

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Alleluia. Christ is risen
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead
will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died,
he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin,
& alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Alleluia!



Prelude: *We walk by faith and not by sight*

Gordon Slater (1896-1979)

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.
BCP, page 255

Gloria

Hymnal, S280

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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.**

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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.

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.

Psalm 22:24-30

Please unmute

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
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 before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs 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 before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord'S for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.
- Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Please mute

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,



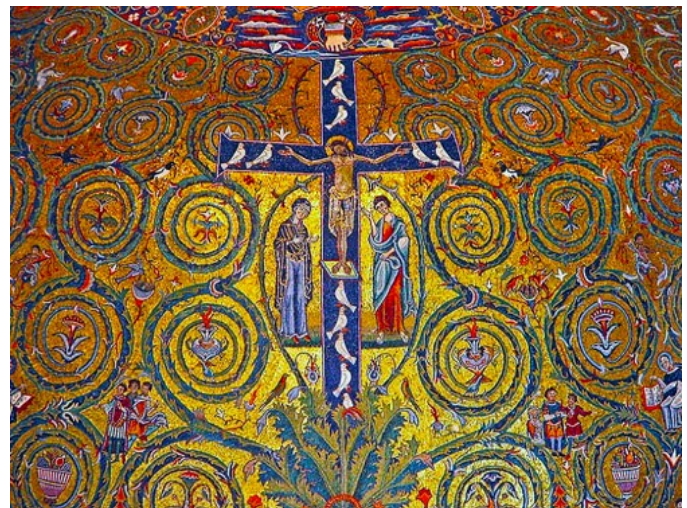
"I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Hymn #410 -- *Praise my soul, the King of heaven*

- 1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.**
- 2 Praise him for his grace and favor
to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness.**
- 3 Father-like he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows.**
- 4 Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.**

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



Let your loving attention reach like a vine to all who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, that they may be restored to life and fruitfulness. Open our eyes to see our sisters and brothers in need around the world. Inspire and empower us to respond with generous spirits and compassionate hearts.... †

Revive our souls that we may abide in Christ, and lead us as we learn new ways to be community during the coming months. Help us to offer hospitality and peace, green pastures and still waters, to each other and to all we meet

Give peace to those who have died, grant them eternal rest, and give comfort to those who mourn.... †

We offer our own prayers and thanksgivings either aloud or in silence.

St. Martin's prayer list

Sierra O'Leary, Mrs. Gillies, Clyde Holt, Bob Martin, Steve Ward, Susan Korbet, Paul Dunn, Mak Yost, Robert Buhner, Richard Erb, Robert Hertzberg, Jaqueline Wren, Nancy Hanger, Sara Boardman, Sandra Trowbridge, Joe Davis, Timothy Treadway, Patricia Horn, Mike Busch, Heather Aros

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. *(Prayer from Gloucester Cathedral)*

A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen. *(BCP, 833)*

Presider The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please mute.

Hymn #193 – *That Easter day with joy was bright*

- 1 **That Easter day with joy was bright:
the sun shone out with fairer light
when to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord.**
- 2 **His risen flesh with radiance glowed,
his wounded hands and feet he showed;
those scars their solemn witness gave
that Christ was risen from the grave.**

- 3 **O Jesus, King of gentleness,
do thou thyself our hearts possess,
that we may give thee all our days
the willing tribute of our praise.**
- 4 **O Lord of all, with us abide
in this, our joyful Easter-tide;
from ev'ry weapon death can wield
thine own redeemed forever shield.**

THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

People **And also 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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Out of nothing you created worlds and brought forth life, for delight and for companionship. You sent Jesus to walk the paths with us, showing us the way of life. In days of trial and darkness, he taught us to trust and to be faithful. Rising, he brought hope in the redemption and renewal of all things.

In joy we receive you, O Christ; set our hearts on fire with your love.

To strengthen and sustain us, Jesus took the ordinary things of life and blessed them to be signs and channels of his presence: bread and wine, prayer and story, hands and voice. He asked that we share these things, and remember him.

Today, O God, in this time of pandemic, we are not yet free to meet and touch, to have our common bread, to sing your praise in our houses of worship. But what we can do, we do in remembrance of him. Today, O God, we present to you what brings us together; our memory and longing, our joy in being connected with you and with each other.

Holy God, accept the offering of our lives. Set our hearts on fire with your love, so that we may be your people, a reminder of compassion, justice, and hope in the world. In joy we receive you, O Christ; and in hope we follow you into the world. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Presider And now we pray the prayer Jesus taught:

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.

Postlude:

"Italian Concerto: Allegro

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Blessing, dismissal (Alleluia! Alleluia!), and conversation

From the Vestry agenda:

1. Reopening guidelines (Outdoor worship with Communion)
 - a) Up to 300 people
 - b) Masks at all times
 - c) 6 feet separation for vaccinated, 10 feet for unvaccinated
 - d) No singing, no food or coffee hour, no common cup
 - e) Maintain distance as people come up to receive Communion
 - f) Return to seats before removing mask and eating
2. Reopening Schedule
 - a) May 2 - 16: Zoom worship
 - b) May 23 (Pentecost): Hybrid Zoom/Outdoor Holy Communion
 - c) May 30: Zoom worship + meeting
 - d) June 6, 13, 20, 27: Hybrid -- work out the bugs

Images:

Eastern Orthodox icon of Jesus Christ as the True Vine (16th C)

Baptism of the Chamberlain of Queen Candace of Ethiopia, Unidentified artist

Smile on Your Brother, Fonseca, Rico, Bleeker St., Greenwich Village

Medieval Image of the Cross as the Tree of Life

Thanksgiving prayer based on a prayer written by The Rev. Diane Root