



# Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2nd, 2021

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## Welcome to Worship

We are an intentionally inclusive community proclaiming a warm welcome to people of every race, nationality, gender, sexual identity, age and ability into all aspects of our church life. ~ *Faith Lutheran Church*

We are a community touched by Christ and we seek to share that love by serving the community of Everett and our world. ~ *Central Lutheran Church*

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## GATHERING

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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Allegro in C Major*

DOMENICO SCARLATTI\*

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.

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

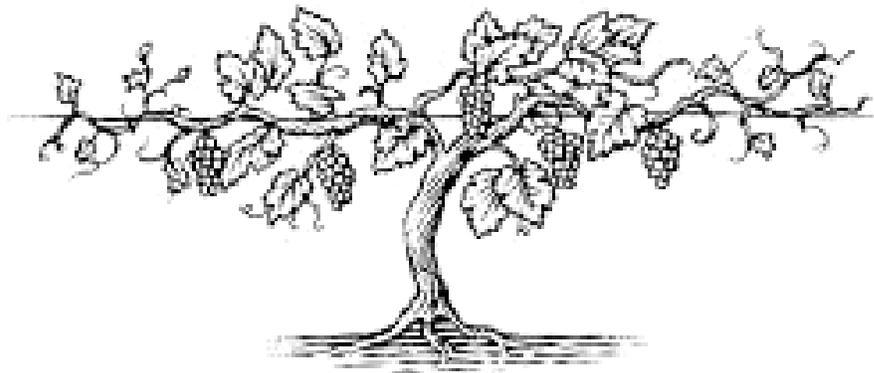
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water  
shared with strangers.

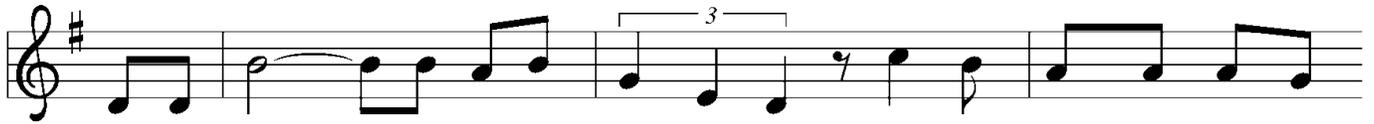
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and  
forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

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.**

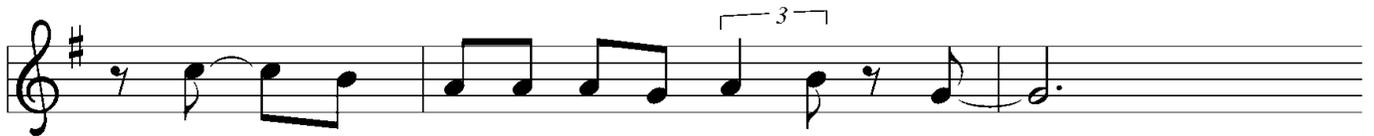




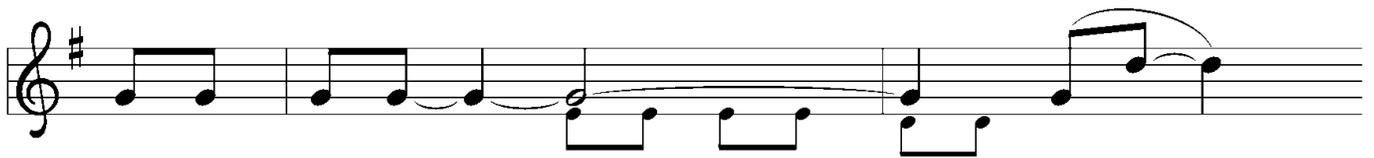
*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -*  
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



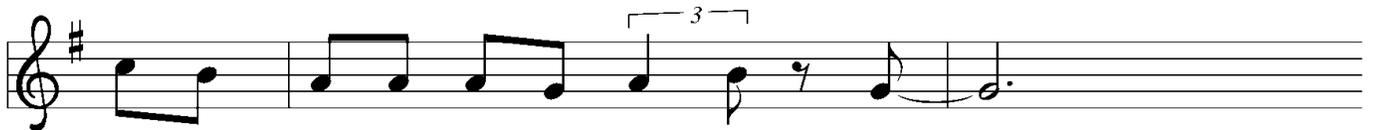
*nyen' kwen - khos'.* *Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*  
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



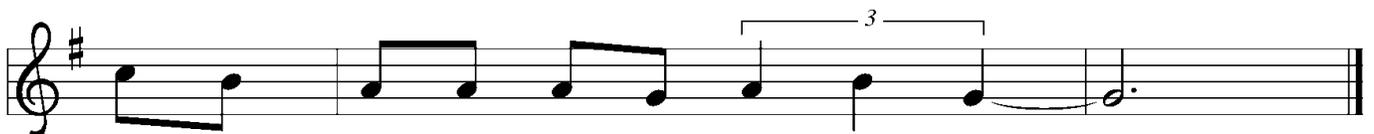
*Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo*  
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



*Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo*  
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

GREETING

P: Christ has called us to this place, gathered one and all by the Holy Spirit.

C: **As followers of Christ, we learn to love and live to serve.**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

SONG OF PRAISE 875

*Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!*

CAMEROON PRAISE

SING TWICE

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: 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

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### FIRST READING

#### **Acts 8:26-40**

<sup>26</sup>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.) <sup>27</sup>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 <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>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?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>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. <sup>40</sup>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.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING

#### **1 John 4:7-21**

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

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

R: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th Chapter



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

#### GOSPEL READING

##### **John 15:1-8**

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





Good -ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;



light is stron - ger than dark - ness; life is stron - ger than death; vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Lord in your mercy      C: **Hear our prayer**

#### PEACE

P: Peace of Christ be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

#### OFFERING

P: Trusting in the sure promises of Christ, And grateful for the Spirit's sustaining power,  
Let us bring our tithes and offerings to God.

#### OFFERTORY

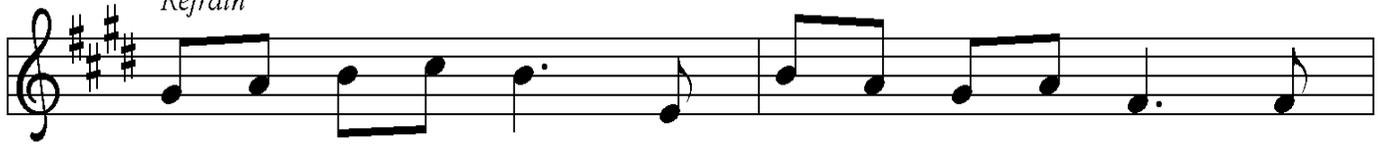
*Allegro in D Minor*

DOMENICO SCARLATTI\*

OFFERING HYMN 465

As the Grains of Wheat

*Refrain*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*



may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

THE 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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord who taught us to pray...

#### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

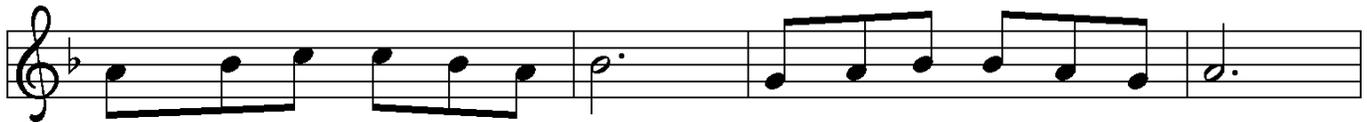
P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

*Refrain*

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



- 1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
- 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
- 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
- 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

*Refrain*

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.  
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.  
 this is the way we will live with you.

## DISTRIBUTION

## COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace now and forever, Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

## 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.**

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## SENDING HYMN 535

*Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

HALELUYAI PELO TSA RONA

*Refrain— sung twice each time*



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -  
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa  
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la. *End*  
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

*Repeat stanza, then sing refrain*



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.  
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

## SENDING

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!**

## DISMISSAL RESPONSE

*Presto in A Minor*

DOMENICO SCARLATTI\*

+ + +

**WORSHIP NOTES:** The sonatas by **Domenico Scarlatti** heard in today's service clearly reflect the "poet and madman" element in the later generations of the Italian Baroque.

The ***Allegro in D minor*** heard at the Offering can be heard with an ear towards the undeniable Iberian influence on Domenico Scarlatti's keyboard works, but its elegance and eloquence transcend national styles, evoking a meditative serenade by moonlight.

And, while not the most extreme examples of Scarlatti's often eccentric art, the ***Allegro in C Major*** and ***Presto in A Minor*** are nevertheless excellent representatives of the composer's more flamboyant style, with the Call to Worship in particular suggesting the trumpets, drums and guitars of *fiesta*..

Thanks to Jean & John Bergo for leading today's music!