

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024

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Hymns are found in the blue *Hymnal 1982* (the 'S' numbers are in the front!) or the red and black *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* which can be found in your pew. The service begins in quiet and prayer.

Prelude: *Soliloquy* David Conte (b.1955)

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn 379: *God is Love*

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

People **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria: *Festival Eucharist* Craig Phillips (b. 1961) (10:00 am only)

May be sung in English or Spanish

Glo - - - - - ry. glo - - - -
Glo - - - - - ria, glo - - - - -
- - ry to God in the high - - - - - est.
- - ria a Dios en el cie - - - - - lo.

Choir: and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **[Congreg. Refrain]**

Choir: Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **[Congreg. Refrain]**

Choir: For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus, Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. **[Congreg. Refrain]**

People **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way,

the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: *Acts 8:26-40*

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.) 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 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:22-30

Choir **Praise the LORD,¹ you that¹ fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of¹ Jacob's¹ line, give¹ glory.**

ALL For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he¹ hide his¹ face from them; *
but when they¹ cry to¹ him, he¹ hears them.

Choir **My praise is of him in the¹ great as¹sembly; *
I will perform my vows in the¹ presence of¹ those who¹ worship him.**

ALL The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the¹ LORD shall¹ praise him: *
"May your¹ heart¹ live for¹ ever!"

Choir **All the ends of the earth shall¹ remember and¹ turn to the¹ LORD, *
and all the families of the¹ nations shall¹ bow be¹fore him.**

ALL For kingship be¹longs to the¹ LORD; *
he¹ rules¹ over the¹ nations.

Choir **To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow¹ down in¹ worship; *
all who go down to the¹ dust¹ fall be¹fore him.**

ALL My soul shall live for him;
my des¹cendants shall¹ serve him; *
they shall be¹ known as the¹ LORD's for¹ ever.
They shall come and make known to a¹ people yet un¹born *
the saving¹ deeds that¹ he has¹ done.

The Second Lesson: *1 John 4:7-21*

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

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 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. 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. 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. We love because he first loved us. 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. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 487: *Come, My Way, My Truth*

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel: *John 15:1-8*

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

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel

As branches of Jesus, the living Vine, seeking to abide in the Spirit of love, we bring our prayers to God: Eternal Loving One, accept the wishes of our hearts as we faithfully pray. *A brief silence* Bountiful God, you call us to labor with you in tending the earth: Where we lack love, open our hearts to the world; where we waste, give us discipline to conserve; where we neglect, awaken our minds and wills to insight and care. May we with all your creatures honor and serve you in all things.

People **God of Love, hear our prayer.**

Sharing the loaves and fishes, you gave us an image of solidarity with the hungry. Sharing yourself in the bread and wine, you called all people to your table. Give us the hunger to be a part of the feeding and the healing of this world. Open our eyes and our hearts to increase our awareness of the structures and systems that need to be changed so we may all break bread together. **God of Love, hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for this community of faith in which questions, doubts, and differences of opinion are respected. So draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so direct our wills, that we may be dedicated to you and strive for your will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. **God of Love, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the leaders of this nation and the leaders of nations around the world. Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace. **God of Love, hear our prayer.**

God of peace and justice, we pray for all involved in the conflict in the Middle East, Ukraine, Haiti, and all those in war-torn countries. Provide safe havens for civilians and refugees, sustain those working to provide relief, and comfort those who mourn the dead. Guide the global community on the path to end the conflict and violence. Gather all your people under the banner of the Prince of Peace. **God of Love, hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all who are sick or suffering, including those on our prayer list. *Pause* Bring them the wholeness and peace that only you can provide. **God of Love, hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, let us pray for those who are dear to us. *Silence* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. **God of Love, hear our prayer.**

O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come: we remember Lavinia Gnau, in whose memory the flowers are given this morning, and all those we love but see no longer. *Silence* May they rest in peace, sustained by your eternal love. **God of Love, hear our prayer.**

You have planted us in the nurturing ground of your steadfast love, O God, and grafted us into the life of your resurrected Son, Jesus our Savior: Keep us evermore abiding within your Spirit of love, that we may bear the fruit of your reconciliation for all that is and is to come, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Anthem: *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Robert Hunter
The St. Andrew's Adult Choir Men's Chorus

Children's Entrance Hymn 529: *In Christ there is No East or West*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ.

Sanctus: *Festival Eucharist* Craig Phillips

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow - er and might, heaven and earth are
full of your glo - ry. * Ho - san - na in the
Ho : san - na en el
high - est. Blessed is the One who comes in the
cie - lo.
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na en el cie - lo.

** The "Hosanna" may be sung in English or Spanish*

The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant gives thanks for the reconciling work of Christ through his passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People **Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic prayer.

Celebrant By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit of all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem: *Christ Our Passover* Jeffrey Rickard (b. 1942)

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ our Pass - o -
- ver has been sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us
keep the feast, Al - le - lu - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Please come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The priest will place the bread in your outstretched palm (Consecrated rice wafers are available for those with wheat allergies - simply ask the priest). You may dip (intinct) the bread in the wine in the small cup held by the Eucharistic minister. Alternatively, you may indicate your desire to drink from the common chalice by consuming the bread and remaining at the rail after the Eucharistic minister passes; another Eucharistic minister will bring the large chalice over for you to drink from directly. Please know that Christ is fully present in both the bread and the wine - there is no requirement to receive both. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward, cross your hands over your chest, and receive a blessing.

Communion Voluntary: *Jesus Shall Reign* John Hatton
The St. Andrew's Junior Handbell Choir

Communion Hymn, LEVAS 138: *Lord I want to be a Christian*

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are taking Holy Communion to those unable to be with us in person, we say the following

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 448: *O Love, How Deep*

The young people are invited to come forward during the hymn to participate in the dismissal.

Young people Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Vers l'espérance, Poèmes pour orgue: III* Thierry Escaich (b.1965)
Mi Zhou, Organ