knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. That is how we can distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>The one who does not love has not known God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God's love for us was revealed: God has sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we may live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, if God loved us so much, we also should love one another.

### VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia. (John 14:23)



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## GOSPEL

## JOHN 15: 9-17



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

<sup>9</sup>"As the Father has loved me, so also I have loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you hold on to my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have held on to my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have told you these things so that my joy would continue to be in you and that your joy would be complete.

<sup>12</sup>"This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this: that someone lays down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you continue to do the things I instruct you. <sup>15</sup>I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. <sup>17</sup>These things I am instructing you, so that you love one another.

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



## **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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

# 380 Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You



1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose you; That, I  
 2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my  
 3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the



know, could nev - er be, For this heart would  
 dark - ened heart and mind, Else the world had  
 Fa - ther's bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our



still re - fuse you Had your grace not cho - sen me.  
 yet en - thrall'd me, To your heav'n - ly glo - ries blind.  
 ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and King en - throned a - bove.



You re - moved the sin that stained me, Cleans -  
 Now I wor - ship none a - bove you; For  
 Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion, Him



ing me to be your own; For this pur - pose  
 your grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,  
 by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed



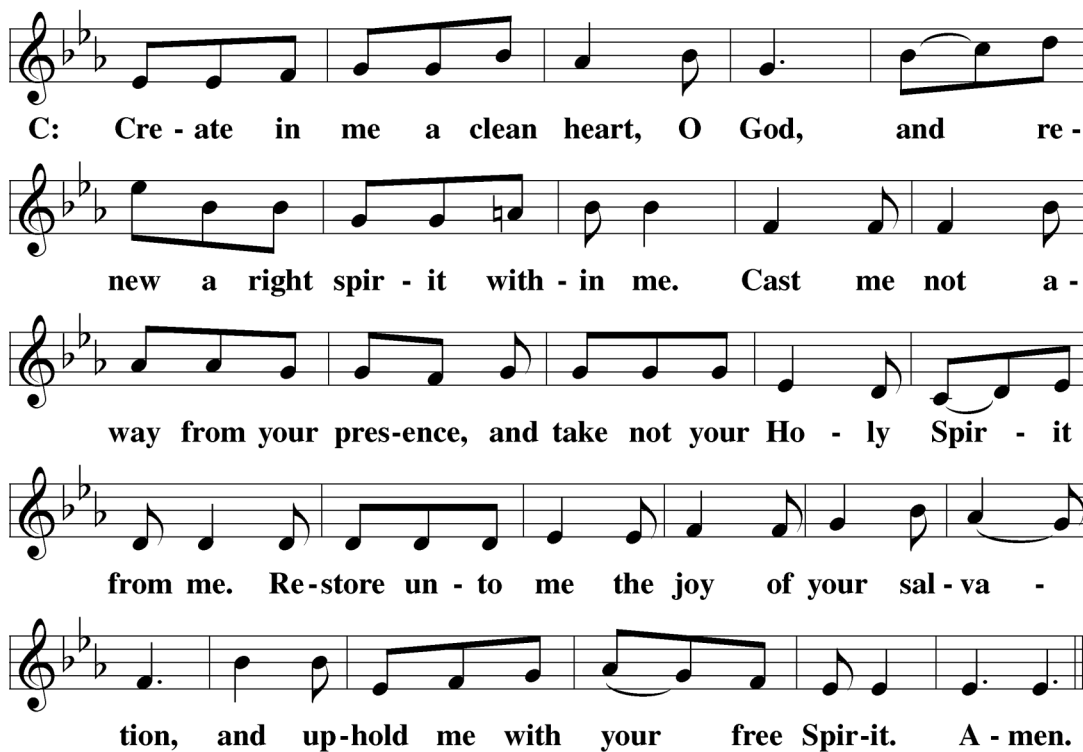
you or - dained me, That I live for you a - lone.  
 if I love you, You, O Fa - ther, loved me first.  
 ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

Text: Josiah Conder, 1789–1855, alt.

Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

**SERMON:** 1 John 4:1-6

*Test Before You Trust*



The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in a soprano voice part. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The lyrics are: "C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men."

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

**OFFERING** *(Thank you all who have mailed, dropped off or electronically given your gifts to our Lord. Offering baskets are in the back of Church for your convenience. May God continue to bless you with all you need, just as he promised.)*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**M/C:** 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

## THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *Sanctus*

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:

heav'n 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, bless - ed is he, 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.

The musical score is written for a single voice part in C major, 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some slurs. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff continues the melody and lyrics. The fourth staff continues the melody and lyrics. The fifth staff continues the melody and lyrics. The sixth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics are: 'C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts: heav'n 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, bless - ed is he, 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.'

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



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## LAMB OF GOD

*Agnus Dei*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us your peace. A - men.

## DISTRIBUTION

*Thank you for Respecting our Communion Practice. The Bible teaches that partaking of the body and blood of Christ is a special assurance of forgiveness to penitent believers in Christ. It is also an expression of our oneness in the doctrines we teach and believe. Christ wants us to administer this blessed sacrament responsibly. We would ask that if you are not a communicant member of St. Paul's Lutheran and desire the sacrament, please kindly speak with the pastor before the service.*

# 377 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



1 Dear Chris - tians, one and all, re - joice, With  
 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death  
 3 My own good works a - vailed me naught, No  
 4 But God be - held my wretch - ed state Be -  
 5 He spoke to his be - lov - ed Son: "'Tis



ex - ul - ta - tion spring - ing, And, with u -  
 brood - ed dark - ly o'er me. Sin was my  
 mer - it they at - tain - ing; My will a -  
 fore the world's foun - da - tion, And, mind - ful  
 time to have com - pas - sion. Then go, bright



nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly rap - ture  
 tor - ment night and day; In sin my moth - er  
 gainst God's judg - ment fought, No hope for me re -  
 of his mer - cies great, He planned my soul's sal -  
 Jew - el of my crown, And bring man - kind sal -



sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God  
 bore me. Yet deep and deep - er still  
 main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer  
 va - tion. A Fa - ther's heart he turned  
 va - tion. From sin and sor - row set



has done, How his right arm the vic - t'ry  
 I fell; Life had be - come a liv - ing  
 de - spair; Left naught but death to be my  
 to me, Sought my re - demp - tion fer - vent -  
 them free; Slay bit - ter death for them that



won. How dear - ly it has cost him!  
 hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.  
 share And hell to be my sen - tence.  
 ly; He gave his dear - est trea - sure.  
 they May live with you for - ev - er."



- 6 The Son obeyed his Father's will,  
     Was born of virgin mother,  
 And, God's good pleasure to fulfill,  
     He came to be my brother.  
 No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore;  
     A servant's form like mine he bore  
 To lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me —  
     I am your rock and castle.  
 Your ransom I myself will be;  
     For you I strive and wrestle.  
 For I am yours, your friend divine,  
     And evermore you shall be mine;  
 The foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "The foe shall shed my precious blood,  
     Me of my life bereaving.  
 All this I suffer for your good;  
     Be steadfast and believing.  
 Life shall from death the vict'ry win;  
     My innocence shall bear your sin,  
 And you are blest forever.
- 9 "Now to my Father I depart,  
     The Holy Spirit sending  
 And, heav'nly wisdom to impart,  
     My help to you extending.  
 He will a source of comfort be,  
     Teach you to know and follow me,  
 And in all truth will guide you.
- 10 "What I on earth have lived and taught  
     Be all your life and teaching;  
 So shall my kingdom's work be wrought  
     And honored in your preaching.  
 Take care that no one's man-made laws  
     Should e'er destroy the gospel's cause.  
 This final word I leave you."

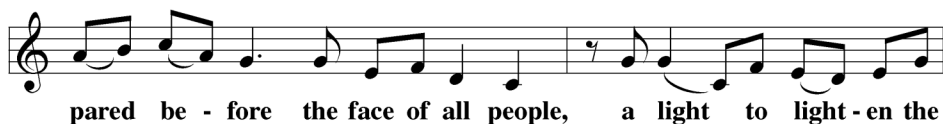
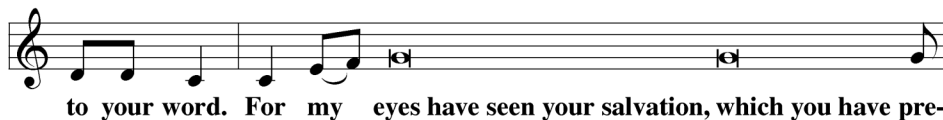
Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tune: NUN FREUT EUCH, LIEBEN CHRISTEN (87 87 887) *Etlich Cristlich lider*, Wittenberg, 1524.

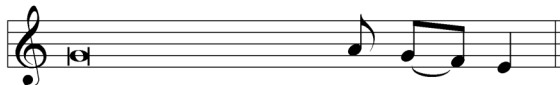
# THANKSGIVING

STAND

## SONG OF SIMEON *Nunc Dimittis*



M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper.  
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love  
for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



## CLOSING HYMN

### CHRISTIAN LOVE

491

## O Master of the Loving Heart



1 O Mas - ter of the lov - ing heart, The  
2 Your days were full of kind - ly acts; Your  
3 Your face was warm with sym - pa - thy; Your  
4 Oh, grant us hearts like yours, dear Lord, So



friend of all in need, We pray that we may  
speech was true and plain; Of those who ev - er  
hand God's strength re - vealed; Who saw your face or  
joy - ous, free, and true, That all your chil - dren,



be like you In thought and word and deed.  
sought you, Lord, None came to you in vain.  
felt your touch Were com - fort - ed and healed.  
ev - 'ry - where, Be drawn by us to you.

Text: Calvin W. Laufer, 1874–1938, alt.

Tune: AZMON (CM) Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829, alt.