

*May 2, 2021*

*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*1675 Coates Avenue*

*Holbrook, NY*

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St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church exists by the grace of God to be the body of Christ in Holbrook. Therefore, we proclaim God's word to the world, teach the faithful, administer the sacraments, and show the love of Christ in care for our community.  
Welcome! Every person who comes to worship is a special gift from God. Thank you for being with us today!

## Serving in God's house

Presiding Minister: Rev. George Kirkup  
Reader: Scott Krause (9am)  
Organist: Marie Diane Melfi

*Stand*

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

*LSB 474:1, 3, 5*

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!

Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! *Refrain*

*ref* Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!

3 Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;

Heaven to earth, Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me. *Refrain*

5 City of God, Easter forever, golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,

River of life, saints and archangels, sing with creation to God the I AM! *Refrain*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession... I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

*Psalm 145*

A little while, and you will see me no longer;  
and again a little while, and you will see me.

**I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.**

Every day I will bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.

**The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,  
and all your saints shall bless you!

**My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**



**G** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

A little while, and you will see me no longer;  
and again a little while, and you will see me.

**G** Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**P** Glory be to God on High,

**G** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**
- P** Let us pray...
- C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

FIRST READING

*Acts 8:26–40*

**A** The First Reading for the Fifth Sunday of Easter is from Acts, chapter eight.

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.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

*Psalms 150*

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary;  
 praise him in his mighty heavens!  
**Praise him for his mighty deeds;**  
**praise him according to his excellent greatness!**  
 Praise him with trumpet sound;  
 praise him with lute and harp!  
**Praise him with tambourine and dance;**  
**praise him with strings and pipe!**  
 Praise him with sounding cymbals;  
 praise him with loud clashing cymbals!  
**Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!**  
**Praise the LORD!**

**A** The Epistle is from First John, chapter four.

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. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

ALLELUIA

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## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 15:1–8*

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

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine 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 be to Thee, O Christ.

**C** 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.

*Sit*

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

*LSB 633:1-2, 7*

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King,  
 Who has washed us in the tide flowing from His piercèd side. Alleluia!
- 2 Praise we Him, whose love divine gives His sacred blood for wine,  
 Gives His body for the feast—Christ the victim, Christ the priest. 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!

SERMON

**“Love, Actually”**

*Stand*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

(11AM only continue to SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT)

LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Let us pray... through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.  
**C** Amen, amen, amen.

Abide, O Dearest Jesus

LSB 919:1, 4, 6

- 1 Abide, O dearest Jesus, among us with Your grace  
That Satan may not harm us nor we to sin give place.
- 4 Abide with richest blessings among us, bounteous Lord;  
Let us in grace and wisdom grow daily through Your Word.
- 6 Abide, O faithful Savior, among us with Your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us to reach our home above.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
The Lord bless you. The Lord keep you. Alleluia. Amen

*In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true body and blood. In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant will examine himself and come to the Lord's Table seeking forgiveness of sins. As the catechism says, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" Therefore we expect all communicants to have been baptized, instructed in the Christian faith, repent of their sins, and believe that Jesus here offers His true body and blood for their forgiveness.*

### SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

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

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet right and salutary ... evermore praising God and saying:

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

LORD'S PRAYER (11AM only)

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

DISTRIBUTION

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All Who Believe and Are Baptized  
Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

LSB 601

LSB 540

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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PAULINE BENEDICTION

(9AM only)



**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Gene Maceiko, David Spengler, Charlie Mannino, Joyce Barbagallo, Arlene Enz, Shirley Koenig, Joan Wiemer, Kelly Please, Easton Clark, Dominic Strebel, Vic Gaudino

**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Marie Melfi, Nancy Cataldo, John Wimmer, Ken Skjeveland, Rich and Betty Kuerner, Elizabeth and Bill Armstrong, Mercedes Lee

**OUR SHUT-INS:** Dorothy Kranz, Charles and Ethel Nenstiel, MaryAnne Boucher

**THOSE IN THE MILITARY:** Jonathan Swedborg (Rangers), Mark Kummer (USN), Kristine Broger (USA), Michael Deck (USAF), Patrick Ullrich (USA)

**OUR CHILDREN:** Andrew Zeo, Erin Nicole Kuerner, Emma Ullrich, Rebecca Shannon, Emily Heuthe, Kaitlyn Martin, Casey Angelo, Ryleigh Barovgdsn, Liam Balroop, Thomas Cataldo

**FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S:** Gladys Kuehl, Bonnie Krumsiek, Michelle Melfi, Esther Laub, Bill Leidich, Jacquelyn Berntsen, Edward Greco, Denise Costo, Frank Sandmeyer, Sunil Balmick, Janice Hanhan, Balmick Persaud, Bonnie Rivera, Beth Laine Mattarella, Bob Selkirk, Carloyn Gronlund, Bonnie Schulman, Annette Barone, Kim Hoffes, Mary and Elaine Ott, Ann and Christine Schulz, Michele Marquardt, Michael and Joanne Yandlino, Augie & Frances Clements, Alex Wernikowski, Eric Harbord, Rose Neiver, Michael Schepp, Heather Williams, Dee Jannaracullo, Joan Heuthe, John Graft, Valerie Lake, John Ellermann