

Historic Scripture Lessons for Easter-5 † *Cantaté (Worship) Sunday*

Old Testament

Isaiah 12:1-6 NIV In that day you will say: "I will praise You, O LORD. Although You were angry with me, Your anger has turned away and You have comforted me. 2 Surely God is my Salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; He has become my Salvation." 3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. 4 In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the LORD, call on His Name; make known among the nations what He has done, and proclaim that His Name is exalted. 5 Sing to the LORD, for He has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. 6 Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

Epistle

James 1:16-21 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers. 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, Who does not change like shifting shadows. 18 He chose to give us birth through the Word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all He created. 19 My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. 21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the Word planted in you, which can save you.

Historic Gospel

John 16:5-15 "Now I am going to Him who sent Me, yet none of you asks Me, 'Where are you going?'" 6 Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. 7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8 When He comes, He will

convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 in regard to sin, because men do not believe in Me; 10 in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see Me no longer; 11 and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. 12 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will bring glory to Me by taking from what is Mine and making it known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is Mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is Mine and make it known to you.

3-Year Gospel (Sermon Text)

John 15:1-8 "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."



OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: www.osllakeland.org

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

✱ A.R. Burmeister 430-5859 ✱ Organ: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

April 29th, 2018 ✱ Easter-5 Cantaté – Sing! Worship

TODAY WE CELEBRATE The LORD's SUPPER: If you are new to the area or our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before Communing. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. God bless your worship.

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP On silver liturgy sheets and in (red) hymnal p.15.

Service		
Opening Hymn	11 (5v)	Safely Through Another Week
<i>Psalm 145</i>	<i>Ps.145 "4v"</i>	I Will Praise Your Name, My King & God
Hymn of the Day	387 (10)	Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice
<i>Offertory Verse</i>	441 (6v)	<i>We Give Thee but Thine Own</i>
Distribution Hymn	627 (5v)	Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd
Closing Hymn	15 (2v)	From All that Dwell Below the Skies

Suggested Bible readings for weekdays after the 5th Sunday of Easter

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
 Zech.12:1-14 Isaiah65:1-7 Isa. 65:8-16 Jer. 8:1-13 Zech8:18-23 Is.49:22-26
 John 8:12-20 John 8:21-29 John 8:30-45 John 9:1-13 John9:14-34 Jo. 9:35-41

PROPERs for EASTER-5(4th SUNDAY AFTER EASTER) MAY 29TH

INTROIT Oh, sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! The LORD has made known His Salvation, His Righteousness He has openly showed in the sight of the heathen. His Right Hand and His Holy Arm have gained Him the Victory. ...from Psalm 98

COLLECT O God, You make the minds of the faithful to be of one will, grant to Your people that they may love what You command, and desire what You promise; that, among the manifold changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD, who lives, and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever, C: ♪ A---men.

GRADUAL C: Alleluia! Alleluia! The LORD's Right Hand is exalted, the LORD's Right Hand has done mighty things. Alleluia! Christ, being raised from the dead, is dead no more; death has no power over Him. Alleluia! ...from Psalm 118

SCRIPTURE LESSONS	(printed on outside back page of the bulletin)
O.T. Isaiah 12:1-6	"I will praise You, my Strength & Song."
Epi. James 1:16-21	Every good & perfect gift comes from God.
Gos. John 16:5-15	Jesus promises the Holy Spirit's coming.

NEW Psalm 145 C: ♪ I Will Praise Your Name; My King- and My God-

I will praise Your Name; my King- and my God.

Verse 1. ♪ I will give you glo-ry my God and King, and I will bless_ Your Name for-e-ver_ Ev'ry day I will bless and praise Your name fore-ver_

Refrain C: ♪ I will praise Your Name; My King- and my God. (← Repeat)

Verse 2. ♪ The Lord is full of grace and mer-cy, He is kind_ and slow to anger. He is good in all His works and full- of compassion_ **Refrain C:** ♪ I will...

Verse 3. ♪ Let all our works give You thanks O LORD, and let- all the faithful bless You. Let them speak of Your might O LORD, the glory of Your Kingdom.

Refrain C: ♪ I will praise Your Name; My King- and my God. (← Repeat)

Verse 4. ♪ The LORD is faith-ful in all His Words, and always near_ His Name is Holy_ He lifts up all those who fall, He raises up the lowly_ **Refrain C:** ♪ I...

PRAYER REQUESTS: Member or Relation Pray for...

Sue Smith (Bev Foster)	Sue battling pancreas & liver growths. Sad but faithful
Jim & Elma Hendricks	LORD's will be done. Both at home. Jim's BP spikes
Dee Kurczewski (David)	Dee was in hospital after falls. Back home, rehabbing
Alex Pitman (relative of Elaine Jones)	Alex is in SC in trouble (with the law)
Angelo Pousa (Tom & Viv Temple's friend)	Angelo battling health issues
Jon Sawyer (Andrea)	Jon Sr had a (double) heart stent surgery April 5 th
Joe Thacker (Bev Foster)	Joe is home recovering from double pneumonia
June Weyenberg	June back home (by herself) doing rehab from knee surgery
Don Wienke (Bev)	Don had a bad cold and flu - hopefully is over it

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Ethel & Steve Wendt	Mary Lou Knigge
Treaters	Joan Patrick	BBQ Picnic Lunch

Statistics	Last week	Year to date / Avg.
Sunday, Attendance (Communion)	20 / (- -)	25 / 22
Bible Class Attendance: Sun/Wed	8 / 3	7 / 5
Last Sunday Offering & YTD	\$.	YTD Total \$.

Calendar of Events		
Today, April 29th	8:30 am	Bible Study - Heritage Hymns ELH #252
<i>Easter-5 Cantaté</i>	9:30 am	Divine Worship (W/ Communion)
<i>Worship The LORD</i>	10:45 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!
Tuesday, 5/1	- all day -	Polk County Election. OSL = Poll Place
Wednesday, 5/2	6:00 pm	OSL Bible Study PARABLE.10 Good Sam.
Thursday, 5/3	9:30 am	OSL Evangelism/Events Committee Mtg.
Sunday, 5/6	8:30 am	Bible Study - Heritage Hymns ELH #493
<i>Easter-6 Rogaté</i>	9:30 am	Divine Worship (W/ Communion)
<i>Pray to The LORD</i>	11:00 am	"BBQ" Picnic Lunch ...Signup in Hall

Elders: Tom Temple 213-4622; John Weber 853-5458; Don Wienke 815-8892.

April 29th ▲ ELS Centennial: Proclaim the Wonders God Has Done: 1918-2018

A notable remark was made at the time the ELS purchased Bethany Lutheran College: "Once we have discovered that the school is a necessity, we will discover we can afford it. We can do a lot of things that we think are absolutely necessary once they have become a matter of life or death to us." For many decades Bethany Lutheran College existed as a junior college. In 1996 the synod decided to make BLC a 4-year baccalaureate-degree granting institution.



Next Sunday 5/6 Rogaté = Easter-6 (p.15 w/ L.S.) #s 459 457 648.1-3 458 47

EASTER5B CANTATÉ John 15:1-8 “LIVE VINE; FRUITY BRANCHES” 04.29.18 OS

I am the Vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

VINE/BRANCHES Jesus the Vine; we the branches. He the Source of life, we the ones who live in Him. The image takes us out to wine country, to the rolling vineyards lush with grape vines. Fruitful branches thick with grapes growing on an old, gnarled Vine with roots that reach deep into the ground. Jesus is that True Vine, the only Vine planted by God. His Roots go deep down into Israelite soil and God's covenant promise to David, to Israel, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, all the way back to Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden, the place our origin.

VINEDRESSER The Father, Jesus says, is the Vinedresser, the Gardener. The Guy with dirt under His fingernails and pruner's clippers on His belt. Watch the Vinedresser in action. Watch how He cuts off every branch that doesn't bear fruit, while every branch that does produce He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. These aren't random, hacking cuts He's making. These are selective, strategic cuts, precisely just above a tender bud. He carefully distinguishes green wood from dead wood. He has just one purpose: To make the branch even more fruitful.

1. FAITHFUL PRUNING Look at an unpruned vine sometime, one that hasn't seen the pruner for several years. On the surface there is a lot of lush green growth, but deep inside it's mostly dead wood. And there's very little fruit on such a vine. Fruit happens on new growth, on buds that have been spurred into action by careful pruning. That's the first point of this analogy this morning. **The Father prunes us for fruitfulness.**

WHAT'S FRUIT? Before we can understand this image fully, we need to understand precisely what is the "fruit" Jesus is talking about. I'm going to invoke the general editorship of the Holy Spirit here, and suggest that "fruit" generally means the same thing, no matter who says it, whether **Jesus, John, or Paul**. In his letter to the **Galatians**, Paul says that the "fruit of the Spirit" at work in us through the Word is this: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control**. It's a *singular* fruit, not multiple fruits. This is the fruit I believe Jesus is referring to when He talks about His disciples being fruitful branches joined to Him.

NOT ABOUT US "Being fruitful" isn't about how much work you can do for Jesus or how many disciples you can notch for the Kingdom. Jesus isn't giving His disciples a TO-DO list here. He's telling them what flows from a heart that trusts Him, that clings to His death for life, that believes His Word: (again) **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control**.

IT'S NATURAL Fruit **happens more or less automatically** when the branch is healthy and properly pruned. I can't imagine a branch agonizing over its fruit production, or trying to squeeze out fruit from a dead branch. If the vine is alive, and the life of the vine is flowing out to the branches, fruit happens.

DEADWOOD Now if anything impedes the flow of juices from the main vine to a branch, the branch will wither and die and become fruitless dead wood. Dead wood is what the Father's pruning clippers are after. Dead wood is our own sinful self which gets in the way of Jesus having His way with us. These are the things that Jesus died to take away from us. These are the things we died to in our

Baptism. This is what Jesus absorbed into His death and buried in His tomb. These are the dead works of unbelief, of the death of Adam at work in us and in the world around us. "In Adam we die." These things need to be cut away and burned up. And so the Father prunes away the dead wood, whatever gets in the way of Jesus life flowing through us.

PAINFUL PRUNING **Pruning can be painful.** The branch suffers loss and injury. When you prune that grapevine (especially) in winter, it may not be a pretty sight. When you're done, all that's left are a few short stubs with a couple of buds on each of them. But that's where the growth comes that makes fruit.

TRAGEDY "*Why do bad things happen to good people?*" we ask. "*Why do bad things happen to me?! Why does God permit **tragedy** to occur? Why does He let people lose house and home and job and honor?*" The answer from today's reading comes this way: He prunes every branch in Jesus that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You're being pruned, not punished. Pruned by the Master Gardener to produce greater **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control** than you could ever imagine.

& LOSS And that is the **experience of many of us Christians**. You've seen it yourself, or maybe even experienced it for yourself. You suffer some loss - loss of health, or work, or property. And there's great grief and sorrow. **But instead of shaking your fist at God**, or cutting Him off, you turn to Him in your misery. You embrace the loss and accept it. You turn to the Word. You commune more intentionally. And you find that the most difficult and painful times in your life are also the most fruitful, spiritually speaking. There's room for the implanted Word to grow and blossom. And you find a joy and a peace and a softening of the heart that you can have no other way.

2. IMPOSSIBLE W/O JESUS No branch can bear fruit by itself. It must remain joined to the vine. Apart from the vine, it will wither, dry up, and die. "*Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me...apart from Me, you can do nothing.*" That's the **second point**. This is not about you, but about **Christ at work in you and you living in Christ**.

DO NOTHING Apart from Jesus, we can do nothing. **But we still try.** We who ought to know better, we baptized believers in Jesus, yet we try to go it alone. We try to have the Spirit's fruit without Jesus. The unbelieving world certainly does. It has all sorts of **programs and religions that promise peace and joy and fulfillment**, but can't deliver, because it's all up to you in the end. "*The energy for change is all inside you,*" they say. "*You just have to tap into it.*" But when you try to tap into it, you find the well to be dry. The truth is there is **nothing** that will make you fruitful in the way we are talking about. No twelve step program to give you **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control**. These things don't naturally flow from our hearts. What comes naturally are lies and theft and slander and gossip and immorality and murder and threats. **Not the fruit of the Spirit but the sin of Adam.**

FRUIT FROM JESUS **Good fruit comes from Jesus**, out of His perfect, sinless Life. Out of His innocent suffering and death. Out of the open, empty tomb of His Resurrection. It comes from the Life of Jesus flowing into each of you, joined to Jesus. He is The Vine, remember. We are the branches. We are not each vines unto

ourselves. We are branches joined to The Vine, drawing our life from Him, our Strength, our fruitfulness.

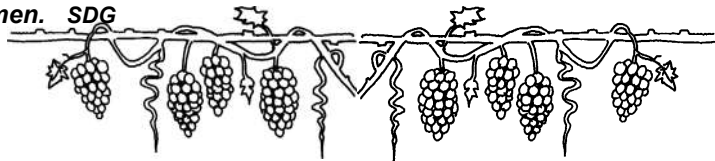
3. BEAR MUCH FRUIT Grafted into Him, hanging on to Him in faith, we bear much fruit. Our lives are filled with **love, joy, patience... (all 9)**. That's what Jesus does in us with His Word. Remaining in Him, we hear His Word, we eat and drink His Body and Blood, we hear and cling to His Word of forgiveness. What happens here in church **every Sunday morning is "Vine and branches stuff."** Jesus the Vine, feeding and nourishing and refreshing the branches to be fruitful.

DRIED-UP(?!)
When we cut ourselves off from the Vine, when we refuse to hear or don't make the time to read His Word, when we stay away from the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, when we refuse the gifts Christ sets before us, why are we then surprised when we feel dried up, withered, fruitless? Sometimes we barely notice it in our day to day habits. **We just kind of slip away, lose touch.** We're not at the Lord's Table as often, we don't read the Bible as much, we go through the motions of religion but we're not hearing. And what happens? **We dry up.** Faith withers, like any branch cut off from its source of life. We live small, puny, trouble, discontented, empty lives. **And it's all so unnecessary.**


ALL DONE
God has **done everything** - embraced us in the death of His Son, baptized us, forgiven us, welcomed us to His table. He grafts us to the true Vine and prunes the unproductive branches. So don't blame God if you're all dried out and fruitless. It's not God's fault, it's our own fault. **The Vine is always there,** giving us life. We're the ones who cut ourselves off and say no. But Jesus is always faithful, always forgiving, always urging and welcoming. *"Come to me. I am the Vine, you are my branches. I will fill you with my life, with my strength, with my forgiveness. Apart from me there is only death and destruction. And the hell of it is that it's all unnecessary. I died for you. I embrace you in my death. I remain in you, now you remain in me. That's where you're fruitful and alive - in me. Not in yourselves, but in me."* Jesus is saying that to each of us here this morning, **"Remain in Me, as I remain in you."**

IN EACH OTHER
By His Word Jesus remains in us, and by faith in that Word we remain in Him. His Word makes us clean, His Word makes us fruitful, His Word shapes our words of prayer. First we hear, then we speak. That's the order. The Vine comes first, then the Branches. Jesus says, *"If My Words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."* That doesn't give us some magic formula to get whatever we wish. This is not some guarantee for prayer. Instead, Jesus is saying that when His Word has had its way with us, when it has gone into our hearts and struck our minds and our hearts so that we trust Him, **His Word will shape every word that comes out of our mouths.**

SDG
Jesus wants each of us, all of you, to **be fruitful, to live large** in His life, to **live freely** in His forgiveness. He desires that for each of you. It's to His Father's Glory that you bear fruit, much fruit, that your lives be filled with **all those fruits of the Spirit,** and that you be His disciples, trusting Him all the way in life, in death. You are the branches; He is the Vine. **In Him you ARE fruit-FULL.**
IJ'N, Amen. SDG



Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL 
Easter-5 *Cantaté* Sunday  *Sing Praise to the Lord!*
SERMON: Vine & Branches  April 29th, 2018  9:30am

Possible Prayer of the Church * Fifth Sunday of Easter  April 29th, 2018
In peace, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

For the whole Church on earth and for all pastors, teachers, musicians and servants of Christ's people, that the Holy Spirit would give us the joy of singing the new song, a hymn of Resurrection Victory in Christ, our Savior, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the President, Congress and all who make, administer or judge our laws, that our common life might be conformed to the Will of God, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our parish, that God would make us an outpost of the age to come, living already in this fallen world from the joys of a life that death cannot destroy, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel, for pregnant women and young mothers, for the lonely and afflicted, for those suffering from addiction, for those who mourn, and for those in need of healing, [*especially* [OSL Prayer List](#)]

PRAYER REQUESTS:	Member or Relation	Pray for...
Sue Smith (Bev Foster)	Sue battling pancreas & liver growths.	Sad but faithful
Jim & Elma Hendricks	LORD's will be done. Both at home.	Jim's BP spikes
Dee Kurczewski (David)	Dee was in hospital after falls. Back home, rehabbing	
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Joe Thacker (Bev Foster)	Joe is home recovering from double pneumonia	
June Weyenberg	June back home (by herself) doing rehab from knee surgery	
Don Wienke (Bev)	Don had a bad cold and flu - hopefully is over it	

that our Heavenly Father would protect, nourish, sustain and restore them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who come to the feast of Christ's Body and Blood this day, that preserved from unbelief and impenitence, they may receive forgiveness of all sin and experience a foretaste of the feast to come, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have fallen asleep in the sure hope of the Resurrection to Eternal Life, let us offer our praise to God, asking Him to give us our portion with all His saints in light, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jsus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**