

# Saint Mary's

Episcopal Church Barnstable

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter: Modified Holy Communion**  
**Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 10:00 am**

**Opening Hymn Lord, whose love in humble service**

*HYFRYDOL*

1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble serv - ice bore the weight of  
 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry  
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re -  
 4 Called by wor - ship to your serv - ice, forth in your dear

hu - man need, who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,  
 cry for bread; still the cap - tives long for free - dom;  
 veal - ing light in its height and depth and great - ness,  
 name we go, to the child, the youth, the a - ged,

of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed; we, your serv - ants, bring the  
 still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your deep com -  
 dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, mak - ing known the needs and  
 love in liv - ing deeds to show; hope and health, good will and

wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart, con - se - crat - ing  
 pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your  
 bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear, stir - ring us to  
 com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, that your serv - ants,

## Welcome and Opening Sentence

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

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

## Collect for Purity *(All say together)*

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.*

## The 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 22:24-30** *(said responsively by whole verse)*

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.

**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 Where the love of God is guiding VS 1, 2, 3

RECONCILLATION

*Unison*

1 Where the love of God is guid-ing there is now an -  
2 Where the truth of God is driv-ing there is now an -  
3 Where the life on earth is cher-ished, there is now an -  
4 God will lead us on this mis-sion, God, the flight-path

oth - er way: new a - ware-ness of com-pas - sion  
oth - er way, shin - ing through our time's con - fu - sion,  
oth - er way, where a child may grow in safe - ty,  
and the power, lift - ing all who grasp the vi - sion

learned from one an - oth - er, love, the face of God in  
sharp with rev - e - la - tion: words that sti - fle sense or  
where there's peace and shel - ter, when we hold the fra - gile  
in - to un - der-stand - ing: so the heart and hope with-

Je - sus, new cre - a - tion's thrust, love, trans-form-ing  
spir - it changed and re - de - fined, cross - es raised to  
plan-et in our con - scious care, when we see a -  
in us set each oth - er free, where the love of

tears and ter - ror in - to health and trust.  
teach di - vi - sion low - ered, left be - hind.  
gain as sa - cred all we are and share.  
God is guid-ing, this shall come to be.

## The Gospel

John 15:1-8

Gospeller: 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."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.  
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Sermon

**The Rev. Dr. Libby Gibson Catania**

### **An affirmation of Faith** (*all say together*)

You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us.  
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and showed your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now.  
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.

## Prayers of the People

Petition: Give us ears to hear,

**Response: That we may know the fruits of the Spirit.**

***Please join us in praying for:*** Janet Allen, Bob & Mary Ann Anthony, Jeff, Kim, and Cassidy Anthony, Gary Anderson, Robert Anderson, Kathryn Anschutz, Philip Armstrong, Jordon Ashwood, Dottie Averna, Eric Blackburn, Michelle Bond, Meg Broadhurst, Marcia Brown, Jonie Buckley, Harry Wood Bulbrook, Carol Call, Byrd Cassibry, Ellen Chechile, Joanna Chechile, Pat Commissiong, DonaLea Cowan, Eddie Crowley, Alexis Daniuk and Tony Botticello, Glenna Douglass, Jared Maurice Douglass-Sax, Bill and Paula Connolly, Dick Cryan, Rick deMello, Susan Dewey, Cherrie Dubois, Betsey Edwards, James & Ellen Falway, Emily Ferretti, Vanessa & Matt Flannes, Annda Flynn, Rita Gardner, Bishop Alan Gates, Carol Gatto, Beth Goodrich, Susan Goodspeed, Peter Grant, Hailey

*Graziano, Beartrice Greenwood, Gregory Greenwood, Ken Harper, Cay Hartley, 'Red' Jalbert, Nathan Jones, Deborah Kearns, Fred Kraics, David Lapham, Art Laughton, Karen LeBlanc, Tessa LeBlanc, Joan LeMarbre, Laura Lewis, Martha Lewis, Kate Lonergan, Amy Loudemilk, Vic Mankiewicz, Jesse Mueller, Dauna Musick, David Nawrocki, Maria Nelson, Sean Norton, B.L. Owens, Ken Oliver, Marian Painter, Betty Reynolds, Robert Parker, Gwen Persichetti, Bonnie Phelps, Chris Phelps, Marta Pleiter, Jan Quaritius, Jim Quarto, Carol Quinley, Kimberly Richards, Pat and Don Ritchie, Paul Rusesabagina, Ed Savarese, Rick Schiffmann, Joy Schiffmann, Leighton Scott, Rebecca Scott, Nancy Scotton, Brooks Smith, Linda Stackhouse, Caroline and Nicole Stackhouse-Eaddy, Fran Swansey, Alice Sweeney, Charlie Walden, Kaye Waltner, Elizabeth Whitmore, Stephen Wilkinson, Raymond Wright Jr., and for: Alexandra, Allen, Anne-Marie, Cindy, Clif, Cory, David, Don, Debbie, Ed & Irish, Gary, Greer, Jake, Jan, Jane, Janet, Jerrie, Jess, Joe, our President, Kamala, our Vice-President, Kate, Kathey, Kristin, Izzy, Laura, Madeleine, Margaret, Melissa, Mike, Murray, Nickie, Pat, Patti, Phyllis, Rebecca, Sara, Siena, Sue, Ted, Terry, Tony, Winnie & Don, Jim & Lolly.*

**Please join us in praying for professionals on the front line:** *Jennifer Babcock, Michelle Babcock, Chris Flynn, Rebecca Graziano, Andy Huther, Bill Huther, Katie Huther, Kelcie & Kenneth Knowles, David Mason, Tom McKean, Rosa Ramirez-Mendez, Diane Munsell, Kimberly Schoener, Jeff Spillane, Jonathan Stackhouse, Kari Steinetz, Kelsey Rezendes, Mary Tempesta, Beatrice Walters, Wendy Young, Brian, Shawn.*

## The Peace

**Celebrant:** The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**People:** And also with you.

## Modified Holy Communion

### Doxology

*LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
 alleluia, alleluia! A-men.**

**Celebrant:** The Spirit of God be with you.  
**People:** And also with you.  
**Celebrant:** Lift your hearts to heaven  
**People:** Where Christ in glory reigns.  
**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to God.  
**People:** It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Gracious and Everlasting One, it is right and good, always and everywhere to give thanks to you — especially in the places where we are scattered right now. We give you thanks for calling forth creation and blending dust with your breath in the emergence of life. We bless you for the covenants you have made with your people, for our ancestors in the faith, and the ways that you call us into community with all people everywhere.

We praise you, for the life, ministry, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and for the way of compassion, justice, and communion he lived and taught. Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise you and say:

**Holy, holy, holy: God of mercy, giver of life;  
earth and sea and sky and all that lives, declare your presence and your glory.**

We remember, Blessed One, that when the risk of arrest and execution became clear, Jesus asked his disciples to prepare a borrowed room where they could eat together, and give thanks, and prepare. When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, "I have

eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

Until we can gather our weary bodies in one place again, until we can share among us the same food and drink, until we can breathe the same air, until we can look into each other's eyes, until we can pass the peace of your Son Jesus and sense your beloved kingdom coming near, may your Holy Spirit hover, and brood like a mother hen, over each and every table, every meal where we wait. May that tender Spirit reach into all the quiet corners of loneliness and longing, reminding us of the deeper, wider communion in which all things dwell with you. May that Spirit keep us hungry for community, for the just and compassionate world you seek; may She keep us awake and expectant, looking always for your kingdom coming near. Blessing and honor, glory and power, be unto you. Amen, and let all the people say "Amen."

*A moment of silence is observed*

## **Closing Prayer**

*Officiant and People pray together*

God, you are our beginning and you will be our end; we are made in your image and likeness. We praise and thank you for this day. This is the day on which you created light and saw that it was good. This is the day in whose early morning light we discovered the tomb was empty, and encountered Christ, the world's true light. This is the day you have made; we shall rejoice and be glad in it. Eternal God, grant to us this day and every day such readiness and delight in following Christ, that whether our lives are short or long we shall have lived abundantly.

Closing Hymn    In Christ there is no east or west

McKEE

1. In Christ there is no east or west, In  
2. In him shall true hearts ev - 'ry - where Their  
3. Join hands, dis - ci - ples in the faith, What -  
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In

1. him no south or north; But one great fam - 'ly  
2. high com - mu - nion find; His ser - vice is the  
3. e'er your race may be! Who serve each oth - er  
4. him meet south and north; All Christ - ly souls are

1. bound by love Through - out the whole wide earth.  
2. gold - en cord Close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
3. in Christ's love Are sure - ly kin to me.  
4. one in him, Through - out the whole wide earth.

Text: CM; Galatians 3:28; John Oxenham, 1852–1941. Music: Spiritual; adapted by Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949.

Blessing

Dismissal

*Deacon*    Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People*    Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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