



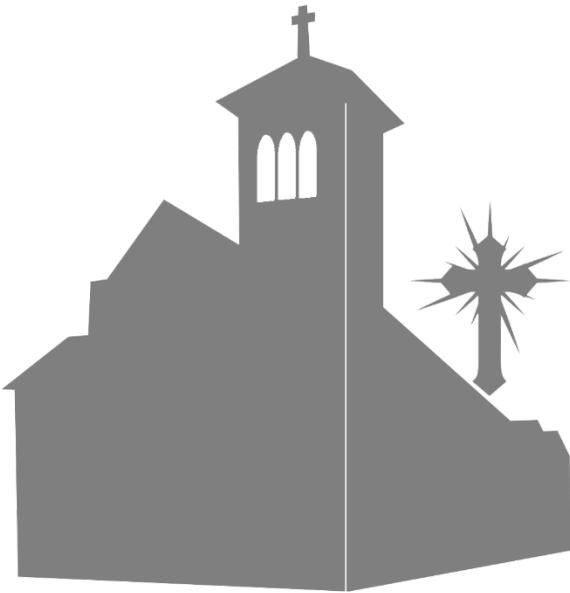
*St. James Lutheran Church*  
*Gettysburg, PA*

# *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*Sacrament of Holy Communion*

May 2, 2021

8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.



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.

*The 8:15 a.m. worship service will be livestreamed to our YouTube Channel, and will be made available for public viewing. Please be aware that you may be recorded during congregational singing, or when you go up to receive communion.*

*You can visit our YouTube Channel at [StJamesGettysburg.com/YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/StJamesGettysburg.com/YouTube)*

*If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with a member of the staff.*

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## *Gathering*

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

*Thank you for silencing your electronic devices.*

### Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Children's Piece*

Felix Mendelssohn

### 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.

Gathering Hymn: *Now the Green Blade Rises*

ELW 379



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Pastoral Greeting

**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.

Prayer of the Day

**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.

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## Word

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

First Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8

*God's love perfected in love for one another*

*Christ the vine*

Sermon, followed by a time of silent reflection

Hymn of the Day: *Let Us Talents and Toungues Employ*

ELW674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

*Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Prayers of Intercession

Petitions conclude: "God of mercy." our response: "**Hear our prayer.**"

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## Meal

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

Tithes and Offerings

## Offering Prayer

**P** *Let us pray:*

**C** **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. Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

### Preface Dialog

**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.**

## Words of Institution

### Lord's Prayer

**C** **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 forever. Amen.**

### Invitation

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat, and be satisfied.

## Distribution of Elements

### Table Blessing and Prayer after Communion

**P** *Let us pray:* 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.**

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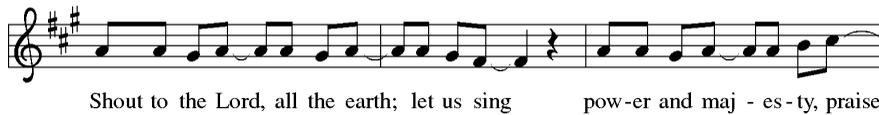
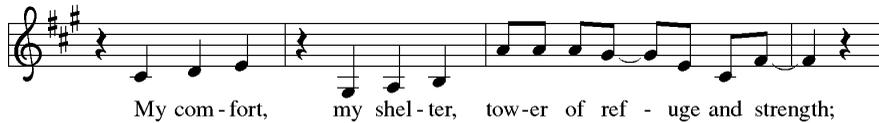
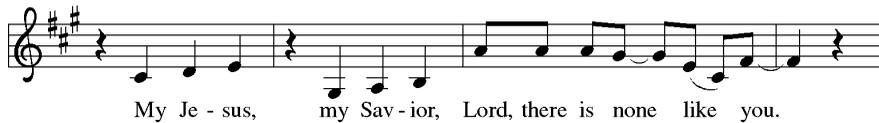
## *Sending*

*God blesses us in mission to the world*

## Blessing

**P** May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**



Dismissal

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

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

Postlude: Frolic

## Lift up in prayers

Chet	John	Laura	Dale	Greg	Rita
Elinor	Michael	Danielle	Martha	Jennifer	Tina
Lefty	Muriel	Joyce	Barry	Kerry	Tommy
Harry	Courtney	Linda	Nicholas	Mary	Virginia
Bob	Marc	Jean	Sean	Paul	
	Jennifer	Bud	Cindy	Richard	

## Flowers

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Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of college graduates Kendyll Bailey Fissel and Brice Jillian Gardner by their grandmother, Pegg Gardner

Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Milt Nicks by his wife, Barbara.

## Participating in Worship

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Presider: The Rev. Andrew R. Geib

Reader (recorded service): Katy Clowney

Preacher: The Rev. Michael E. Allwein

Organist: Steven Zumbrun

Assisting Minister: Lucinda Bringman

Choir (recorded service):

Reader (8:15 a.m.): Judy Seilhamer

Tom Bender and Sue Currens

Reader (10:45 a.m.): Diane Joiner

## Acknowledgements

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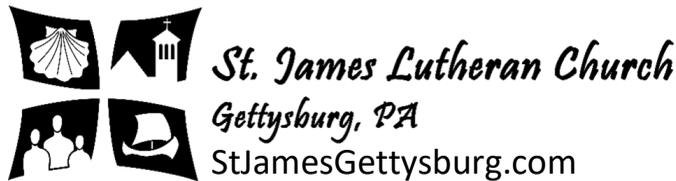
*Children's Piece*; Felix Mendelssohn © Consolidated Music Publishers, 1962.

*Now the Green Blade Rises*; Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958; Music: French carol; Text from Oxford Book of Carols, © Oxford University Press 1928; Tune: Public Domain.

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*; Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929; Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980; Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

*Shout to the Lord!*; Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965; Music: Darlene Zschech; Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin USA & Canada Integrity's Hosanna! Music.

*Frolic*; Max Reger © Consolidated Music Publishers, 1962.



*We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's house with its doors wide open.  
If you are passing through, Godspeed. If you are looking for a worship home, stay with us.  
We invite guests to join us, but most of all, to return often.*

Welcome to long-time Lutherans, Christians from every tradition, and people new to faith. Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe. Welcome to new visitors and old friends. Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socio-economic status, marital status, ability, and challenge. Welcome to believers and questioners, and to questioning believers. This is a place where you are welcome to celebrate and sorrow, rejoice, and recover. This is a place where lives are made new. Come and listen for the Holy Spirit calling you to love your neighbor wholeheartedly, seek justice, create peace, and practice compassion.

As members of the body of Christ, we are called to be ministers of reconciliation both in the church and in the world. Through our baptism we are reconciled to God through the saving grace of Christ Jesus and challenged by the Gospel to be agents of healing and love within our church and society. As a community of faith, we proclaim this statement of welcome.