



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND PRAIRIE

You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

Address

4729 S. Carrier Parkway
Grand Prairie, TX 75052



Phone

972-642-5683



Website

www.OurRedeemerGP.org



Facebook

[www.facebook.com/
OurRedeemerLutheranGP](http://www.facebook.com/OurRedeemerLutheranGP)



Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



May 2, 2021
Fifth Sunday of
Easter

Gathering

✦ INTRODUCTION

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.

✦ THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✦ HYMN OF REFLECTION – Be Not Afraid (ELW #388)

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community. Music: Jacques Berthier.

Text & music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. 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.

C **Amen.**

Word

✠ FIRST LESSON – 1 John 4:7-21

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Love 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. ¹⁸There 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. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those 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. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ GOSPEL – John 15:1-8

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.

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

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. ⁵I 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. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

✠ SERMON

✠ HYMN OF THE DAY – Take My Life, That I May Be (ELW #583)

Refrain

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

1 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain*

2 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain*

- 3 Take my voice and let me sing
 always, only for my King;
 take my lips and let them be
 filled with messages from thee. *Refrain*
- 4 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine;
 take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne. *Refrain*

Text: Frances R. Havergal, adapt. Music: William Dexheimer Pharris; arr. Mark Sedio
 Music ©1999 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
 Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P On this fifth Sunday of Easter, let us unite in Christ to pray for all in any need.

A brief silence.

P God of triune mystery, as you have formed your church to be one fruitful vine, strengthen our churches and our ecumenical connections with Christians across the street and around the globe. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P As you blessed Philip the evangelist, nurture our missionaries and theologians, our seminaries, our Sunday schools, and all adult discussions of the faith. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P As you brought the Ethiopian eunuch to baptism, lead all Christian communities to welcome people of each sexual identity, every skin color, and all national backgrounds. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P As you created an earth with countless forms of plant and animal life, train us to honor and maintain the bountiful earth that you intend for us and future generations. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P As you have provided food and drink for humankind, give to all persons wisdom in their use of wine, and strengthen recovering alcoholics in maintaining their sobriety. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P As you call humankind to live in love with one another, bring peace to nations, to neighborhoods, and to homes. Protect the oppressed and the vulnerable in every land, show us the path to nonviolence in all things. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P As you have promised to hear the cries of all the needy, listen now to the countless people around the world who are suffering from sickness, from the coronavirus, from injustice, from abuse, from starvation. Hear our pleas for India. We pray especially for those we name before you now, silently or aloud. . . . Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P As you have sustained each of us in your love, receive now the silent petitions of our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P We remember those who have died in the faith, especially today Athanasius the theologian and those we name in our hearts. As you have promised to bring your people into your strong and tender embrace, preserve us until we enter with all the saints into your everlasting mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O living God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

✠PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

Meal

✠GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

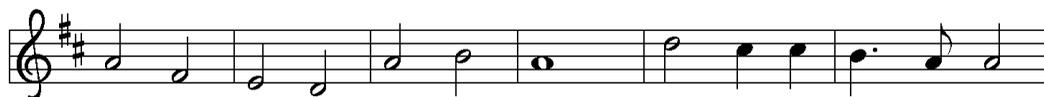
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

✠ **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 4, p. 153) See Next Page**



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



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS002056.

✠ **Eucharistic Prayer**

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

✠ COMMUNION HYMN – Eat This Bread (ELW #472)

- 1 "Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst."
- 2 Jesus Christ, bread of life,
those who come to you will not hunger.
Jesus Christ, risen Lord,
those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community, Music: Jacques Berthier.

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ BLESSING

P May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ SENDING HYMN – We Know That Christ Is Raised (ELW #449)

- 1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Hallelujah!
- 2 We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,
as living members of our Savior Christ.
Hallelujah!
- 3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.
Hallelujah!
- 4 A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing:
Hallelujah!

Text: John B. Geyer © John B. Geyer. All rights reserved.
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Copyright info

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS002056.

Permission to reprint, podcast and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A valid for 06/30/2020 – 06/29/2021. All rights reserved.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.