



Queen Anne

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Called to Proclaim God's Love in Christ for Every Person

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✘ *Staff* ✘

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Dan Peterson
Cantor	Kyle Haugen
Children's Ministry Coordinator	Terry Anderson
Parish Administrator	Barbara Bash
Sexton	John Bryant

✘ *In Worship Today* ✘

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Dan Peterson
Guest Preacher and Lector	The Rev. Chelsea Globe <i>Lutheran Campus Ministry – UW</i>
Cantor	Kyle Haugen
Pianists	Jenna D. and Sonia P.

Members of the QALC Choir (*Recorded individually, observing safety measures*):

Amy Castle	Kyle Haugen	Erich Patten	Cat Rugg
Susan Evans	Joel Matter	Lori Lynn Phillips	Meg Shaw

This service of worship can also be viewed online on YouTube or from our website. Go to queenannelutheran.org and click on "WORD OUT" to find audio, video, and print resources for worship at home, as well as resources to use with children. Visit our YouTube channel for other worship services, educational forums, music and messages for children, and other organ music.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

A "Word Out" video transcript



Prelude

Star Dancers
William Gillock (1917–1993)
Jenna D., piano

Welcome

P: Welcome, this fifth Sunday of Easter, to Queen Anne Lutheran Church. Wherever you are watching, whatever challenges you might be facing, we invite you into this space: one where you can hear the good news in proclamation, spoken and sung; a time where you can be still, and know God is God.

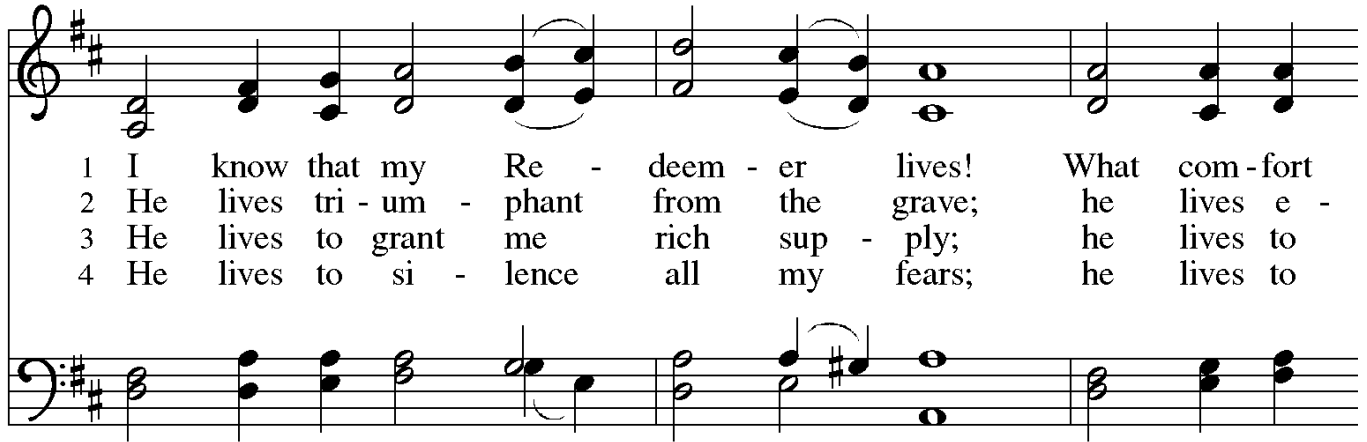
This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

Gathering Hymn

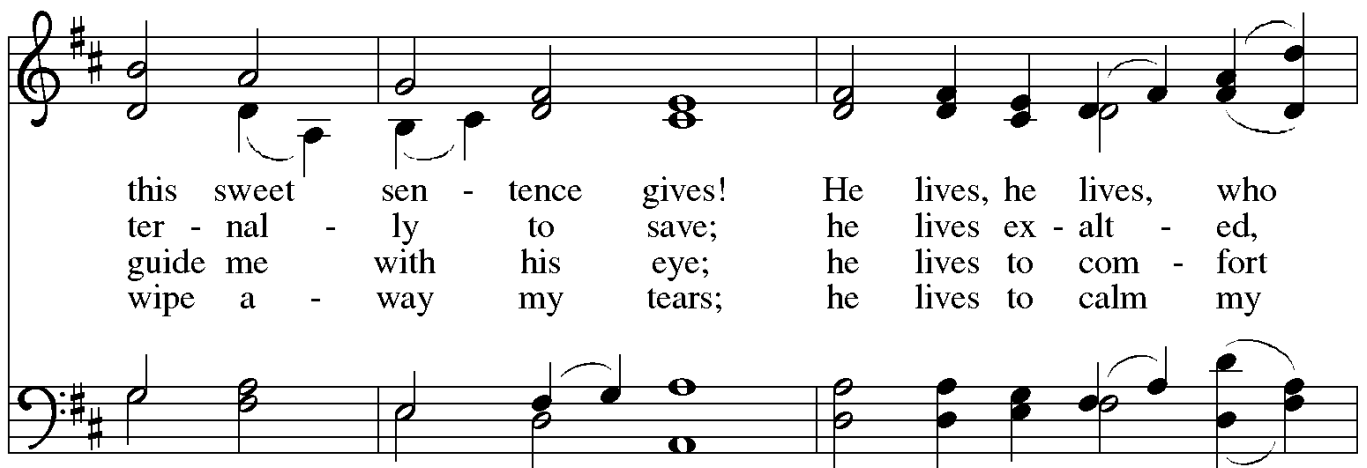
I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Stanzas 1, 3, 4, and 8

ELW 619



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

5 He lives to bless me with his love;
he lives to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed;
he lives to help in time of need.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!


Greeting


P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

G: And also with you.

Gospel Acclamation

John 15:5


G: 
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A: 
Repeat alleluia

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit.

G: 
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel:

John 15:1-8

A: The Holy Gospel according to the fifteenth chapter of John.

P: [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.

G: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Chelsea Globe
Lutheran Campus Ministry – UW

Imagine this, if you will:

A middle schooler finishes confirmation and wonders, “What does my church have for me next?”

A tenth grader is devastated after her first breakup, and doesn’t know who she can talk to.

A 17 year old who is the only person in his entire class who goes to church.

The queer student wonders if God’s love is really for them, too.

The high school senior who works every day after school to help his single parent put food on the table.

The student who is a person of color in a white suburb, who wants a place where she can be herself,

or the rural high-schooler who's following what's happening around the country with racial justice and wonders why his church isn't talking about it; or a high school grad who heads to a big state school and encounters world views and beliefs that challenge everything she thought she knew.

The 20-year-old who begins to doubt her choice of major, and could really use some advice.

The college senior who sees graduation looming, and is scared and unsure about what happens next.

The recent college grad working a job he doesn't like who feels lost and alone without the structure and support of school and friends.

The twenty-something who lost their job in the pandemic and is barely making ends meet,

or the young adult who is working a good job and is mostly fine, but feels like something is missing in life, to give a little more depth and perspective.

These are just some of the scenarios that describe the lives of youth and young people in our communities and congregations. These young people are facing more pressures and worries than ever before: pressure to perform at school, navigating new social situations, exploring their gender and sexual identity, the traumatic rise of school shootings, inflated college and housing costs, high unemployment, and of course, the extreme stress of just existing right now, in the midst of a worldwide pandemic. It is a really hard time to be a young person in our world right now.

We're also at a time when fewer and fewer people are choosing to be part of an organized religion. Now, this isn't just true for Christianity, but religious groups all across the board. It reflects a much larger shift in our society away from traditional social organizations that helped previous generations to make sense of the world and gave meaning to their lives, meaning that many people are now finding elsewhere. This means that for so many of the young people that my colleagues and I encounter in campus ministry, church has just not

been a part of their lives, or even their parents' lives, or sometimes even their grandparents' lives. And this is true for anyone who walks in the door of your congregation, too.

Just imagine if you've never gone to church before, how much courage and sheer nerve it would take to walk in those church doors, not exactly sure what you'd find or what strange things might happen in there. I mean, eating the body and blood of Christ. Pretty weird, right?

For anyone new to church, making the choice to show up is an act of faith and movement of the Holy Spirit, indeed. You can see why it's just so much easier for most people to stay home on Sunday morning, just like everyone else they know.

As campus ministry pastors, it is our job to meet young people right where they are. Some of them come from church backgrounds, and some even from Lutheran backgrounds, but most of them don't. Our work in campus ministry reflects the same outreach and evangelism challenges you have in your congregation. We are all trying to reach out to people who have very little experience with the church, and who don't understand why they should even consider being part of it. And we in campus ministry are paving the way for a new understanding of what it means to be church in this bold, new, non-religious world. In campus ministry we are able to get right to the heart of ministry, the heart of the gospel, sharing the love of God known in Jesus Christ and creating disciples. In other words, we are growing branches that bear good fruit in the world. We realize that we are lucky to have these young people in our ministries – after all, there are so many reasons for them not to be there.

And yet, they come, they seek, they hunger. They are searching for that good fruit, grown from branches that are deeply connected to the vine, in a relationship of mutual respect and trust. Current research suggests that what young people value more than anything are *meaningful relationships*. They have no patience with superficial, transactional, or impersonal exchanges. They want to know and to be known by others who care about who they are and who they are becoming.

Research has also found that these meaningful relationships are often what young people are most lacking. That may come as a surprise, given that the world has never been so digitally connected. But, as we know, those digital connections, our online personas, don't often lead to fulfilling, real life relationships. Too much reliance on virtual platforms for connection can actually leave us feeling disconnected and alone.

According to the Springtide Research Institute, which studies religion in young people, 69% of teens and young adults have three or fewer meaningful interactions in a regular day. Nearly 40% say they feel they have no one to talk to, and that no one really knows them well; and one in four say that they have one or fewer adults in their lives they can turn to if they need to talk. And these numbers are all from *before* COVID! Imagine the impact of these times.

So yes, young people are deeply in need of meaningful connection. And, they're also not participating in church, one of the few places in society where multiple generations actually mix and mingle, so they don't even know that church at its best. It's one of the few and easiest places where they can find these kinds of caring, meaningful, spiritually-significant connections with people of all ages.

This kind of meaningful relationship built on mutual respect and acceptance is exactly what Jesus is talking about in our Gospel lesson. The vine and the branches depend on each other. They need each other to produce a crop. And all of it is dependent on the vine grower, who tends to the soil and the plant, and makes sure it is growing as it should.

You can also think of your church, your congregation as the vine, the representative of Jesus on earth. And each person in it are the branches. Each of us has different skills and gifts to offer, and it's the same with congregations: some excel at beautiful worship, others focus on acts of service, some throw themselves into advocacy, or quilting, or amazing Sunday school programs – and all those things are important, and well and good, but they are only the things that we *do*.

The most important, most vital component of any church community is *the quality and depth of its relationships*. It is these relationships and community that define who we are. So, in your congregation, how well do people know each other? Are they curious about each other's lives? Do they embrace and learn from experiences that are different from their own? Do they offer real support to each other in times of need, and celebration in times of joy?

That is what it looks like for congregation to bear real, good fruit. That is what young people need and crave: a place to be known, and to know others; to be supported and encouraged, where they can bring their full, authentic selves with their doubts and questions and wonderings, and be accepted, embraced, and celebrated.

Because you know what? I hate to break it to you, but young people do not want to be part of your church just in order to increase your number of young people. Young people do not want to be a token member of Council whose opinions aren't actually listened to. Young people don't need contemporary worship or cool music or a young hipster pastor or big, exciting blow-out events.

They just need you. They need you to care and to listen. They need you to try your best to understand them, even when you are disappointed that they won't join the choir, or are struggling to remember their preferred pronouns. They need people in their lives who have been there before. Who can wrap their arms around them – metaphorically, or with permission of course – and say, “You're going to be okay. I'm here for you.” And maybe, just maybe, even pray with them.

In campus ministry, our job is to show young adults that the church is a place where they can go to find that love and support. So it is *your* job to make sure that that's what they *will* find when they come find *you* after graduation. Are your branches bearing good fruit, when it comes to relational ministry within your congregation, especially with youth and young people – or has it withered on the vine? If so, there are some very simple things you can start doing right now to start changing things up:

First, start with the people you already know. Invite someone from church to do a Zoom coffee date or outdoor hangout, and ask them to share their story. The more you can practice being vulnerable and deepening relationships with each other, the more natural it will become for everyone.

Second, seek out the children, youth and young people in your congregations and talk to them – really talk to them. Try to go beyond the simple question of “How is school going?” Maybe follow that up with, “What’s been really great at school lately?” or “What has been a challenge?” And then *listen*.

Third, once you’ve got a couple of young people, create opportunities for them to gather together. Remember, they don’t know many other people their age who go to church! They need each other. Perhaps, partner up with a neighboring congregation to increase your numbers, or ask your local campus minister how they can help.

And fourth, pray. Pray that God the vine grower will help you grow delicious fruit, rooted in love for each other as we abide together in God, and Christ’s call to love and serve our neighbors.

Oh, and of course you can always support your local campus ministry with prayer and donations. We are out on the front lines of young adult ministry, and we can’t do it without you.

Let’s close in prayer.

Gracious God, our good and loving vine grower, thank you for calling us to be church together. We take seriously your call to abide in you. Help us to grow into strong branches reaching out to our communities and helping our young people to bear good fruit. Help us to be real and vulnerable with each other, and to invite people into relationship with you through our love and care. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our vine and our support.

Amen.

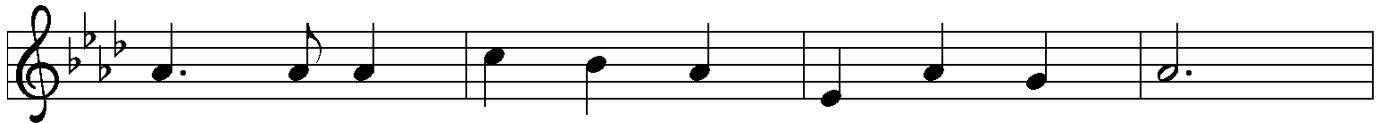
Hymn of the Day

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

ELW 377



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent;
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,

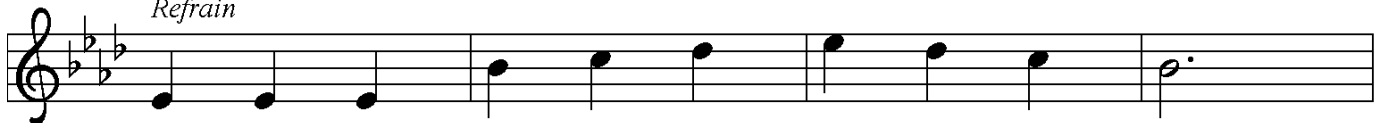


Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Blessing of the Quilts and Kits

- P:** Friends in Christ: Today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing as we gather to bless these quilts, school kits, baby care kits, and personal care kits to the praise and glory of God.
- P:** The Lord be with you.
- G:** **And also with you.**
- P:** Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, wonder of the universe. You have made the whole earth for your glory; all creation praises you. We lift our voices in gratitude for the life you give us, and the love shown us in Christ Jesus.
- Send these quilts into the world to give warmth and comfort to those in need. Lord, in your mercy,
- G:** **hear our prayer.**
- P:** Let us bless these school kits, baby care kits, quilts, fabric kits and personal care kits that they bring and protect the gift of health and learning to many, that they may know your care. Lord, in your mercy,
- G:** **hear our prayer.**
- P:** We ask your blessing on the work of Lutheran World Relief, and all those who have used their time, efforts, skills and gifts to make such blessing possible, both in this congregation and elsewhere in the world. In this day of global uncertainty and unrest, we pray for all the refugees searching for a secure home, and for all who live in a land of war. Lord, in your mercy,
- G:** **hear our prayer.**
- P:** We give you thanks, O God,
as we dedicate these quilts and kits to your glory and praise.
Grant us faith to know your gracious intention in all things,
give us joy in them, and lead us to the building up of your kingdom;
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.
- G:** **Amen.**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

G: **Thanks be to God.**

P: The blessing of God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
be with us all.

Prayers of the Church

P: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

P: God of all faithfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Lord, in your mercy,

G: **hear our prayer.**

P: You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Lord, in your mercy,

G: **hear our prayer.**

P: You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, so that they may not lead by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Lord, in your mercy,

G: **hear our prayer.**

P: You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, sick, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Provide for the needs of all. Lord, in your mercy,

G: **hear our prayer.**

P: For whom or what else do the people of God pray?

A silence is given so that your prayers may be offered.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread
and forgive us our sins**

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

Amen.

Announcements

P: Welcome this fifth Sunday of Easter to Queen Anne Lutheran Church, where our mission is to proclaim the love of God in Christ for every person. We are delighted you joined us today. If you'd like to find out more about our ministry, including our educational programming, we invite you to visit our website at queenannelutheran.org. You can also find us on YouTube, as well as podcast – Queen Anne Lutheran podcast – wherever you listen to podcasts. Once more, we're delighted that you joined us today and we wish you all the blessings from God this Easter season.

P: Receive now the blessing:

Benediction

A: Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

P: Eternal God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.

G: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

G: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Excerpts from *Piano Concerto No. 6*
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 -1791)
Sonia P., piano

About today's music

We thank Jenna D. and Sonia P. for sharing their talents for today's prelude and postlude this Family Sunday, and for members of our choir who recorded individual tracks for today's hymns and the gospel acclamation. *Soli Deo Gloria!* You may recognize our second hymn today, "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!" from its unique tune, originally composed for "Earth and All Stars!" (ELW 731). The texts of both hymns are by the late Herbert Brokering, who was asked to provide an Easter text for this tune for inclusion in the hymnal supplement *With One Voice* (1995).
—Cantor Kyle