

**Sunday, May 2, 2021**  
**5 Easter Sunday, Year B**

**John 15:1-8**

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.”

**OPEN**

- Spiritually, what plant best describes you now: Towering oak? Weeping willow? Tumbleweed? Crab-apple tree? Why?

**DIG**

- If vine branches were human, what pain would be associated with pruning? What tools? How does the disciples' experience illustrate this process (see 13:18-21, 36-38; 14:5-8)?
- Jesus repeats ***remain in me, love and bearing fruit***, How are these words related? What is the “fruit that will last”(v. 16)?

**REFLECT**

- As a branch on Christ's vine, how would you describe the fruit in your life: Grande A-1? Juicy? Green? Wormy? Why?
- Do you feel more like Jesus' servant or his friend? What helps develop the friendship?