

GOD'S WORD:

John 15:1-8

(The Liturgist says: "This is the Word of God for ALL people" ... AND ... The People respond: "Thanks BE to God")

TODAY'S MESSAGE: **"FRUIT-BEARING OR NON-FRUITBEARING ... WHICH WILL YOU BE?"**

DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE ...

How are you abiding (staying connected) to Jesus?

Are you bearing fruit for Jesus?

GREAT THANKSGIVING

(on insert)

SHARING THE LOAF AND CUP

(Ours is an "open" table ... meaning that ALL are welcome to receive the holy elements.)

* *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

(on insert - # 384)

* PRAYER FOR OFFERING OUR LIVES, OUR TITHES, AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD:

Generous God,

**We offer you the fruits of our time, talents and resources
in celebration of all that we have been given.**

**Loving God, we give you thanks for all that we have
and ask a special blessing on the fruits we have given back
to help meet the needs of your beloved community.**

**May our lives and these gifts nourish and strengthen the community
to grow spiritually, emotionally, and physically.**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

AMEN.

* BENEDICTION

* *He Lives*

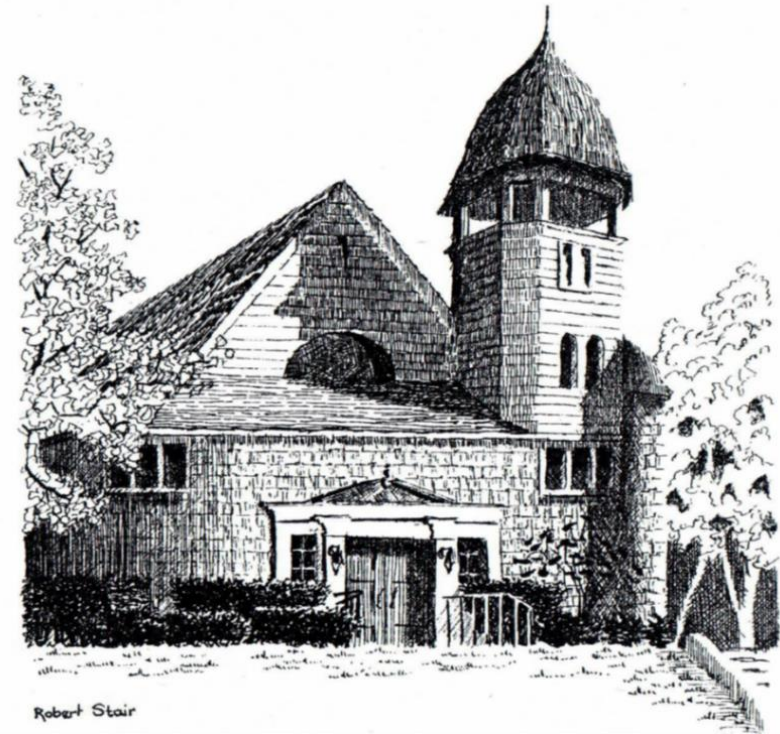
(on insert - # 310 - verse 3)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

May 2nd, 2021

"5th SUNDAY OF EASTER"

Liturgical Color – White



DALLAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TODAY'S CENTERING VERSE

"Remain in me, and I will remain in you.

A branch cannot produce fruit alone but must remain in the vine.

In the same way, you cannot produce fruit alone,

but must remain in me."

- John 15:4

* Please stand in stature or in heart as you are able.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRELUDE ... *LET US FOCUS OUR THOUGHTS AND OUR HEARTS ON THE RISEN LIVING LORD JESUS CHRIST*

OPENING PAYER:

* CALL TO WORSHIP:

Here on this fifth Sunday of Easter, we have come together;
we have come to worship our risen Lord.

**Jesus has invited us here, saying to us,
“Abide in me as I abide in you.”**

We live in Jesus Christ.

Those who abide in Jesus blossom and flourish in God’s wondrous love.

As we live in Jesus Christ, our lives are transformed, and our spirits are renewed.

**We live in Jesus Christ,
and now we are here to worship and witness to our faith in Him.**

* *How Can We Name a Love*

(on insert - # 111)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CORPORATE CONFESSION & MOMENTS OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION:

Almighty and most merciful God,

we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws.

**We have left undone those things we ought to have done,
and we have done those things we ought not to have done.**

But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare those, O God, who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**And grant, O most merciful God, for his sake,
that we may hereafter love a godly, righteous and sober life;
to the glory of your holy name.**

AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & PARDON

* *Shout to the Lord*

(twice) (on insert - # 2074)

* *Glorify Thy Name*

(on insert - # 2016)

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The Apostles’ Creed, Ecumenical Version

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

AMEN.

TIME OF PRAYER / THE LORD’S PRAYER

(from the ritual of the former Evangelic United Brethren Church)

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.