

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**May 2, 2021**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*While in-person Worship services are suspended, Montgomery Presbyterian Church will be recording services. The following is an order of service that you can use to follow along with the recorded service, or use to read and reflect on your own. The service will be posted on the church's Facebook page, on YouTube, and will be linked to the MPC website, [www.mpchurch.net](http://www.mpchurch.net). Thank you for your cooperation and patience during this challenging time.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Elder of the Month: Susie Lewis, 513-379-6478
- Deacon of the Month: Sue Pouos, 513-376-1623

**INTROIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*from Joanna Harader*

We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

We come because we seek to abide in Christ.

The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, productive.

If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.

We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.

We gather for worship now to the glory of the One God: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.

Let us worship God.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess to God and one another our failure to love our neighbor.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you have loved us. We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Silence is kept*

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

You have already been cleansed by the word that God has spoken to you. In baptism God claimed you and joined you to Christ, as branches to a vine. Believe in the promise given to you: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Come, Holy Spirit, that through your word we may be guided in the love of God for all the world. Amen.

## **FIRST READING**

*Psalm 1*

Happy are those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread,  
or sit in the seat of scoffers;  
but their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.  
They are like trees  
planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.  
The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.  
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

## **SECOND READING**

*John 15:1-8*

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 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. 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. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## MESSAGE

Rev. Ben Shaw

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### INVITATION TO TABLE

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

In every time and every age...their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you...we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Blessed are you...now and forever. Amen.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

... And now hear as we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 debts  
as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **HYMN**

*Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

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## **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all this day, and unto your life eternal. Amen.

## **POSTLUDE**