

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 27 & 28, 2024

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To reflect God's love through service to the family of God.

## **WELCOME STATEMENT**

We welcome and encourage the full participation of all people, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, appearance, or anything else that threatens to divide us. We have all been claimed as God's children, and all are welcome here.

*"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."*

-Galatians 3:28

## WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Preaching Minister—Jean Lincoln  
Organist—Cheryl Licary  
AV Assistant—Grant Dusso

### **5:00 pm service**

Assisting Minister—Nancy Nelson  
Communion Assistant—Bev Spangenberg  
Lector—Nancy Nelson  
Ushers—Nancy Schmidt

### **8:30 am service**

Acolyte—TBD  
Assisting Minister—Nancy Ribbeck  
Communion Assistants—Betty and Nathan Dygart  
Communion Prep—Betty Dygart  
Lector—Bill Ribbeck  
Ushers—Terry Amundson and Bob Pederson

### **10:30 am service**

Acolyte—Callie Parker  
Assisting Minister—Rebecca Wallendal  
Communion Assistant—Linda and Lorie Becker  
Communion Prep—Rebecca Wallendal  
Lector—Pat Brogan  
Ushers—Bill Frisbee and Mark Sorenson

## INTRODUCTION

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.

# GATHERING

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## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please rise.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*pause for reflection*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in yours hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN

*Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing*—ELW 389:1,2,4,5



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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## GREETING

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

**C: And also with you.**

# KYRIE

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C:   
Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G major (one flat) and 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C:   
Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G major (one flat) and 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C:   
Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G major (one flat) and 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C:   
Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G major (one flat) and 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C:   
A - men.


The musical notation consists of a single staff in G major (one flat) and 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).

# HYMN OF PRAISE


*This Is the Feast*

*REFRAIN*   
This is the feast \_\_\_ of vic-to-ry for our God.


  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1.   
Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood


  
set us free \_\_\_ to be peo - ple of God. (*REFRAIN*)


2.   
Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and hon - or, \_\_\_

  
bless - ing and glo - ry are his. (*REFRAIN*)

3.   
Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of

  
all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry and might

  
be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. (*REFRAIN*)

4.   
For the Lamb \_\_\_ who was slain has be - gun his \_\_\_ reign.

  
Al - le - lu - ia. This is the feast \_\_\_ of vic-to-ry

  
for our God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O God,

**C: 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.*

## WORD

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### CHILDREN'S MOMENT (10:30 am)

#### FIRST LESSON Acts 8:26-40

L: A reading from Acts.

<sup>26</sup>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.) <sup>27</sup>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 <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>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.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>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?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>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.  
<sup>40</sup>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.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM Psalm 22:25-31**

L: We read Psalm 22 responsively:

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!  
May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,  
shall kneel before the LORD.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"



## SECOND LESSON 1 John 4:7-21

L: A reading from 1 John.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us.

<sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -  
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -  
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

## GOSPEL Luke 24:36b-48

P: The holy gospel, according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

Jean Lincoln

Please rise.

# HYMN OF THE DAY

**Now the Green Blade Rises**—ELW 379



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: 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.

*A brief silence.*

A: We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

# MEAL

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*Please greet one another, as you feel comfortable, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.** After the sharing of the peace, you may be seated.*

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

*Offering is received as ushers pass the plate down each row. As we sing the Offertory, ushers bring offering forward.*

*Please rise.*

## OFFERTORY

**Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**—ELW 184

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: **Amen.**

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

# WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C: 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive Communion. The bread is given first, then select either a small cup of red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available; please ask the server. Empty cups are placed in the basket. Children may come forward for a blessing.*

*Please rise.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**



# SENDING

## BENEDICTION

### SENDING HYMN

*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*—ELW 836

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: **Thanks be to God.** Alleluia!

## **POSTLUDE**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **MARVEL MOVIE FAN?**

A MARVEL-OUS Bible Study opportunity is being held for our 6th-12th grade youth beginning **Sunday, April 28 at 9:30 am**. We will examine pop-culture through the lens of the Gospel, while exploring the movie SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING. Join us in the Conference Room - you won't want to miss! For more details, contact Molly Rosenbloom at [molly@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org](mailto:molly@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org).

### **YOUNG @ HEART**

On **May 9 from 12:00-2:00 pm**, come out for lunch, games, and fellowship. Menu: Pizza, Salad, and dessert. In order to prepare lunch, please sign-up on the sheet located on the counter in the Commons.

### **BOOK STUDY: ACEDIA & ME**

It has been said that a sense of weariness and despair is epidemic in our society. Kathleen Norris, a best-selling author of several spiritual books, believes that acedia can help us understand this melancholy feeling for us as individuals and as whole communities. Pastor Tony will be leading a 5-part study exploring this book beginning on **Sunday, May 19 at 9:30 am** in the Chapel. Sign up today!

### **WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVESTREAMED**

Sunday morning services (8:30 am and 10:30 am) are livestreamed and available on our YouTube channel. For your convenience, links and bulletins are posted on our webpage - visit [oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/worship](http://oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/worship).

# Weekly Calendar

Saturday	April 27	5:00 pm	Worship
Sunday	April 28	8:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm	Worship Coffee Hour MARVEL-OUS Bible Study Kids Connect Worship Televised Worship (Ch. 992)
Monday	April 29	8:30 am	Sewing Bee
Tuesday	April 30	11:00 am 6:00 pm	Pastors Text Study Boy Scouts
Wednesday	May 1	9:00 am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Men's Group Televised Worship (Ch. 992) Confirmation
Thursday	May 2	5:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Worship, Music & Arts OA Choir
Saturday	May 4	5:00 pm	Worship
Sunday	May 5	8:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm	Worship Coffee Hour MARVEL-OUS Bible Study Kids Connect Worship Televised Worship (Ch. 992)

**Altar Flowers** are given today by Pastor Tony and Valerie Dusso in gratitude for the beauty and wonder of God's creation.

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# WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT OUR SAVIOR'S

It is a joy to have you join us for worship. Wherever you are from, wherever you are in life or on your faith journey, we are glad you are here. Please fill out a Yellow Slip for attendance and prayer requests.

## FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

We have large print bulletins and hearing enhancers for anyone who may need them, please see an usher for assistance.

## SCRIPTURE

You may want to prepare for next Sunday by studying the scriptures.

- Acts 10:44-48
- Psalm 98
- 1 John 5:1-6
- John 15:9-17

## STAY CONNECTED

749 Bluff Street, Beloit, WI 53511  
(608) 362-0716  
office@oursaviorsbeloitwi.org  
Pastor Tony Dusso

 [www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org](http://www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org)

 @OSLCBeloit

 @oursaviorsbeloit

ONLINE GIVING ►



## BEYOND SUNDAY

DWELL IN THE WORD AND NOTICE  
HOW IT CONNECTS WITH YOUR LIFE

Define the word "abide." Who are the people you abide with? How do they impact you? How do you impact them?

Read John 15:1-8. Imagine a grapevine. How are the grapes, vines, leaves, and soil related? What happens when a leaf is removed, a vine is cut off, or the whole plant is removed from the soil? How does this relate to the relationship between people in community?

Jesus says, "Abide in me as I abide in you." Meditate on the fact that Jesus is always with you and that it is in God you live and move and have your being. Seek ways to abide in Christ this week.

