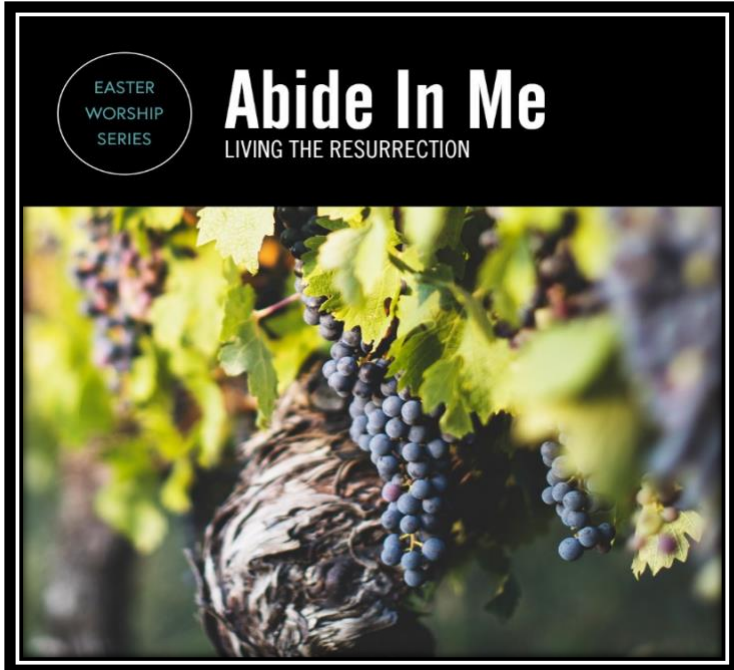




*“A Lighthouse Guiding
People to Christ”*



EASTER
WORSHIP
SERIES

Abide In Me

LIVING THE RESURRECTION

April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

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PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

WELCOMING OF GUESTS

Pastor

PASSING THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on John 15:1-8)

Liturgist

Liturgist: God is the True Vine,

Congregation: And we are the branches.

Liturgist: Connected to God.

Congregation: Connected to bear fruit!

Liturgist: Connected to God.

Congregation: Or we wither away.

Liturgist: Connected to God.

Congregation: Or useless!

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

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

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Come Thou Fount (v. 1-3)

UMH #400

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Easter

Affirmation

Liturgist

Your light is the only light we need as we travel through life's mystery. Your word the only voice we hear that still small voice that leads us to the place where we should be. Your presence is the only company we need as we walk this narrow road. Your fellowship the warmth we crave to help us on our way. May the truth of Easter, the joy of Easter, and the blessings of Easter be with us this day and all days. Amen

*GLORIA PATRI

See

screen

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 22:25-31 (NKJV)

Liturgist

My praise *shall be* of You in the great assembly; I will pay My vows before those who fear Him. ²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the LORD. Let your heart live forever! ²⁷ All the ends of the world Shall remember and turn to the LORD, And all the families of the nations Shall worship before You. ²⁸ For the kingdom *is* the LORD's, And He rules over the nations. ²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth Shall eat and worship; All those who go down to the dust Shall bow before Him, Even he who cannot keep himself alive. ³⁰ A posterity shall serve Him. It will be recounted of the Lord to the *next* generation, ³¹ They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, That He has done *this*.

Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

**Please stand as you are able*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, help us remember that we need to stay plugged into Jesus if we're going to produce the kind of fruit You expect. In Jesus' name, Amen.

GOSPEL

READING

John

15:1-8

(NKJV)

Liturgist

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴ "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵ "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. ⁶ "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire,

and it shall be done for you. ⁸ "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so, you will be My disciples.

Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

MISSION MOMENT

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Pastor

If you have a prayer need or praise that you would like to share with the congregation, please fill out a card and pass it toward the center aisle of the congregation as we are singing the Hymn of Preparation. The pastor will collect the cards during the song and pray over the cards at the chancel rail.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

The Summons (v.1-5)

See Screen

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor

SERMON ANTHEM

Abide

Choir

(Aaron Williams)

SERMON

Pastor

Title: Living the Resurrection

Theme: Abide in Me

Purpose: Silence is a space where God takes control and where we surrender ourselves to the working of the Spirit.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating Our Gifts)

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Based on John 15:1-8)

God of the far-flung universe and God who is closer than our own heartbeat: we long to dwell in your closeness, abiding in you and you abiding in us. However, the call to abide in other places is strong: to abide in the world of popularity and acceptance or in the world of increasing wealth and power centered around our own wants and desires. As we offer our gifts and ourselves to you, help us turn away from other calls and abide in that place of heart's deepest desire: in your Son, Jesus, and he in us. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, From Whom All
Blessings* See screen

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION *Here I Am Lord* (v. 1-3)
UMH #593

*COMMISSION / BENEDICTION (Based on John 15:1-8, 1 John 4:7-21)
Pastor

Liturgist: Go now, and love one another, because love is from God. Proclaim God's salvation to every generation. Remain in Jesus Christ, and like branches of a vine, draw your life from him. And may God, the vine grower, tend you and make you fruitful; May Christ Jesus abide in you and give you life; And may the Holy Spirit cast out all fear and fill you with God's love. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Congregation: In the name of Christ. Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Love and
Fellowship* See screen

*The flowers are given to The Glory of God and in honor of our church
by
Mary Alice and Michael Linzy*

POSTLUDE