

*Worship Booklet for Sheltering-in-Place*  
=== *Morning Prayer* ===  
*The Fifth Sunday of Easter: May 2, 2021*  
*The Season of Easter*  
**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Introduction** – Rev. Dr. Lois Williams

**Opening Hymn** – Gather #378, "All the Ends of the Earth," v. 1 & 3

Refrain:

All the ends of the earth, all you creatures of the sea,  
lift up your eyes to the wonders of the Lord.  
For the Lord of the earth, the Master of the sea,  
has come with justice for the world.

Verse 1:

Break into song at the deeds of the Lord,  
the wonders he has done in ev'ry age.  
*(to Refrain)*

Verse 3:

The Lord has made salvation known,  
faithful to the promises of old.  
Let the ends of the earth,  
let the sea and all it holds  
make music before our King!  
*(to Refrain)*

Officiant     On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*

Officiant     Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All**            *Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Priest         Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Officiant     Lord, open our lips.  
**Response**    *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

**All**            *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

Officiant     Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

**Christ our Passover** *Pascha nostrum*

*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

*A Reader leads the recitation*

***Reader and People together***

*Alleluia.*

*Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
therefore let us keep the feast,  
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.*

*Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.*

*The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.*

*So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.*

*Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
For since by a man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.  
For as in Adam all die, \*  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.*

**Psalm** *Psalm 22:24-30 Deus, Deus meus*

*A Reader leads the recitation*

***Reader and People together***

*My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.*

*The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"*

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.*

*For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*  
he rules over the nations.*

*To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.*

*My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the Lord'S for ever.*

*They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.*

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

## **The New Testament – Acts 8:26-40**

*Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

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.

*Reader: The Word of the Lord.*

*Response Thanks be to God.*

## **The Epistle – 1 John 4:7-21**

*Reader: A reading from the first letter of John.*

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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*Response Thanks be to God.*

**\*Gradual -- Celtic Alleluia**

*After a brief introduction, sing two times through*

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

Text: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
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**The Gospel – John 15:1-8**

*Officiant* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

*Response Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 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."

*Officiant* The Gospel of our Savior.

*Response Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**A Reflection – Rev. Lois**

(See **Canticle** on next page . . . )

**19 The Song of the Redeemed** *Magna et mirabilia Revelation 15:3-4*

*A Reader leads the canticle recitation*

***Reader and People together***

*O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done; \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.  
Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

**The Apostles' Creed**

*A Reader leads the recitation*

***Reader and People together***

*We believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins  
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Officiant     The Lord be with you.

**Response**    *And also with you.*

Officiant     Let us pray.

**All**           *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.*

*Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.*

Officiant Let us now pray:

### **Suffrage B**

*A Reader leads each versicle (V.) and the People respond (R.):*

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
**R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.**  
V. Day by day we bless you;  
**R. We praise your Name for ever.**  
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
**R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
**R. For we put our trust in you.**  
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;  
**R. And we shall never hope in vain.**

### **The Doxology**

**All** *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Reader:* Heavenly Father, we recognize that the greatest gift is the gift of love. May our offerings to Christ the Lord Church distribute this love to the world: the small world that we inhabit with the suffering people we know, and the larger world where the power of love is sorely needed. **Amen.**

*At this time, please add your prayers for yourself and the world, and thanks for God's blessings, out loud or in the chat.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

Officiant: Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer for Saint Philip and Saint James**

*Reader:* Almighty God, who gave to your apostles Philip and James grace and strength to bear witness to the truth: Grant that we, being mindful of their victory of faith, may glorify in life and death the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **A Prayer for Love**

*Reader:* Bless us with love, O Merciful God, that we may love as you love—that we may show patience, tolerance, kindness, caring, and love to all. Give us knowledge, O Giver of Knowledge, that we may be one with our universe and this fragile earth, our island home. O Compassionate One, grant us compassion that we may help all fellow souls in need. Bless us with your love, O God. Bless us with your love; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, we pray. *Amen.*

### **A Collect for Mission**

*Reader:* Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People together*

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*

*And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up ourselves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom [KRIS-us-tum]**

*Reader:* Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the

midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

*Response Thanks be to God.*

**Closing Hymn** – Gather #479, “I Am the Vine,” v. 1 & 2

**\*\*\* THIS IS A NEW SONG. SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MUSIC & LYRICS \*\*\***

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*

### **Announcements**

Don't forget to join us for virtual coffee hour after the service through Zoom!  
Check your email from Sandy for details.



# I Am the Vine

## Refrain

I am the vine, you are the branch-es. Re - main in  
me, you shall be fruit - ful. Love for the world,  
hope for the hope - less.

## Verses

1. If you love, then you must root your - self  
2. If you give, then you must give your - self  
in me; For the branch will  
to me; For the well will  
fail and die with-out the tree.  
soon run dry with-out the sea.

D.C.

Text: John 15:1-10; Bob Hurd, b.1950, © 1979  
Tune: Bob Hurd, b.1950, © 1979; acc. by Craig Kingsbury, b.1952  
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