

**OUR WORSHIP TODAY, The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter****GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME**

*Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements*

**CONFESSIONAL PRAYER**

Pastor: As we celebrate our Easter Season, we approach your altar with love for You and our concern for the price you paid for us on the cross. Lord, we realize the difficulties that we face, and we confess the poor job we have done with our response to your sacrifice. For that, dear Lord, we make our confession to you this day.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

**ABSOLUTION**

Pastor:

As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I, as a called and ordained servant of The Word, and by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the, Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** 193 Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise, vs 1,2,5; Pipe Organ

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison):**

**Dearest Jesus, you are our vine as we are your fruit. Thank you Lord for nurturing us as we grow in you, that in you we never suffer want and are blessed every day of our lives. Amen**

**First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, 8:26-40**

## Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

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.**

**PSALM - Psalm 150 (ESV) (Recited whole verse by whole verse, congregation in BOLD)**

Let Everything Praise the Lord; 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!**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is , now, and forever shall be, world without end. Amen**

**THE EPISTLE LESSON: 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:1-6(ESV)**

#### Test the Spirits

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.**

**THE ALLELUIA:**

**Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, alleluia!**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: (ESV)**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to you Oh Lord.**

Gospel John 15:1-8I

#### I Am the True Vine

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch in me 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 cleft 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. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you Oh Christ.**

**SERMON      “The Story of the Ethiopian Eunuch”      Pastor Steve Dygert**

**SERMON HYMN: 575 Abide With Me, vs 1-5**

**OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH:** The Nicene Creed (C)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the 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 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 on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

"And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped 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."

**THE OFFERING:** 184 Christ the Lord is Risen Today **Pr. Steve**

*We will sing the Doxology as the offering is brought forward to the altar.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:**

**PRAYERS OF PRAISE,** Let us Pray: *(Prayer Response)* Lord in your Mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER; WORDS OF INSTITUTION; PREPARATION OF THE TABLE; THE DISTRIBUTION; THE COMMUNION DISMISSAL BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN:** 583 Come, We that Love the Lord – *A song of praise from the Ethiopian Eunuch*

**AARONIC BLESSING**

**THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL**

Congregational Song, **Let There Be Peace on Earth**

Let there be peace on earth	Let peace begin with me
And let it begin with me	Let this be the moment now
Let there be peace on earth	With every step I take
The peace that was meant to be	Let this be my solemn vow
With God as our father	To take each moment
Brothers all are we	And live each moment
Let me walk with my brother	In peace eternally
In perfect harmony	Let there be peace on earth
	And let it begin with me

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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**WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN!** Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, **please place your cell phones on mute** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

**WE WELCOME ALL OF OUR VISITORS!:** Welcome to our family today! We are so happy you chose to visit us today. If you are looking for a church home, feel free to call Pastor Steve and let us introduce ourselves to you. God Bless you and welcome to His church!

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Please use a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

**We Serve Today, April 15th:**

*Reader: Nancy Nordell*

*Offering: Dean Carson, Jeanne Keyse*

*Communion: Jeanette Barker, Geri McGary, Jeanne Keyser*

*Greeter: Bev Cisco*

**We Serve Next Sunday, May 6th:**

*Reader: Jeanne Keyser*

*Offering: Bob Wilgus, Frank Pierce*

*Communion: Bev Cisco, Bubbles Burress, Peggie Sue Dygert*

*Greeter: Bubbles Burress*

Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steve Dygert

Bible Study 1: Sunday 11 A.M. Sunday

Asst. Pastor: Rev Tony Alonzo

Pastor's email: [pastor@oslc-lcmc.com](mailto:pastor@oslc-lcmc.com)

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Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M

Website: <http://www.oslc-lcmc.com>

Bible Study 2: Wednesdays 10 A.M. At OSLC

Office: (941) 249-5108

