

# Welcome to St. Luke



May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012



# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



## "One Vine: Four Branch Types"

On Mother's Day the world honours women who bear the noble title of "mom." If you are a mother or grandmother or great-grandmother, we salute you today! The word "mother" elicits many images, including *kindness* and caring. As we appreciate today the kindness of mothers, it also gives us a small window into the ultimate *kindness* of Jesus, who cared for us all the way to a cross and the grave. Then his continued *kindness*, he grafts us as branches into Himself, the "vine." In our Gospel today Jesus talks about four different types of branches and clarifies Himself as the source of true life and joy. Moms bring us joy, but how much more so our true source of love and nourishment!

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG - "I Will Grow"

## INVOCATION AND PRAYER

SONG SET: "His Banner Over Me"  
"Breathe"

## CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

*(A time of personal reflection and confession)*

Pastor: Father, Jesus has said to us..."He who abides in me, and I in Him, the same bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

People: **We confess the times we go our own way, and cut ourselves off from the vine of Christ. We confess the times we attempt to produce fruit on our own, by our own doing. We confess the times we are not at all concerned about our relationship with Christ. We ask forgiveness, trusting not in our own merit, but Your grace, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

## FIRST READING Acts 8:26-40 (*Philip baptizes an Ethiopian.*)

<sup>26</sup>Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not 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>And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

## EPISTLE READING 1 John 4:1-11 (*God's love compels us to love.*)

<sup>1</sup>Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. <sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that 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 have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/SKIT

**SONG – “This Little Light of Mine”**

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 15:1-8 (*Jesus is the vine; we are the branches.*)

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.  
<sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.  
<sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.  
<sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. 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. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

**MESSAGE –** *Pastor Ed Govaski*

**HTMN –** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” #803

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Pastor:** We love Your presence in our lives, O God.

**People:** **You love us so much; You are willing to shape our lives to be more like You.**

**Pastor:** We follow the Lord, Jesus Christ...

**People:** **and long to draw closer to You.**

**Pastor:** We release to You those withered twigs and rotten fruit

**People:** **So the same power of God which raised Jesus from the dead, Who reveals the Messiah to our hearts, will renew the life within us, marking and sealing us for final redemption, when we will live and reign with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever in heaven. Amen.**

**WE OFFER OUR GIFTS**

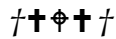
**RECORD OF FELLOWSHIP** (*Please complete the friendship register located at the ends of the pews*)

**PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER** (*Back page in hymnal*)

**BENEDICTION**

**HYMN -** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" #922 (*v. 1-4*)



**By the Power of the Holy Spirit, St. Luke Lutheran Church exists to:**

- Bring People to Jesus and membership in His family,
- **lead** and **nurture** them to Christ-like maturity, and
- **equip** them for their ministry in the church and their life mission in the world

***In order to Honour and glorify God***

**Scripture Readings for Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>:**  
Acts 1:12-26, 1 John 5:9-15, John 17:11-19



### **Announcements**



**WELCOME VISITORS** - We are delighted that you have joined us this morning. We pray that the Holy Spirit richly blesses your worship with us and we invite you to join us again. If you are looking for a church home or have any questions please speak with Pastor Govaski. Being a friendly congregation is a priority here at St. Luke. You can help us by leaving your name and address on the Friendship Register when it is passed down your pew. After the blessing at the end of the Service, greet your fellow worshippers and introduce yourself!

**PARENTS OF SMALL CHILDREN** - We are pleased to provide Soft Books for your child to use during the Service. They can be found in the back of the Sanctuary. There is a Nursery room on the right side of the sanctuary for small children that need soothing and preoccupation during the service. A few quiet toys and a couple of rocking chairs can be found there. For safety reasons all children must be accompanied by an adult. Please help keep the room tidy after use.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** this morning are dedicated by Vera Hoknes to the glory of God and in loving memory of Floyd & Brent Hoknes.

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY** - We wish all mothers and grandmothers a happy Mother's day and may God bless your day!

**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS** to all celebrating their birthday during the month of May.

**THE CHANGE BUCKET** is in the Narthex this morning.

**THANKS** to our St. Luke Sunday School children for sharing and assisting with the Service this morning.

**"BARRIER-BREAKING LOVE"** (Acts 10:34-38) Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Greg Seltz - God's love is no respecter of persons. His love comes to all by grace through faith in Jesus. That love breaks down barriers and builds bridges so that others might see that love in action for them **Hear** this inspirational message on AM 550 at 11:30 a.m. If you are unable to listen to the radio at that time you can hear The Lutheran Hour anytime on-line at [www.lutheranhour.ca](http://www.lutheranhour.ca)

**FOOD DONATIONS** - A bin has been placed in the Atrium for food donations to help needy people in our congregation and community who come to St. Luke for assistance. If you or someone you know is in need of such assistance please contact the church office. **Particular needs right now are: canned meats/fish, Peanut Butter, crackers, Kraft Dinners, canned fruit, lunch box snacks, juice boxes etc.** Please consider bringing one Item each week. Your support is appreciated.

**VOTERS' ASSEMBLY** meets Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 a.m.

**SO YOU THOUGHT IDOLATRY WAS AN OLD TESTAMENT ISSUE?** You don't worship any "graven images"! There is only one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and He has your complete devotion. Join us on Sunday, May 27 at 1 pm at Walnut Grove Lutheran Church, 20530 - 88 Ave, Langley, for the presentation **"Of What Lovers Is Your Soul in Silent Search?"** by Bryce Thomas, District Convention presenter and Ambassadors of Reconciliation Board of Directors member. This fast paced two hour seminar will include PowerPoint, drama presentations, and plenty of discussion. If you believe you can provide local talent (or if you are adventurous and just want to have fun), let Bryce know ahead of time and you could be part of a drama presentation.

**TIME FOR PRAYER** - Let us all join together in prayer as we reach out to our community, fulfilling God's call for us to share our faith with those who do not yet know of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Please take some time to sign up for our prayer walk on May 26<sup>th</sup>, or the Prayer Vigil on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**PENNIES FOR MOSQUITO NETS** - Make your final pennies count and donate them to help prevent malaria in Canadian Lutheran World Relief's project countries! In light of the Canadian government's recent decision to phase pennies out of circulation, CLWR is encouraging congregations, schools, youth groups, and Sunday School classes to roll all those stray pennies lingering in jars and on dresser tops, cash them in, and donate the results to provide mosquito nets to families in countries where malaria is prevalent. Over 3 billion people are at risk for malaria, and every 30 seconds, an African child dies from the disease. Every little bit counts! It only takes \$10 to provide a family with a mosquito net, one of the safest and most effective ways to prevent malaria. See Poster on bulletin board for info.

 **THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE** 

<b>TUESDAY</b>	9:00 a.m. Daybreak 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7:00 p.m. Natural Evangelism Bible Study
<b>THURSDAY</b>	1:30 p.m. Bible Class 7:00 p.m. Youth
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

**UP-COMING EVENTS at ST. LUKE!!**

**Prayer Walk - May 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Prayer Vigil - June 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Confirmation Sunday - June 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Men's Un-retreat - June 7-10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Prayer Walk - June 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Church Picnic - June 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Prayer Walk - July 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**V.B.S. July 23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Prayer Walk - July 31<sup>st</sup>**

<p><b>St. Luke Lutheran Church</b>          10177- 148 Street. V3R 3X2          Phone 584-6446          WEB: www.sllc.ca  <b>Senior Pastor:</b> Rev. Ed Govaski  <b>Youth/Worship:</b> Matthew Tressel</p>	<p><b>Connecting People to Jesus</b>          Surrey, B.C.          Email: <a href="mailto:stluke@telus.net">stluke@telus.net</a>          Home: 584-4964          778-235-1100</p>
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