Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024 at 8:45am & 11:15am



SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910 www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363 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. As the vine Brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

THE GATHERING

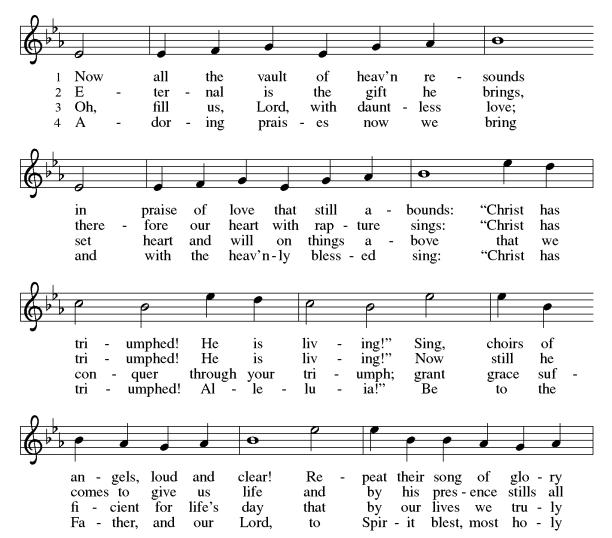
PRELUDE • Chant de Paix

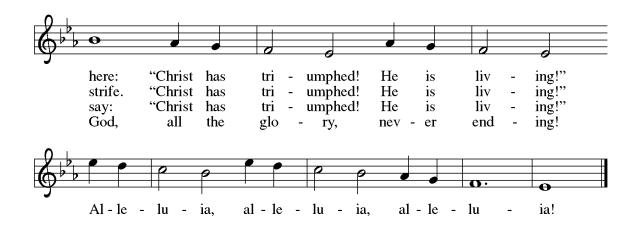
Jean Langlais (1907–1991)

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN • ELW 367 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



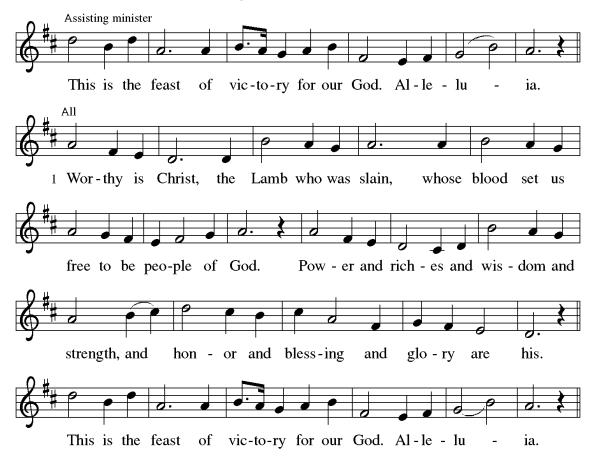


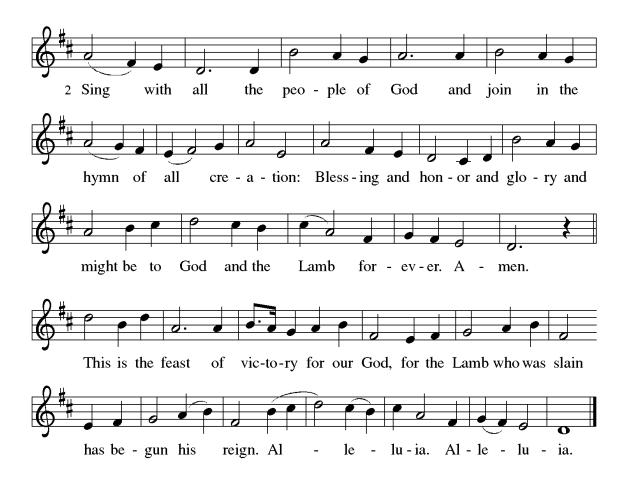
GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE • ELW Setting Four





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE WORD

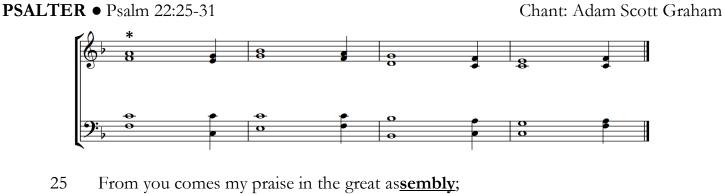
FIRST READING • Acts 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the

Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



- I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.
- 26 The poor shall eat and be <u>satisfied</u>,Let those who seek the Lord give praise! ' May your hearts live for<u>ever</u>!
- 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember ' and turn to the **Lord**; all the families of nations shall bow before **God**.
- 28 For dominion belongs to the <u>Lord</u>, who rules over the <u>nations</u>.



- 29 Indeed, ' all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in <u>worship</u>; all who go down to the dust, ' though they be dead, ' shall kneel before the <u>Lord</u>.
- *30 Their descendants shall serve the **Lord**, whom they shall proclaim to generations to **come**.
- 31 They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet un**born**, saying to them, '"The Lord has <u>acted</u>!"

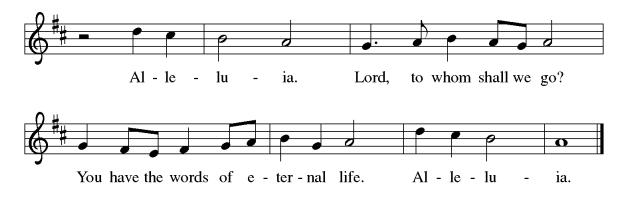
SECOND READING • 1 John 4:7-21

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION • ELW Setting Four



GOSPEL READING • John 15:1-8

The holy gospel according to Saint John, the fifteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide 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. I 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. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

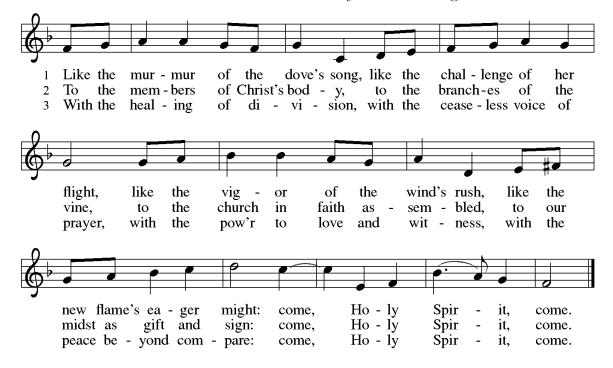
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Hernandez

Please stand as you are able.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.



NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

After each portion of the prayers:

God of grace, hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The risen Christ stood among the disciples and said, "Peace be with you." The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> You may also mail your checks to:

> Saint Luke Lutheran Church 9100 Colesville Road Silver Spring, MD 20910

(8:45) OFFERTORY ANTHEM • Ubi Caritas

AZMON

Schola Cantorum

Ubi cáritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregávit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsultémus et in ipso jucundémur. Timeámus et amémus Déum vívum. Et ex córde diligámus nos sincéro. Ubi cáritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Amen. Where there is charity and love, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us together. Let us rejoice and be glad in him. Let us fear and love the living God. And let us love each other sincerely. Where there is charity and love, God is there. Amen.

(11:15) OFFERTORY HYMN • WOV 745 Awake, O Sleeper

wake, O rise from death, and Christ shall give you light; А sleep - er, То earth he and fear re - lease, 2 us on came to bring from sin 3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save; 4 died, and For us Christ lived, for con-quered in us he the strife. length and breadth, its learn his love, its full - ness, depth, and height. so give the Spir-it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace. to God in Christ for - gave. with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

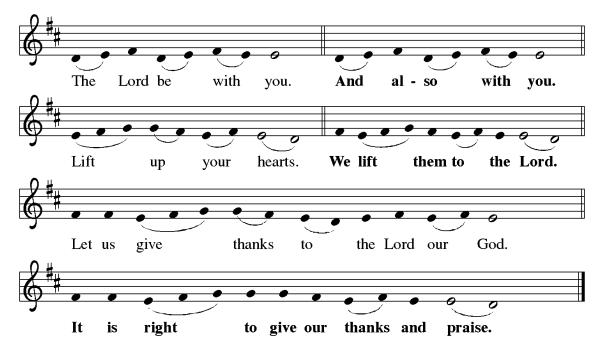
Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

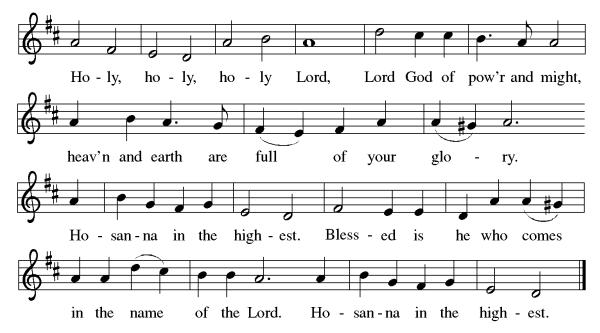
Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS • ELW Setting Four



Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath. We praise you, O God. Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. We bless you, O God. We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Please pray in your own preferred language.

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, forever and ever. Amen. Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga a nosostros tu reino, hagase tu voluntad, asi en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia; perdona nuestras ofensas, como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden; y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion, mas libranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria, por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the feast of victory for our God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

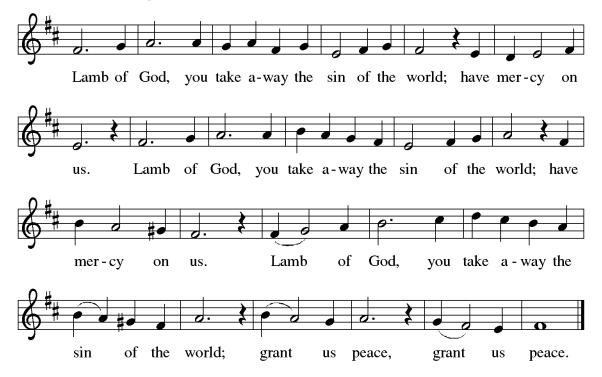
All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps. Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ. (Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)

Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew, please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen.

AGNUS DEI • ELW Setting Four



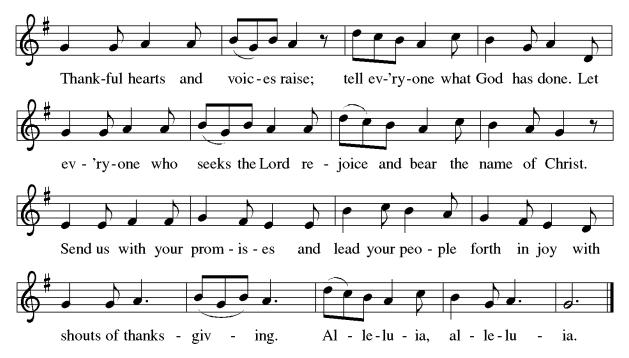


Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE • ELW S207



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord **Amen**.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ★ bless you now and always. Amen.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE • Suite Brève – IV. Dialogue sur les Mixtures

Jean Langlais (1907–1991)

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WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller Senior Pastor The Rev. Richard Zawistoski Confirmation Pastor

PREACHING MINISTER

The Rev. Rosario Hernandez Saint Luke Member, Former Pastor

Assisting Minister

Deacon Kyle Warfield Director of Discipleship and High School Ministries



Adam Scott Graham Interim Director of Music

The Rev. Gary Nuss 8:45

Shane Schwartzendruber 11:15

Schola Cantorum

READERS



HYMN OF THE DAY • *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*

Commissioned by the Standing Committee on Church Music of the Episcopal Church, "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song" is a litany-like prayer to the Holy Spirit to come. The first stanza identifies the Spirit with images of the Spirit's likeness, the second stanza indicates to whom the Spirit comes with images of the

church, and the third stanza unpacks some of the gifts the Spirit brings. - ELW Hymnal Companion

Prelude & Postlude • Jean Langlais (1907–1991)

Both prelude and postlude were written by Jean Langlais, a blind and deaf musician. The child of a seamstress and blacksmith, he was born in La Fontenelle, a small village near Mont Saint-Michel, France. He taught at the Schola Cantorum of Paris from 1961 to 1976. His first wife, Jeannette's student, Ann Labounsky wrote Langlais' biography, *Jean Langlais: the Man and His Music*. Langlais followed in the footsteps of Cesar Franck and Charles Tournemire as Organiste Titulaire at the Basilica of Sainte Clotilde in Paris, a post he remained in from 1945 until his deat in 1988. He composed over 250+ works, and although he is widely known as a composer of organ and sacred choral music, he did compose instrumental and orchestra secular songs. Langlais' style could be described as highly eclectic for the time. Great detail and a large amount of time went into his works, often writing in shorthand braille, then dicating each note and it's rhythmic value to an amanuensis – often his first wife. His *Suite Brève* and *Chant de Paix* are two of his more well-known works.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Monday, April 29 • Catherine of Siena, Theologian, died 1380

Catherine of Sienna was a member of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), and among Roman Catholics she was the first woman to receive the title Doctor of the Church. She was a contemplative and is known for her mystical visiona of Jesus. This gift of mysticism ap;parently extended back into her childhood, much to the dismay of her parents, who wanted her to be like other children. Catherine was a humanitarian who worked to alleviate the suffering of the poor and imprisoned. She was also a renewer of church an dsociety and advised both popes and any persons who told her their problems. Catherine's contemplative life was linked to her concern for the poor and suffering. She is a reminder that prayer and activisim belong together.

Wednesday, May 1 • Philip and James, Apostles

Philip was one of the first disciples of Jesus, who after following Jesus invited Nathanael to "come and see." According to tradition, Philip preached in Asia Minor and died as a martyr in Phrygia. James, the son of Alphaeus, is called "the Less" meaning short or younger, to distinguish him from another apostle named James, commemorated July 25. Philip and James are commemorated together because the remains of these two saints were placed in the Church of the Apostles in Rome on this day in 561.

Thursday, May 2 • Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, died 373

Athanasius attended the Council of Nicea in 325 as a deacon and secretary to the bishop of Alexandria. At the council, and when he himself served as bishop of Alexandria, he defended the full divinity of Christ against the Arian position held by emperors, magistrates, and theologians. Because of his defense of the divinity of Christ, he was considered a troublemaker and was banished from Alexandria on five occasions. As bishop, one of his paschal letters to surrounding bishops gives a list for books that should be considered canonical scripture. He lists the twenty-seven New Testament books that are recognized today.

Saturday, May 4 • Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful. She rejoiced greatly when both her husband and his mother became Christian. But it is because she is the mother of Augustine that she is best known. Monica had been a disciple of Ambrose, and eventually Augustine came under his influence. Almost everything we know about Monica comes from Augustine's Confessions, his autobiography. She died far from her home but said to her son, "Do not fret because I am buried far from our home in Africa. Nothing is afar from God, and I have no fear that God will not know where to find me, when Christ comes to raise me to life at the end of the world." Her dying wish was that her son remember her at the altar of the Lord, wherever he was.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE

SUNDAY, April 28—Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:30am	Tech Rehearsal
8:00am	Schola Cantorum
8:45am	Worship (Hybrid)
10:00am	Sunday School
10:00am	SLSHY
10:00am	Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00am	Up for Discussion (Hybrid)
11:15am	Worship (Hybrid)
3:30pm	Girl Scouts
5:00pm	San Lucas Misa Español
5:00pm	AA
6:00pm	Reception

MONDAY, April 29

8:00am	CDS Classes
1:00pm	CDS Aftercare
4:00pm	After School Art Program - Langley Park
6:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	ESL Class

TUESDAY, April 30

8:00am	CDS Classes
10:00am	Bendt Visitation
11:00am	Bendt Funeral
12:00pm	Funeral Luncheon
1:00pm	CDS Aftercare
4:00pm	Piano Lessons
7:00pm	Reformation Bells
7:00pm	Girl Scouts
7:00pm	ESL Class

WEDNESDAY, May 1

7:00am Zoom Faith Connections CDS Classes 8:00am 10:00am Women in Community 1:00pm CDS Aftercare En Camino: Children's Tutor Program 3:00pm 5:30pm **RSCM** Choristers 7:00pm ESL Class 7:30pm Schola Cantorum 7:30pm AA

THURSDAY, May 2

6:30am	Parking Lot Ministry - Langley Park
8:00am	CDS Classes
1:00pm	CDS Aftercare
2:45pm	Caring Project: Children's Tutor Program
7:30pm	Centering Prayer Zoom
8:30pm	AA

FRIDAY, May 3

8:00am	CDS Classes
7:00pm	Book & Video Discussion Group

SATURDAY, May 4

8:00am	Food Distribution: Langley Park
9:30am	АА
11:00am	Al-Anon

SUNDAY, May 5-Sixth Sunday of Easter

7:30am	Tech Rehearsal
8:00am	Schola Cantorum
8:00am	RSCM Choristers
8:45am	Worship (Hybrid)
10:00am	Welcome Gathering
10:00am	Sunday School
10:00am	SLSHY
10:00am	Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00am	Up for Discussion (Hybrid)
11:15am	Worship (Hybrid)
5:00pm	AA

NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed