



Enriching the lives of people we meet by sharing the grace of God.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024
Pastor Jonathan Rockey



"The Vine", by Nina Magness



1801 NW 5th Avenue Gainesville FL 32603
352-376-2062 | office@flcgainesville.org | www.flcgainesville.org
www.facebook.com/FLCgainesville | www.instagram.com/flcgainesville

THE PRELUDE **Fugue in G minor ("The Little") by J. S. Bach**

(Please stand.)

THE WELCOME AND SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OPENING HYMN **When Morning Gilds the Skies** *LSB 807*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 When morning gilds the skies,
My heart, awaking, cries,
 "May Jesus Christ be praised!"
When evening shadows fall,
This rings my curfew call:
 "May Jesus Christ be praised!"</p> <p>2 When mirth for music longs,
This is my song of songs:
 "May Jesus Christ be praised!"
God's holy house of prayer
Hath none that can compare
 With "Jesus Christ be praised!"</p> <p>3 No lovelier antiphon
In all high heav'n is known
 Than "Jesus Christ be praised!"
There to the_ eternal Word
The_ eternal psalm is heard:
 "May Jesus Christ be praised!"</p> | <p>4 Ye nations of mankind,
In this your concord find:
 "May Jesus Christ be praised!"
Let all the earth around
Ring joyous with the sound:
 "May Jesus Christ be praised!"</p> <p>5 Sing, suns and stars of space,
Sing, ye that see His face,
 Sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"
God's whole creation o'er,
Both now and evermore
 Shall Jesus Christ be praised!</p> |
|---|--|

THE INVOCATION *LSB 184*

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

C: Amen. *Matthew 28:19b; (18:20)*

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. *Hebrews 10:22*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C: who made heaven and earth. *Psalm 124:8*

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Psalm 32:5*

(Please continue standing or kneel.)

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *LSB 184*

P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed.

Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives the power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

(Please stand.)

THE KYRIE

Mark 10:47

Cantor

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the

Congregation

Cantor

Lord.

Congregation

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,

Cantor

For the Reign of God, and for

Congregation

Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor

peace through - out the world,

for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Cantor

Lord.

Congregation

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,

Cantor

For your peo - ple here, who have

Congregation

Lord, have mer - cy.

come to give you praise,

for the strength to live your Word,

let us pray to the

Cantor

Lord.

Congregation

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,

Cantor

Help, save, and de -

Congregation

Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor

fend us, O God.

Congregation

A - men.

NOW THE FEAST

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,

all of cre - a - tion sings for joy

to the God of life and love and

free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -

er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God. *to Refrain*

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to

make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new.

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

*LSB 189
2 Timothy 4:22*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Let us pray together:

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Rockey

THE FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

ESV Bible Page 917; Large Print Page 1089

²⁶An 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. ²⁷And 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 ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And 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?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And 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. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING

1 John 4:1-21

ESV Bible Page 1023; Large Print Page 1212

¹Beloved, 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. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and 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. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We 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.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In 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. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides 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 testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also 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 been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand.)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

ESV Bible Page 901; Large Print Page 1071

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

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every 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. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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. ⁵I 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. ⁶If 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. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By 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.

THE NICENE CREED

LSB 191

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.

(Please be seated.)

THE SERMON

**"Bearing Fruit for the One Who Died
and Rose for Me -- Easter Changes our Lives"
Pastor Jonathan Rockey**

(Please stand.)

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

O Blessed Spring

LSB 595

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 O blessèd spring, where Word and sign
Embrace us into Christ the Vine:
Here Christ enjoins each one to be
A branch of this life-giving Tree. | 4 As winter comes, as winters must,
We breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing
And trust the promise of the spring. |
| 2 Through summer heat of youthful years,
Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
Sustained by Christ's infusing rain,
The boughs will shout for joy again. | 5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,
Be praised for this blest mystery:
That Word and water thus revive
And join us to Your Tree of Life. |
| 3 A Cappella:
When autumn cools and youth is cold,
When limbs their heavy harvest hold,
Then through us, warm, the Christ will
move
With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love. | |

**Prayer Requests may be texted to 352-448-7240 during the service.
Please include your name in the request.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 179

Matthew 6:9

(Please be seated.)

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BENEDICTION FOR FOLKS AT HOME

LSB 212

Numbers 6:24-26

THE OFFERING

THE VOLUNTARY **Adagio from Voluntary VI by John Stanley**

(Please stand.)

THE OFFERTORY **As The Grains of Wheat**

Refrain

Congregation:



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.

Verses



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

to Refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.

all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

Presider: *Congregation:*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

Presider: *Congregation:*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

Psalms 136

right to give God thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

HOLY

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
 Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-28;
 Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATION 1

Pastor: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

Congregation

Christ has died. Christ is risen.
 Christ will come, come again.

LAMB OF GOD

John 1:29

Congregation: Lamb of God,
Congregation or Assistant: you take a - way the sin of the
 you broke the bonds of sin and of
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 death:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

(Please be seated.)

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE COMMUNION MUSIC

- LSB 680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise
- LSB 894 For the Fruits of His Creation
- LSB 542 When I Behold Jesus Christ

THE DISMISSAL

(Please stand.)

THANKS BE TO YOU

Congregation:

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
 2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
 Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of



life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Rais-ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

THE POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray.

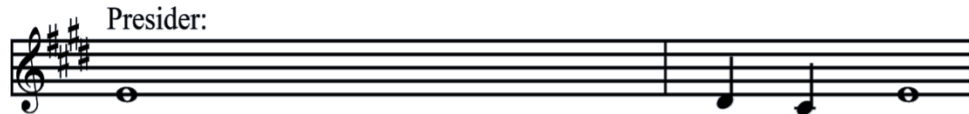
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

LSB 202
Numbers 6:24-26

Presider:



May God bless us and keep us.
May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.
May God look on us with favor and give us peace.

Congregation



A - men.

MUSICAL SETTING: Marry Haugen
©1990 by GIA Publications, Inc.
All rights reserved. Used by permission. International Copyright Secured
Prepared by www.DigitalSongsAndHymns.com

THE CLOSING HYMN

Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing

LSB 691

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing,
May we ripen and increase,
Fruit to life eternal growing,
Rich in love and joy and peace. | 2 Laden branches freely bearing
Gifts the Giver loves to bless;
Here is fruit that grows by sharing,
Patience, kindness, gentleness. |
| 3 Rooted deep in Christ our Master,
Christ our pattern and our goal,
Teach us, as the years fly faster,
Goodness, faith, and self-control. | 4 Fruitful trees, the Spirit's tending,
May we grow till harvests cease;
Till we taste, in life unending,
Heaven's love and joy and peace. |

THE POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in C Major by Michael McCabe

Flowers provided today by First Lutheran Church

**If you would like to speak with Pastor Jonathan Rockey, call 907-841-4066 or send an email to jonrock53@mtaonline.net.
You may also reach him by calling the church office.**

*Family Night Out
Mother's Day Theme*

Friday May 10th
5:30-7:30
3yrs and up

Save the date

TREAT MOM TO A NIGHT OFF.
BRING THE KIDDOS TO
FIRST LUTHERAN CHUGH

Kid friendly dinner provided.

R.S.V.P to the church office at
office@flcgainesville.org or 352-376-2062



**HAPPY
TEACHER'S WEEK**

Let's show how much we care.

**GIFT CARDS for
OPEN ARMS**

<u>\$10-\$15</u>	<u>\$20-25</u>
CHICK-FIL-A	GAS
PUBLIX	DOOR DASH
STARBUCKS	UBER
DUNKIN DOUGNUTS	TARGET
	ULTA
	WALMART

PLEASE TURN INTO LEEANN BY APRIL 30TH



**SAVE
LIVES**

May 5th | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

First Lutheran Church
1801 NW 5th Ave.
Gainesville, FL

\$20 E-gift card for all donors!

LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers



First Lutheran Church
Gainesville

**SPRING
FOOD DRIVE**

Bringing Spring and Summer Joy, One Plate For All

GAINESVILLE COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Join our Food Drive and help ease the burden of summer hunger.
Every food donation brings happiness to those in need.
Be a food hero this summer and make your contribution today!



**Please deliver your gift to the Narthex or
church office by May 26th**

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI-SYNOD



Sunday

8:30am Coffee and Donuts
8:45am Adult Bible Study
10:00am Worship with Holy Communion
10:30am approx. during Worship Youth Sunday School
11:15am(after Worship) Bell Choir practice (resumes April 28th)
11:15am Fellowship Lunch - See ya back in the Fall Have a great Summer
4:00pm Youth Middle/High School Group at Abiding Savior

Monday

Open Arms Chapel – 9:30am in Sanctuary (every Monday)
Card Ministry – 1:00pm in the FLC Library (first Monday of the month)

Tuesday

Miriam Circle – 10:00am in the FLC Library (second Tuesday of the month)
LSF Bible Study – breaking for the Summer

Wednesday

Seeking Hearts Bible Study – breaking for the Summer. Will resume late August early September
Choir Practice – 5:30pm in the Sanctuary

Thursday

FLC Ladies Book Club – 6:00pm (third Thursday of the month)

Godwink: Books for Kids collecting for Lake Forest Elementary. Give the kiddos something to feed their brain over the Summer.

Fellowship Lunch – See ya in the Fall

Miriam Circle – monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month from September through May at 10:00 in the church library.

LSF Bible Study – breaking for the Summer

Adult Bible Study – Sundays in the Besalski Fellowship Hall at 8:45am –Join us for more in-depth discussion, interaction and application of the text to your life. We are studying the Book of Acts.

Seeking Hearts Bible Study – breaking for the Summer

FLC Card Ministry meets the first Monday of every month at 1:00pm. When requesting a prayer, please give address of the person or your phone number so we can make contact.

Donations of cards are welcome as are new members. See Karen Natzke for more information.

Master Builder Center – address the critical needs of the impoverished and abandoned children of Ethiopia. Food, clothing, shelter, education and the Good News of the Gospel are provided. More info is in the Narthex, and you may see Martha Cade or Marilyn Spaeth.

SERVING TODAY

STAFF

<u>Altar Guild</u> Christine Dietrich Judy Varady	<u>Fellowship Lunch</u> Finals Week-no lunch	<u>Lector</u> Dian Dudeck	<u>Production Team</u> Alex Angie Burr Brandi Dotson	<u>Pastor Jonathan Rockey</u> Vacancy Pastor	<u>Stephanie Smith</u> Music Director
<u>Card Ministry</u> Julie Schilling	<u>Communion Assist</u> Dian Dudeck	<u>Music</u> Stephanie Smith Organist	<u>Ushers</u> John Dudeck Ken Dudeck Matthew Dudeck Jim Gorske	<u>Angie Burr</u> Director of Open Arms Child Development Center	<u>Leeann Lee</u> Church Administrator

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated in our worship every Sunday.

We welcome to our communion table all baptized Christians who:

- come confessing their sins to God,
- believe in Jesus Christ as the only Savior from sin,
- desire to live a new life in Christ, and
- recognize the true bodily presence of the Lord Jesus in and with the bread and the wine.

Young people who have not yet taken part in our Communion preparation classes are invited to come forward with their parents for a blessing.

- We have gluten free wafers on the platens for those allergic to wheat.
- Grape juice is also available in the center portion of the communion trays for those wishing not to partake in wine.

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS– Please complete the Fellowship Log when it is passed
Please stop and speak with Pastor Rockey.

*The bold portions are the parts the congregation say together.

*Prayers of the Church are prayers for others throughout the world, family, and friends.

*Confession and Absolution we confess our sins to God and Pastor grants us forgiveness

*Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday

Available in the Narthex

Cry Room Children’s Bags Bathrooms

Scan with a QR reader on your smartphone to visit our website.



Easy to give. Scan the QR reader on your smartphone to visit our giving site.