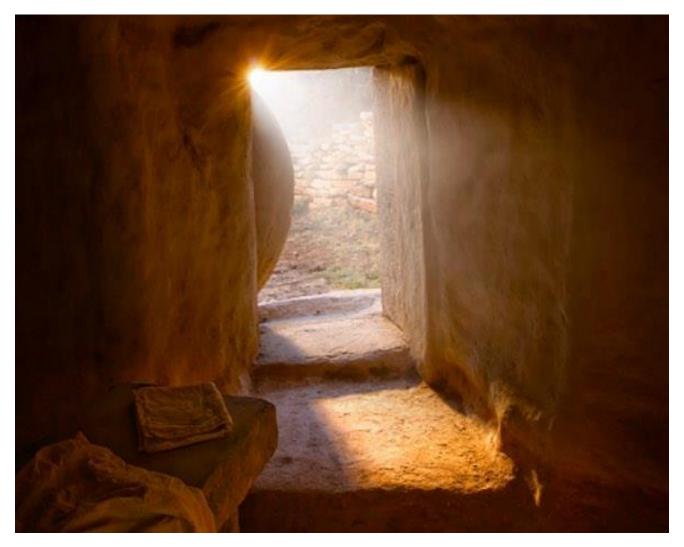
The Fifth Sunday of Easter



May 2, 2021



Wide Open Doors Wide Open Hearts

The Service of Holy Communion, Rite II

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



Easter Acclamation

Leader Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Collect for Purity

Leader 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.

Song of Praise

Festival Canticle



The Collect of the Day

Leader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Leader Let us pray.

Leader

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

Reader A reading from the 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, gueen 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.**

Silence

Gradual Psalm 22:24-30

Joseph Barnby



- 24 My praise is of him in the / great <u>as/sem</u>bly; *
 I will perform my vows in the / presence of / those who / worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the / LORD shall / praise him: * "May your / heart / live for / ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and / turn to the / Lord, * and all the families of the / nations shall / bow be/fore him.
- 27 For kingship be/longs to the / LORD; * he / rules / over the / nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow / down in / worship; * all who go down to the / dust / fall be/fore him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my de/scendants shall / serve him; * they shall be / known as the / LORD 's for / ever.
- †30 They shall come and make known to a / people yet un/born * the saving / deeds that / he has / done.

Reader A reading from the first letter of 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.

The Sequence Hymn In Christ there is no East or West, **Hymnal 529** *McKee*



The Gospel John 15:1-8

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

Leader

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."

Leader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Rachel Wenner Gardner

The Nicene Creed

All

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, Form III

Reader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People That we all may be one.

Reader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Reader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Reader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Reader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People That our works may find favor in your sight.

Reader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People That they may be delivered from their distress.

Reader Give to the departed eternal rest.

People Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Reader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Reader

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. We pray for those who have asked for our prayers, especially, Barbara, Robert, Maggie, Rudi, Ruben, John, Nancy, Emily, Brad & Family, Natasha, Mihayo, MomMom Carol, Emily, Jennifer, Rayelenn, Gordon, Joel, Alyssa, Otis, Valeria, Beth, Devon, Eleanor, Julie, Janette, Jerry's Family, Jim, Michael, Kyle, the Vicker Family, David, and Mark.

We pray the prayers our children have asked for especially: that there is justice for all who are suffering; that our city and our country and world will experience peace; that when we go back to school it will be safe and we will be able to have recess outside; for those who are still jobless and job seeking that they will find employment; for those who are without insurance that they will be able to get care and medical treatment.

You are invited to share your own prayers at this time.

Silence

Leader

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen*.

Leader Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

All

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen

Leader

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Leader The Peace of the Lord be always with you

People And also with you.

Parish Notices

Good Morning and Thank you for joining us today. We miss seeing you in person, yet we are blessed to continue to worship with you each week. As we continue to bring the church to you in the virtual world, we want to share with you somethings that are happening:

Morning Prayer continues each weekday at 9:00 am and Candlelight Compline on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. Join us on Facebook Live.

Returning to Worship: the Vestry is working on our plan for returning to the church, and we will be keeping you updated as soon we have any updates. We hope to have weekly updates on Thursdays beginning in May.

If you wish to give a gift today, we encourage you to do so during the Offertory Anthem. You can do this by texting CHT

DONATE to 73256 or Pressing Learn More on our Facebook Page or, if you are watching on our website, you can click the donate button on the top of the page.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Leader

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. (1 John 4:7-8)

Offertory Anthem

More Love

Donald St. Pierre

More love, more love, the heavens are blessing, the angels are calling, O Zion, more love. If ye love not each other in daily communion, how can ye love God, whom ye have not seen?

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Leader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Leader Lift up your hearts.

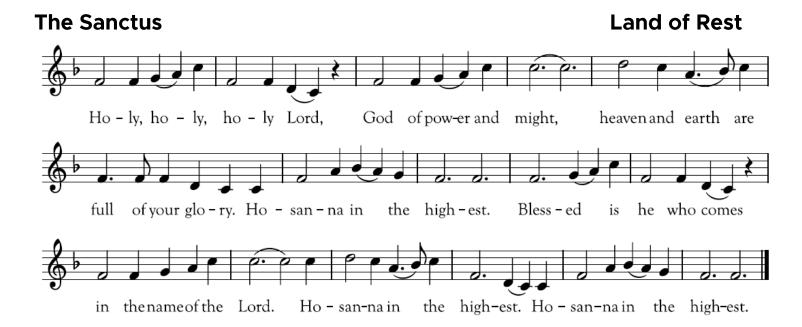
People We lift them to the Lord.

Leader Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Leader

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Leader We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader And now, as our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

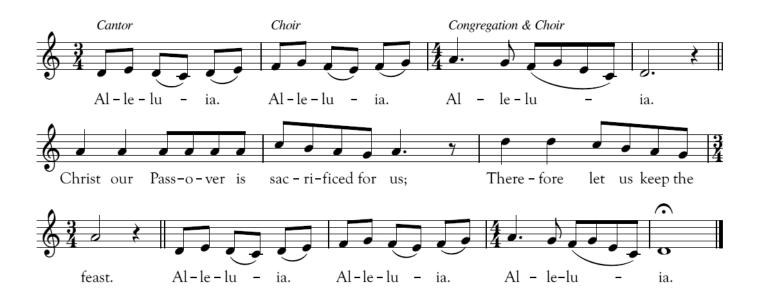
All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For

thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction Anthem

Christ our Passover

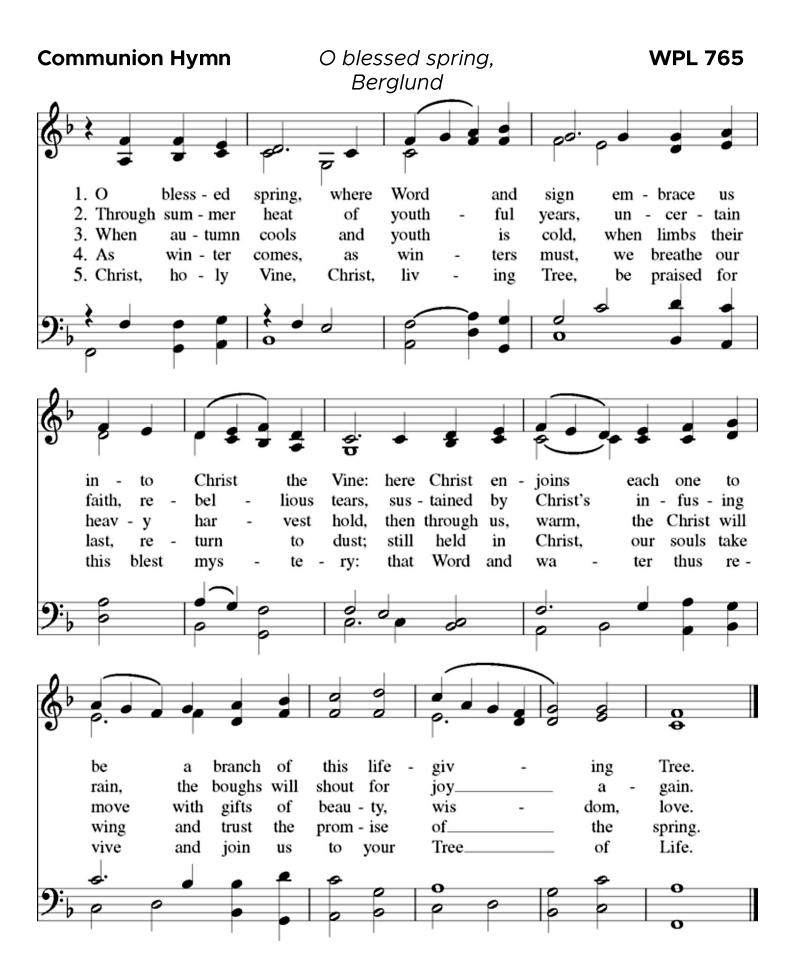
Owen Burdick



Leader The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

All My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liquori, 1696-1787)



Post Communion Prayer

Leader Let us pray.

All

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

Leader The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the

Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always.

People Amen.



The Dismissal

Leader Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude Praeludium in C (BuxWV 138)

Dietrich Buxtehude

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