

Welcome

(Use this time to welcome people)

Gathering and Welcoming Prayer

The joy of the risen Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Life is forever open-ended.

No vine or tree is meant to be forever fruitless.

Loss is only for a little while and joy comes in the morning.

Despondency and despair have no permanent ground in this universe.

Faith, hope and love are gifts that last forever.

But the greatest of these gifts is love.

The love of the Lord Jesus be with you all.

And also with you.

Music/Song (You can copy, paste & download these songs with Lyrics)

Abide with Me <https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/542460307/3aae240856>

Change My Heart O God

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/542461574/2e18f7080f>

Prayer for Forgiveness & Thanksgiving

Jesus said: "I am the vine, you are the branches." Let us pray.

We thank you, gracious God, for Jesus Christ the true vine, with his roots eternally grounded in you. We rejoice that by grace we have been grafted into him, to be branches on a vine which bears the loveliest of all the fruits of earth. Yet we confess that all is not well with the way we live.

Please forgive us for the occasions when

**we have been the ones to introduce disease into the vine,
preferring its contamination to the vigour of health.**

Forgive us for neglecting to draw deeply on the sap of Life,

**for our tendency to wander instead of growing on the framework you
provide,**

**for being content, and sometimes even proud of, a few sparse or
undersized fruits,**

**for the apathy which lets us to go through some seasons without
bearing any fruit.**

Have mercy on us. Please do not lose patience or sever us completely from the true vine. Rather heal our diseases, discipline, and train our wandering tendrils, prune our unfruitful branches, and cut away our diseased ones. May we remain in

Christ and he in us, through all the changing seasons of life. Let us delight in bearing the fruits of love which are our true purpose and joy. For your Name's sake.

Amen!

Assurance:

Jesus said: "If you reside in me, and my words reside in you, ask whatever you will and it shall be done for you." Friends, we have asked for forgiveness and correction. It has been truly done for us. It is being done for us. And it will be done for us.

Thanks be to God!

Passing the Peace:

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

(Turn to those around you and greet them with the words above)

Notices:

Offerings:

Prayers for Others: (Take this time to pray for our world, our local community and individuals)

Confession:

I believe in God, Source of all things seen and unseen:
in a universe where the basic reality is Spirit-Mind,
present in human beings as a reflection of this hidden Spirit,

I believe in Christ Jesus, God's only true Son:
in grace which surpasses all our ideas of justice,
in suffering that redeems the previously unredeemable,
in life that bursts free from graves and all captivity.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, our immanent Friend:
in a world where no human being is ever alone,
in an inner light that opens our eyes to truth,
in a sap which makes the fruitless become fruitful.

I put my trust in God.

I put my trust in Christ.

I put my trust in Spirit.

Amen!

Music/Song:

Jesus, What a Beautiful Name

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/542462571/c455bd6139>

Reading for Today:

Easter 5, Acts 8:26-40, Ps 22:25-31, 1 Jn 4:7-21, Jn 15:1-8

Reflection: The Supernatural and Experiential Spirit

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/542376123/527832c211>

Questions related to the Reflection:

- Can you relate in any way with the Ethiopian Eunuch? Or do you know others that may relate?
- How would you feel if God sent you to someone, who was gender non-specific, to tell about Christianity?

Silence:

Sit still and silent. Sink into your heart. Think about how you experience the supernatural from the Spirit in your life.

Communion:

Closing Prayer & Blessing:

Go cheerfully then, and live boldly.

The grace of the Saviour,
the love of the Creator,
the friendship of the Lover,
is yours forever!

Amen!

Music/Song: (Optional - You may wish to include another piece of music or song here)

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Prayers adapted from <http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocB/BEASTER5.htm>



Easter 5
The Supernatural and Experiential Spirit
of God
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