



With God's help, we will . . . Seek Christ in all persons; Serve others; and Strive to be a vibrant, growing and visible Episcopal community of faith.

May 2, 2021
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Liturgical Covid note:

During this odd Covid time, it is best that when singing and saying the responses we project as little as possible, that means not singing or speaking loudly. By doing this, and wearing good masks, there is little chance of passing along the infection to someone who is more than six-feet away.

The Holy Eucharist

Sunday, May 2, 2021

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord by David J. Evans

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendour He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal
To minister His grace
No work too hard for Him
In faith receive from Him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place

Acclamation

Presider: Alleluia, Christ is Risen

People: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia

Collect for Purity

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**

Hymn of Praise

Gloria By Mike Anderson

Refrain:

Gloria! Gloria, In Excelsis Deo!
Gloria! Gloria, In Excelsis Deo!

Verse 1:

Lord, God, heavenly King, peace you bring to us,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we sing our song of praise!

Refrain

Verse 4:

Glory, Father and Son, Glory Holy Spirit,
To you we raise our hands up high, we glorify your name!

Refrain

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.*

Service of the Word

Acts 8:26-40

A reading from Acts of the Apostles

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 22:24-30

My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

1 John 4:7-21

A reading from John:

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.

All stand (as able).

Sequence Hymn

Hymn *In Christ there is no east or west*

Hymnal #529

Unison or harmony



1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in

him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

Gospel

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you Lord Christ

Homily

Nicene Creed *all standing (as able)*

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
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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: As we walk with Jesus on this paschal feast, let us offer prayers to God who wipes away the tears from all faces.

For the holy churches of God, Whayne our bishop and Gladstone our Assisting Bishop, for the Standing Committee, the presbyters and deacons, this holy gathering, and all the holy people of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For all those in need, the suffering and the oppressed, for those afflicted by the Coronavirus, travelers and prisoners, the dying and the dead.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For ourselves, our families, and those we love.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

That our Savior may grant us triumph over our visible and invisible enemies.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

That Christ may fill us with the joy and happiness of his holy resurrection.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

That we may enter the chamber of the divine wedding feast and rejoice without limit with the angels and saints.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

Presider: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Hear our prayers we offer this day, and grant that we may break bread for ever with your Son Jesus Christ, Amen.

Presider: The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you Always

People: And also with you.

Due to our present situation, please stay in your places and wave to each other

Announcements and Birthdays

Birthdays this week

Rylee Wells	5/2
Barb Beerthuis	5/2
Mark Luurtsema	5/3
Patti Atkinson	5/3

Anniversaries

n/a

Offertory Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 - #178 Jesus is Lord of all the earth

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of two staves each. The first system begins with a *Descant* section, followed by the *Refrain*. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give".

1-4 Final Ending

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950) Music: *Alleluia No. 1*, Donald Fishel (b. 1950) Words, Music (melody): Copyright ©1973, The Word of God.
 arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928), Charles Mallory (b. 1950) and George Mims (b. 1938) Copyright ©1979, Celebration.
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Service of the Table

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;

You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;

And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

Hymnal S130

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider continues:

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People:

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People:

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

And now as our savior taught us, we are bold to say:

**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, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

Fraction Anthem

S154

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #154 The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover
This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Distribution

Please come forward via the center aisle from the front of the nave. Please maintain social distancing from those who do not live in your household. Please stop about three feet from the priest who will place the communion wafer (the Body of Christ) in your outstretched hands. Return to your seat via the side aisles and consume the wafer at your seat.

Communion Hymns

The Hymnal 1982 - #304 I come with joy to meet my Lord

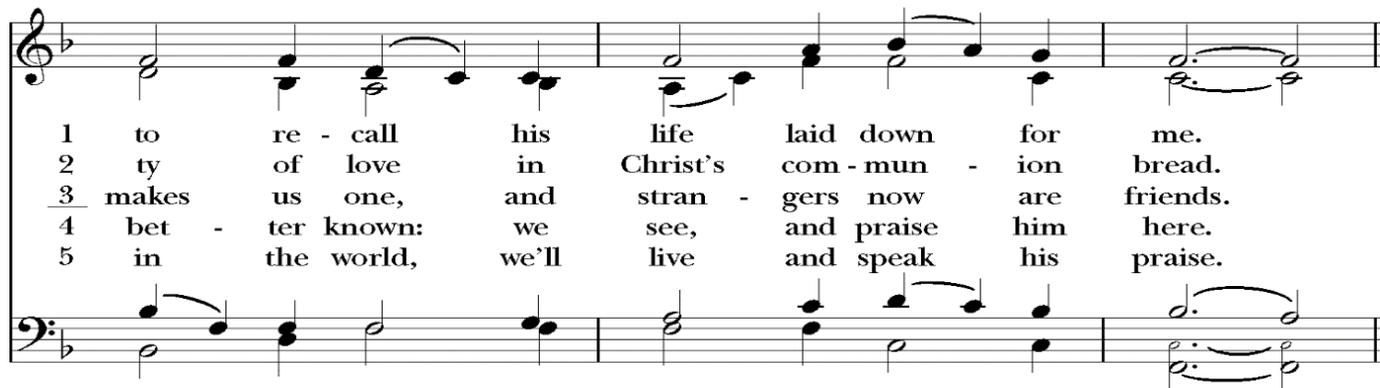
Unison or harmony



1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll



1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple



1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright ©1971 by Hope Publishing Company. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983) Copyright ©1938 by J. Fischer & Bro., a division of Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. Copyright renewed. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us Pray

People: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

Blessing

Closing Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 - #691 My faith looks up to thee

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1887) Music: *Olivet*, Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

Dismissal

Presider: Let us go forth in the Name of the Risen Christ Alleluia Alleluia
 People: **Thanks be to God, Alleluia Alleluia**

Postlude

INVITATION TO INVITE - - One of the most effective tools for growth in congregations is the simple invitation by one person to another, whether that other be family, friend, colleague or someone we meet in passing. You are therefore invited to invite. In these days, forward a copy of our newsletter, tell them about our live streaming; share the love.

Parish Staff

The Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan currently under the ecclesiastical authority of
The Diocesan Standing Committee

The Reverend Dr. Donald F. Davidson, Interim Rector

Ms. Maggie Gonzalez, Parish Administrator

Mr. Reed Bretz, Director of Music

Mr. Kevin Wells, Parish Musician

Mrs. Debbie Kochin, Parish Sexton

The Vestry

Mr. Kevin Murphy, Senior Warden

Mrs. Genia LaNore, Junior Warden

Mrs. Brenda Amato, Parish Treasurer*

Mrs. Becky Wells, Clerk*

Mr. Keith Kuzins

Ms. Nan Campau

Mr. Troy Nelson

Ms. Linda Kitsch

Amanda Lustey

Ron Stuitje

* ex-officio

Office Hours:

Due to our current COVID restrictions, the office and building remain closed. Please call, text or email Fr. Don or Maggie whenever you have a question. In special circumstances clergy appointments remain available.

OUR MISSION:

We seek to be . . .

- ***a melting pot of believers in Jesus Christ whose hearts are open to embrace the world around us;***
- ***a place of healing, comfort and safety for all God's children;***
- ***a house of worship faithful to the traditions of the Episcopal Church and open to the joyful action of the Holy Spirit***

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