

W e l c o m e

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Staff:

The Rev. Dr. David O. Guss, Fr., Ph.D.

Ms. Josie Largacha, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Adam Cahill, Choir Director

Mr. J. Sebastien Rogers, Organist

April 29th

ALTAR GUILD: Marina Wijesinha

ASSISTING MINISTER: Maria Martin

FELLOWSHIP: Josie Largacha

COUNTERS: Traute Baur & Don Bickel

USHERS: Raul & Miriam Calzadilla

Serving Next Week, May 6th

ALTAR GUILD: Josie Largacha

ASSISTING MINISTER: Maria Martin

COUNTERS: Traute Baur & Don Bickel

USHERS: Jose & Julia Rego

Congregational Council 2018-2019

Church Council:

Officers:

President: Raul "Bubba" Calzadilla

Vice President: Jacob Perry

Secretary: Charlene Grall

Treasurer: Julia Rego

Miguel Guerrero

William Hill

Laurie Hill

Tom Johnson

Bob Kramer

Josie Largacha

Maria Martin

Timi Nichols

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



A Reconciling Works Congregation



ORDER OF MASS

and

St. Mark's Messenger

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 29, 2018

10:00 A.M.

3930 LEJEUNE ROAD

CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33134

305.444.0425

EMAIL: SAINTMAR@BELLSOUTH.NET

WEB: WWW.STMARKSLUTHERANCORALGABLES.COM



“ST. MARK’S MESSENGER”

Welcome

TO ALL OUR VISITORS, FRIENDS, AND MEMBERS: Welcome to worship at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, a multicultural, all-inclusive ecumenical ministry to the community. You are encouraged to join us for refreshments following worship. Please sign our guest book located at the church’s front entrance. Restrooms are located on the other side of the east gate as you exit the sanctuary. If you are interested in becoming part of this loving church family, please speak to Pastor today. St. Mark’s is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and welcomes all believers to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please visit us www.stmarkslutheranorcalgables.org. Thank you for being with us today!

INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH: Please consider inviting a family member, a friend, or a neighbor to church with you next Sunday. Share the Good News!

MINISTRIES

NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING IS THIS TUESDAY, May 1st

Church Council meets this Tuesday, May 1st at 7:00 PM. All Church Council members are encouraged to be in attendance.

NEXT MUSIC LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING – TUESDAY, MAY 8th

Our next Music Leadership Team meeting will be held next Tuesday, May 8th, 7:30 PM. Team members, please plan to be present.

Recruiting New Members for our new Membership Campaign Team

A new membership campaign team has formed to help identify new friends and neighbors in the community who are interested in finding a church home. Our next meeting will take place Tuesday, May 15th at 7:30 PM. Please consider being part of this new effort.

PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO WELCOME FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Let us all make a special effort to always make our friends and neighbors welcome at St. Mark’s: 1)introduce them to the Pastor, 2) invite them to sign the guest book, and 3) bring them to fellowship hour to enjoy fellowship and meet new friends. Also, if you know of a friend or neighbor who would be interested in joining St. Mark’s, please see Josie or Pr. Guss. Thank you for your support!

CARE NETWORK

Pastor and Church Council are seeking interested individuals who are willing to be part of St. Mark’s Care Network. This group of individuals sends cards, makes phone calls, and occasionally makes visits to the homes of members and friends of the congregation who may not have been able to attend church for a while and/or who need some good cheer. Please see Pastor or Administrative Assistant Josie if you are interested in serving on this vital and important ministry.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us Pray:

C: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor ✠ And give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW# 449

We Know That Christ Is Raised

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther’s splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
 The Spir - it’s fis - sion shakes the church of God,
 as Christ’s new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
 Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932
 Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924
 Text © John B. Geyer

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SENDING

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord! **C:** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – J. Sebastien Rogers, Organist

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COMMUNION HYMN

“We have been told”

Music by: David Haas, Vocal Arrangement by: David Haas and Marty Haugen

Text: David Haas, from John 15: 5, 15, 13

Refrain:

We have been told,
we’ve seen his face,
and heard his voice
alive in our hearts;
‘Live in my love with
all your heart, as the
Father has loved me,
so I have loved you.’

Verse 1:

‘I am the vine, you are
the branches, and all
who live in me will bear
great fruit.’

(Go To Refrain)

Verse 3:

‘No greater love is
there than this: to
lay down one’s life,
for a friend.’

(Go To Refrain)

COMMUNION HYMN

“In His Time” - Words and Music by: Diane Ball

Verse 1:

In His time...In His time;
He makes all things beautiful in His time.
Lord, please show me ev’ry day
As You’re teaching me Your way,
That You do just what You say in Your
time.

Verse 2:

In Your time...In Your Time;
You make all things beautiful in Your time.
Lord, my life to You I bring;
May each song I have to sing
Be to You a lovely thing in Your time.

(After the Eucharistic meal has ended and everyone has returned to their seats, please stand.)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP TODAY TO HONOR OUR CHOIR AND MUSIC LEADERSHIP TEAM

Please join us for a Special Fellowship after the Mass today as we honor our Chancel Choir and Music Leadership Team! A big thank you to all our choir members, Choir Director Adam Cahill, and our Organist Sebastien Rogers for all the beautiful music.

BARBECUE SUNDAY, MAY 6TH

Please join us on Sunday, May 6th for a fun afternoon to enjoy a barbecue after the service. The meat will be provided. Please bring a side dish. We have placed a sign up sheet on the board so you can let us know what side dish you will be bringing.

COMING TO CHURCH IS IMPORTANT!

As we work together to expand our programs of ministries, all members and friends of the parish are requested to regularly attend weekly worship.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT OFFERING A RIDE TO YOUR FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR TO WORSHIP?

Here is an ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL IDEA! Have you considered offering a ride to your neighbor, friend, or family member to come to church? What a great way to help a friend and grow our church. Think about it!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION – NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 6th

Please plan to stay for fellowship hour next Sunday immediately after worship as we plan to sing Happy Birthday and celebrate all those members and friends in the parish who are celebrating their birthday during the month of May.

NEW CONCEPT – BECOME PART OF MINISTRY WITHOUT ATTENDING A MEETING

Please review and identify any one of the list of individual ministries in the areas of Christian Education, Evangelism, Property, and Leadership in which you are interested in serving. Please let Pr. Guss, Administrative Assistant Josie, or any Church Council member know of your interest to serve. Join the team and become a valuable member of a ministry “*doing God’s work, with our hands.*”

- A. WORSHIP MINISTRIES (6) – altar guild, lectors/worship assistants, ushers/greeters, vestry, Chancel Choir, Children’s Choir
- B. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES (4) – Children Sunday Church School, Adult Bible Study, First Communion & Confirmation Ministry, Youth Ministry
- C. EVANGELISM MINISTRIES (11 ministries) – Prayer Ministry, Visitation Ministry, Counseling Ministry, Care Network, Fellowship Ministry, Community Outreach, Transportation Ministry, Media Ministry, E.L.C.A. Hunger Fund Ministry, Discretionary Fund Ministry
- D. LEADERSHIP MINISTRIES (4): Finance Bookkeeping Committee, Property Work Team, Music Leadership Team, Church Council
- E. INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S SCHOOL

(Please see stmarkslutherancoralgables.org for more information on each ministry.)

Happy Birthday!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO APRIL CELEBRANTS

04/01 Frank Garcia, 4/02 Tom Tripod, 4/04 Lewis Price, 4/06 Betty Linquist,
4/12 Stephen Baur, 4/17 Zuly Bassave, 4/17 Christina Baur, 4/19 Robert Kramer
4/19 Brian Calzadilla, 4/19 Ariana Aly, 4/20 Judy Woodrome, 4/21 Cindy Tyler
4/22 Traute Baur, 4/29 Olivia Bodan Martin 4/29 Barbara Givens

If we missed listing your birthday, forgive us, Please call the church office
and update your information at 305/444-0425

This Week ... **AT ST. MARK'S**

SUNDAY 04/29: Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m.: Choir Practice
10:00 a.m.: Family Worship Mass and Children's Time
11:00 a.m.: Fellowship and Refreshments

TUESDAY 05/01:

7:00 p.m.: Church Council Meeting

SUNDAY 05/06: Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:15 a.m.: Choir Practice
10:00 a.m.: Family Worship Mass and Children's Time
11:00 a.m.: Barbecue following the Mass

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

COMMUNION CANTICLE

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

(Please be seated.)

EUCCHARISTIC MEAL:

(Congregation invited to kneel during Communion by Intinction.)

ORDER OF MASS

Mass Intention: To the Glory of God!

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 that we read of 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.

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav-en 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.

PRELUDE & PEALING OF THE ST. MARK'S MEMORIAL CARILLON

WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the Name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, our God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(A time for personal confession and prayer)

P: Most merciful God,

C: You asked for my hands, my mouth, and my eyes to serve. I've given only a small part of my life to you. Forgive me, renew me, and send me into the world with a changed heart, O God, that I might live to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his only Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained Pastor of the Church of Jesus Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

INTRODUCTORY RITE *(Please greet your fellow worshippers with a sign of peace.)*

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

C: And also with you.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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 in remembrance of me.

P: 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 in remembrance of me.

Acclamation *Great Thanksgiving*

Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a-gain.

Music: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949
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P: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen *Great Thanksgiving*

A-men, a-men, a-men.

Music: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949
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Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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OFFERING

Offertory Anthem: "I Am the Vine" Music by: Allen Pote Text Based on John 15: 5-13

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us Pray.

C: **Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.**

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 up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

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:

APOSTLES' CREED

A: Let us confess the words of our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

FAMILY PRAYER

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ, and for all people according to their needs. (*Congregation may be seated.*)

(*After each prayer petition is offered:*)

P: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayers.

A: We Pray for: Jennifer Rego, Heloise Woods, Callista Kulugammanna, Johanna Johnson, Steven Taylor, Josefina Kaye, Josefina Cortina, Sharon Arbuz, The Pacheco Family, Petra Lichtenberger, Stephanie Delgado, Irene Hahn, Helmuth Wagner, Hans Winzer, Renardo Hardy, Steven Arbuz, Frank Arduini, David Calzadilla, Cindy Crebbin, Dottie Bobbitt, Kevin Padron, Janine Weideman, Adriaan Visser, Betty Lindquist, Jacob Mestre, Diane Maupin, Robyn Moore, The Jacob Family, Michelle Sanchez, Ricardo Guerrero, Julia Rego, Alicia Corrales, Lois Gee, Walt Stone, Anne Mace, Jeremiah David Hines, Michael Daley, Annette Perez, Pastor Arnold Perry, Betty Phillips, Arland Tyler Sr., Arland Tyler Jr., Werner Baur, Alejandro Orantes, Maria Teresa Ruiz Montalvo Bombino, Susie Holloway

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

APOSTOLIC 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.



(Pass your prayer requests to the center aisle during the hymn of the day.)

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
 to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
 high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,
 we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
 to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
 high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right
 hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
 to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
 high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
 A - men, a - men.

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

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.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt.
 Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin
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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 would bear fruit, for apart from him, they could do nothing.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“I 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.

(Please be seated.)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: Excited To Be The Church!

HOMILY: Once You Jump Up, How You Come Down Is What Really Matters!

P: The Lord be with you. **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.

(Please be seated.)

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, the Ethiopian is baptized by Philip.

A: A reading from Acts, the 8th chapter.

²⁶An 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.) ²⁷So 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 ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

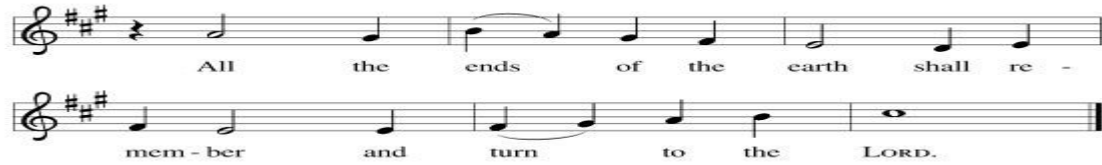
“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As 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?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When 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. ⁴⁰But 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.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31

The refrain is sung once by the cantor, then by the congregation at the beginning and ending of the psalm. The psalm is chanted responsively with the congregation singing the **bold** verses.



Psalm 22:27
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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PSALM TONE



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ²⁵From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
- ²⁶**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!
May your hearts | live forever!**
- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
- ²⁸**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
who rules o- | ver the nations.**
- ²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,
shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.
- ³⁰**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**
- ³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!" **R**

SECOND READING: 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.

A: A reading from 1st John, the 4th chapter.

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.

A: The Word of the Lord. **C:** Thanks be to God.

(Please stand.)

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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I am the vine, you | are the branches.* Those who abide in me and I in them | bear much fruit.