

Francis Asbury United Methodist Church

“Fifth Sunday of Easter”

May 02, 2021
Communion Sunday

COUNT DOWN

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Ed Martin

PRELUDE

Rebecca Willett

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God is the True Vine,

People: And we are the branches.

Leader: Connected to God.

People: Connected to bear fruit!

Leader: Connected to God.

People: Or we wither away.

Leader: Connected to God.

People: Or useless!

Leader: We come to worship God, who is the True Vine.

People: God, teach us how to remain connected so that we might bear good fruit!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Jesus said: “I am the vine, you are the branches.”

Let us pray.

People: We thank you, gracious God, for Jesus Christ the true vine, with his roots eternally grounded in you.

We rejoice that by grace we have been grafted into him,

to be branches on a vine which bears the loveliest of all the fruits of earth.

Yet we confess that all is not well with the way we live.

Please forgive us for the occasions when we have been the ones to introduce disease into the vine.

Forgive us for neglecting to draw deeply on the sap of Life,

for our tendency to wander instead of growing on the framework you provide,

and for the apathy which lets us to go through some seasons without bearing much fruit.

Have mercy on us and be patient with us.

Prune our unfruitful branches and cut away our diseased ones.

May we remain in Christ and He in us, through all the changing seasons of life.

Let us delight in bearing the fruits of love which are our true purpose and joy.

For your Name's sake. Amen!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Jesus said: "If you reside in me, and my words reside in you, ask whatever you will and it shall be done for you." Friends, we have asked for

forgiveness and correction. It has been truly done for us. It is being done for us. And it will be done for us.

People: Amen.

SONG: *“Great are you Lord”*

Modern

PASTORAL PRAYER & *“THE LORD’S PRAYER”*

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, for ever and ever. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 15:1-8

Leader: “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart

from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE: *"Abiding in Jesus!"*

Pastor Ed Martin

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION & PARDON

Leader: We have not believed you or trusted in your power.

People: Lord, help our unbelief.

Leader: We have stained our souls by our action and inaction.

People: Cleanse us, Lord.

Leader: We are broken by disease, bruised by the sins of others, weakened and unable to repair ourselves.

People: Heal us, Lord.

Leader: We ignore your call to center our lives in you, and so are deaf to the hopes and cries of the poor, the sick, the needy, and the earth.

People: Ground us, Lord!

Leader: When we confess our sinful ways, God abundantly pardons. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven.
Glory to God!**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be always with you!

People: And also with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Blessed are you, O God, who with your Word and Holy Spirit created all things and called them good. In Jesus Christ, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Through Jesus' suffering and death, you took upon yourself our sin and death and destroyed their power forever. You raised Jesus from the

dead, who now reigns with you in glory, and poured upon us your Holy Spirit, making us the people of your new covenant.

On the night before meeting with death, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to the disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may know the presence of the living Christ and be renewed as the body of Christ for the world, redeemed by Christ's blood, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at your table for ever.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

People: Amen

(We are not able to partake of the Communion elements during our service this morning due to health safety issues. You are invited to pick up individual pre-sealed Communion elements as you depart to then be shared in your car or home.)

SONG: "Abide with Me"

Traditional

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Rebecca Willett

GREETER(S)

Brett & Anne Marie Workman

LECTOR(S)

Brett Workman

COMMUNION SERVER(S)

Sue Rice

ACOLYTE(S)

Ashton Taylor & Burke McKenzie