

Family Service – Fifth Sunday of Easter 28th April 2024

The True Vine

Welcome & Notices

Opening Prayer

Lord thank you that you are here with us. Make us aware of your presence as we worship you. Speak to us that we might know you better. Fill us again with your Holy Spirit that we would live for your glory. Amen

Opening song: **As we are gathered**

**As we are gathered, Jesus is here;
one with each other, Jesus is here;
joined by the Spirit, washed in the blood,
part of the body, the church of God.
As we are gathered, Jesus is here;
one with each other, Jesus is here. *(repeat)***

John Daniels © 1979 Word's Spirit of Praise Music

Reading 1 - John 15: 1, 5-8 (Derek)

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

'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. 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. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection 1

Song: You are the vine

**You are the vine,
we are the branches,
keep us abiding in you.
You are the vine,**

**we are the branches,
keep us abiding in you.**

**Then we'll go in your love,
Then we'll go in your name.
That the world will surely know,
That you have power to heal and to save.** *(repeat from start)*

**You are the vine,
we are the branches,
keep us abiding in you.
You are the vine,
we are the branches,
keep us abiding in you.**

D Daniels & Randy Rigby © 1985 Vineyard Publishing

Reading 2 – Galatians 5: 22-23, 25 (Derek)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection 2

Fruit of the Spirit Prayer

Father please grow in me a deep love for You and a selfless love for my family and for those I meet each day.

Grow in me: Love.

Father please grow in me a joyful spirit so that I can rejoice and give praise at all times.

Grow in me: Joy.

Father please fill me with Your perfect peace that passes understanding and which guards my heart and mind. Grow in me the ability to trust You rather than to worry and fret.

Grow in me: Peace.

Father please grow in me the grace to be patient and to wait on You. Help me to endure hardships calmly and without complaining.

Grow in me: Patience.

Father please grow in me a generous and compassionate attitude that is always looking to help others.

Grow in me: Kindness.

Father please grow in me integrity and uprightness that I might glorify You.

Grow in me: Goodness.

Father please grow in me the grace to be faithful to You and not to doubt Your love and turn away. Please also grow in me the grace to be faithful in all my other relationships.

Grow in me: Faithfulness.

Father please grow in me a gentle and gracious attitude toward others.

Grow in me: Gentleness.

Father please grow in me self-control and discipline. Help me not to be indulgent in any area of my life.

Grow in me: Self-Control.

Father, may we bear much fruit.

Amen.

Saying Sorry & receiving God's forgiveness

Father God,

Please forgive us when we have chosen:

to hate instead of loving others,

to grumble instead of giving thanks,

to be irritable instead of showing patience,

to be unkind instead of showing kindness,

to be drawn to bad things instead of doing good,

to be unfaithful instead of being faithful,

to be rough instead of being gentle

and to be greedy and selfish instead of showing self-control.

We turn away from these wrong attitudes and ask that you help us to stay connected to Jesus. Please fill us again with your peace.

Amen.

May the God of love
Bring us back to himself,
Forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Song: My Jesus, my saviour (Shout to the Lord)

**My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord there is none like you,
All of my days, I want to praise
The wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship you.**

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing,
Power and majesty, praise to the King!
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar,
At the sound of your name!
I sing for joy at the work of your hands
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you. *(repeat from start)***

Darlene Zschech Copyright © 1993 Hillsong Publishing/Kingsway Music

Creed (with actions)

**We believe in God, the Father, Almighty *(hands in the air with arms bent)*
who sent Jesus into the world. *(arms out in front)*
He came as a baby, born of the Holy Spirit, *(cradling motion)*
was crucified, *(arms as on a cross)*
died, *(head down)***

and was buried. (*crouch down*)

On the third day, He rose again from the dead, (*leap in the air*)

He ascended into heaven, (*arms lifted high*)

where he prays for us continually. (*hands together in prayer above head*)

Praise the Lord, Alleluia! (*hands in the air at 45 degrees*)

Intercessions (*Tammy*)

Responses

You are the vine.

Help them to stay connected to you.

Merciful Father

Accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter:

Risen Christ,

your wounds declare your love for the world

and the wonder of your risen life:

give us compassion and courage

to risk ourselves for those we serve,

to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Sharing Time

Final Offertory Song - An army of ordinary people

**An army of ordinary people
A kingdom where love is the key,
A city, a light to the nations,
Heirs to the promise are we.
A people whose life is in Jesus,
A nation together we stand.
Only through grace are we worthy,
Inheritors of the land.**

*A new day is dawning,
A new age to come,
When the children of promise
Shall flow together as one.
A truth long neglected,
But the time has now come
When the children of promise
Shall flow together as one.*

**A people without recognition,
But with him a destiny sealed,
Called to a heavenly vision,
His purpose shall be fulfilled.
Come, let us stand strong together,
Abandon ourselves to the King,
His love shall be ours forever,
This victory song we shall sing.**

*A new day is dawning,
A new age to come,*

***When the children of promise
Shall flow together as one.
A truth long neglected,
But the time has now come
When the children of promise
Shall flow together as one.*** (repeat chorus)

Dave Bilbrough Copyright © 1983 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

Blessing

Jesus, you are The Vine and we are the branches.
Help us to stay connected to you each day.
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

The Peace

All who say they love God must love their fellow humans;
The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Refreshments followed by APCM.