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bear fruit by itself,  
unless it abides in the vine,  
neither can you,  
unless you abide in me.”** h \_\_\_\_\_

John 15:4

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Worship Services broadcast on Austin Cable Channel 6, M & W, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

*Affiliated with*  
**CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION**  
[HTTP://stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com](http://stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com)  
[www.CLClutheran.org](http://www.CLClutheran.org)  
[www.ilc.edu/home.htm](http://www.ilc.edu/home.htm)

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, today I am approaching Your altar where I shall receive the true body and blood of Your Son sacrificed for my sin upon the cross. Bless my reception of this communion that I may gain confidence that You have forgiven all my sins. Use this blest communion to assure me of the abiding relationship You have established with me, calling me to be Your child and heir of everlasting life. Help me to live according to Your holy will, defeating temptation in my daily life, and glorifying Your name before the world in all my words and actions. In Jesus' name. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: p. 15

HYMNS: 758; 411; 754; 313:3

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Revelation 3:7-11

God sees and appreciates those who are faithful to His Word and persevere in true faith in spite of the opposition of the world and the devil. He will preserve the faithful from every evil and the severe testing of persecution in the world. May we strive to remain faithful and true to our Lord that we may watch for His coming with eager anticipation of deliverance to eternal life. Even so come, Lord Jesus, and help us hold fast to what we have.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 15:1-11

With the picture of the vine and the branches Jesus speaks to us of how He alone is our source of life and strength. He is the vine and we are the branches. Attached to Jesus we will bring forth much fruit. Unproductive and dead branches are pruned and thrown into the fire. But we are attached to the Lord Jesus and He gives us strength. While we can do nothing good apart from Him, attached to Him we shall live fruitful lives to the glory of God the Father. As we abide in His love Jesus is our source of true and everlasting joy.

THE SERMON: Isaiah 5:1-7

Theme: The Vineyard of the Lord

I. God's Faithful Care of the Vineyard

May 18, 2014

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter

II. The Vineyard's Fruit

III. The Lord's Rejection of Wild Grapes

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We observe the Scriptural practice of close communion. We do this in loving concern for all who would desire to commune, that it might be for their spiritual blessing and not their spiritual harm. The Scriptures teach us that communicants need to be able to examine themselves concerning their sin and repentance, and also a proper understanding of the Lord's presence in the sacrament. We ask that only those who are members of this congregation, or one affiliated with us in the CLC, partake of the sacrament. Please speak with the pastor if you would wish to commune with us at a future time.

## CALENDAR

TODAY: Sunday school and Church Council will follow the service.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism class this week at 4:30 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Sunday school and Bible class enter summer recess. Sermon text: Revelation 3:14-22.

## FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

June 1: Minnesota Delegate Conference in Sleepy Eye, MN at 3 p.m.

June 8: Pastor Barthels will be preaching in Hales Corners, WI. Mr. Rob Sauers will be conducting the service in pastor's absence.

June 16-19: CLC Convention in Eau Claire, WI.

June 22: MISSION FESTIVAL SUNDAY: Foreign Missionary Ed Starkey will serve as our guest speaker.

June 22-28: Camp Koyquin in Pillager, MN

## SERVING TODAY

Pianist: Anita Meyer

Ushers: Arnie Ottjes, Melvin Eichstadt, Joe Ubl

Cleaning: Barthels

**OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:** Attendance: May 11  
 Worship –35, Sunday school 0 Bible class -8

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,080.00	Other Offerings	
Offerings Received	682.00	Missions	\$100.00
Needed for Year:	20,520.00		
Received for Year:	19,401.50		

**Request for Volunteer(s):** The Ladies Aid is (still) seeking a volunteer(s) for the Card Committee. If you may be interested, please contact President Deb Berg for details on what this may involve.

**LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Several months are still open for volunteers. Please consider which month of the mowing season you would be able to volunteer to mow, and sign up on the sheet that can be found on the mailbox table. Thank you!

**CLC NEWS:** Missionary Koenig Retirement Gift –CLC President Michael Eichstadt authorized a special collection so that we might present Dave and Mary Koenig with a monetary gift at this summer's CLC Convention, to show our love and appreciation for their many years of dedicated service. Pastor Koenig served our church body as a foreign missionary to Nigeria and India, and as our visiting representative to many other countries. Checks should be made out to the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC), and may be put in the regular offering. Please write "David Koenig Retirement Gift" on the memo line; or mail your check, before June 9, to ILC Business Office, 501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

**BRANCHES NEWSLETTER:** The Ladies Aid subscribes to the CLC women's newsletter called "The Branches". It is available for members to borrow and to take home for a week to read. Please examine this sample and consider if you would like to support this extension of our CLC fellowship with a subscription. See the insert!

**Spokesman subscription renewal:** The Lutheran Spokesman is CLC's voice to the world. It contains many good devotional articles as well as editorials and other articles on the issues of the day. Support this ministry with your subscription! Sign up on the sheet on of the mailbox table. Cost \$15.00. Make checks payable to St. Paul's.