



**Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church**  
**May 2, 2021**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**Pastor Alecia Reeves-Freeman**

Prelude "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" Sebastian Temple  
(Prayer of St. Francis)

Welcome

Call to Worship Crystal Mayo

L: Let us worship the Lord in Spirit and in Truth!

**P: We gather as branches that produce fruits.**

L: Let us remain on the truth vine.

**P: We will remain in Jesus Christ because we cannot produce fruits by ourselves.**

L: The Lord calls us to be His disciples as we produce fruits.

**P: We will continue to produce fruits and prove that we are disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Vs. 1 & 3 UMH 384

Opening Prayer Crystal Mayo

**God of fruitfulness, we gather to worship you. As we worship, be present with us and lead us from persons, places, and things of temptation. Be present in our words and actions as they bring light and laughter to all persons. Guide us in the rightful spirit who renews our ways, revives us for service, and empowers us to choose carefully and faithfully. In the name of your beloved Son and our Sovereign Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.**

Scripture Reading 1 John 4: 7-21 Lois Potter

Children's Time with Mrs. Carney

Gospel Reading John 15: 1-8

Sermon "Fruitful Branches"

Prayers & Concerns & The Lord's Prayer

**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. Amen.**

Communion

Offering & Prayer of Thanksgiving

**God of fruitfulness, thank you for the privilege of sharing our gifts. Bless our gifts of love and service as you multiply them for your ministry and mission on earth. With thanksgiving for your beloved Son and our Sovereign Lord, and Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.**

Fisk Announcements & Highlights

Hymn "To God Be the Glory" Vs. 1 & 3 UMH 98

Benediction

Please join us for "Fellowship of Love Time"  
*after* the service on Zoom.



## Hymn

### **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Love devine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above;  
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

## SCRIPTURE READING

### 1 John 4: 7-21 (NIV)

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. <sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

## GOSPEL READING

### John 15: 1-8 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes<sup>[a]</sup> so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup> “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

## Hymn

### **To God Be the Glory**

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!  
So loved he the world that he us his son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

**R** Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,  
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus, the Son;  
but purer and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. **R**