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The Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ April 28, 2024

Color of the Day: White - the festival color of the Church. It is reserved for celebrations that reflect themes of purity, light, innocence, holiness, and redemption, including special events in Jesus' life as His Birth, Baptism, Transfiguration, and Resurrection.
Opening Hymn#697 - Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death
Confession and Absolution Page 151
표표 Service of the Word 표표
Introit
A little while, and you will see me no longer;* and again a little while, and you will see me.
I will extol you, my God and King,*
and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you*
and praise your name forever and ever. The LORD is gracious and merciful,*
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,* and all your saints shall bless you!
My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,* and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son* and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the be- ginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen.
A little while, and you will see me no longer;* and again a little while, and you will see me.
Kyrie Page 152
Hymn of Praise (This Is the Feast) Page 155
Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 156 O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that
among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true

joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns

with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being
baptized?" ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went
down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when
they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and
the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip
found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to
all the towns until he came to Caesarea.
Gradual
Christ has risen from the dead.*
[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor,
He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;*
he has put all things un- der his feet.
Epistle Reading Page 156 1 John 4:1–21 1
¹ Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they
are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² By this
you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has
come in the flesh is from God, ³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is
not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming
and now is in the world already. ⁴ Little children, you are from God and have
overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
⁵ They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world
listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever
istens to them. We are non dod. Whoever knows dod istens to us, whoever

the spirit of error. ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and

whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not

First Reading Page 156 Acts 8:26-40

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place.²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah.²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about lesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some s me from being w they both went ba nim.³⁹And when do th Philip away, and ng. ⁴⁰But Philip th ed the gospel to fo all

love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Choral Anthem

Alleluia & Verse (Common)	Page 156
Holy Gospel	Page 157
John 15:1–8	

1[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

2Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4Abide in me, and I in you. 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. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day	ing
The Sermon We Ought to Love One ~ 1 John 4:1-11 (12-2 <u>Introduction</u>	:1)
Maybe you have never been asked	
Test the Spirits	
John encourages us to	
We are to look at another's	
The best test is who is running	

ere is a difference between	
d Is Love	
d loves	
love in	
at Does This Mean?	
r situation is this	
e biggest temptation	
are to	
reflect	
n remind us to	
d finally,	
e reciprocal of this	
d initiates	
will	
will	8
ering & Prayer of the Church Page 15	59
ertory	59
First Fruits and Tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the wo	rk
e Gospel. Our Offerings are special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes. This is an act	
hip for members and friends of St. Matthew who are moved by God's love to respond to the Gospel. Gues Id not feel obligated to participate.	SLS

₩₩₩ Service of the Sacrament ₩₩₩

Preface Page 160 It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus & Prayer of Thanksgiving Page 161
Lord's Prayer & The Words of Our Lord Page 162
The Words of Our Lord & Pax Domini Page 162
Pax Domini & Agnus Dei Page 163
Distribution . Page 164 Before partaking of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you read our communion statement on the pew insert behind the Bible. Thank you.
Distribution Hymns #571 – God Loved the World So That He Gave
#700 - Love Divine, all Loves Excelling
#544 - O Love, How Deep
#768 - To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray
Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord) Page 164
Post-Communion Collect & Benediction Page 165/166
Closing Hymn #706 - Love in Christ Is Strong and Living