

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Liturgy of the Word

May 2, 2021 ~ 10:30 am

ONLINE WORSHIP BULLETIN

Christ is Risen!

Alleluia!

Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

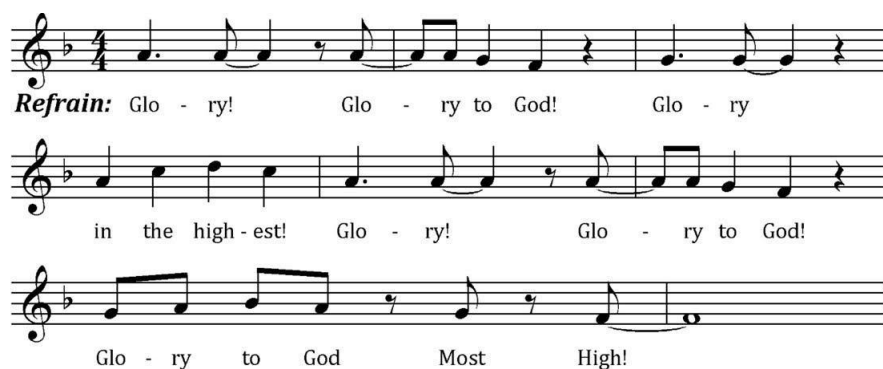
Collect for Purity

Let us pray.

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

Jesse Manibusan



Refrain: Glo - ry! Glo - ry to God! Glo - ry
in the high - est! Glo - ry! Glo - ry to God!
Glo - ry to God Most High!

Choir:

O God, Holy One, almighty God and Father, we worship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory! **Refrain:**

O Lord, Jesus Christ, Holy One, Redeemer,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. **Refrain:**

You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High God, with the Spirit in the glory to God! **Refrain:**

The Collect of the Day

May God be with you.

And also with you.

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.

WORD

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.

The Word of the Lord
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.

A Reading from the First Letter of John

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.

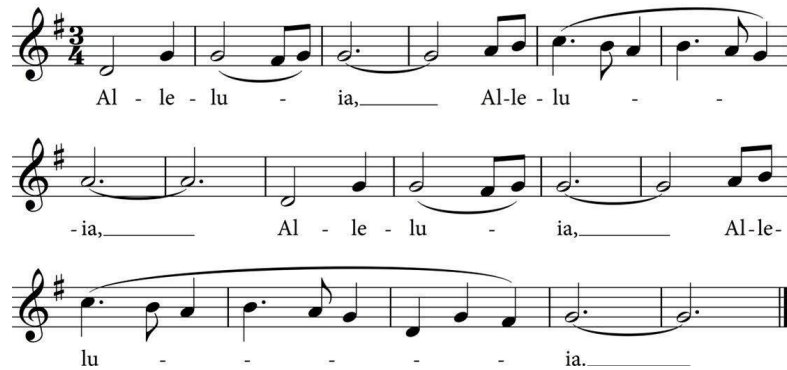
By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the 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.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Alleluia: *Celtic Hallelujah*

John Reager



The Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
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."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Awake, O Sleeper, rise from death,
And Christ will give you life!

Bring newness and change to your church, O God, that we might serve you with courage
and grace. Awake, O Church, rise from death,
And Christ will give you life!

Bring newness and change to your world, O God, that all might know the goodness of
your love. Awake, O World, rise from death,
And Christ will give you life!

Bring newness and change to our nation, O God, that each person might share and
honor the other. Awake, O People, rise from death,
And Christ will give you life!

Bring newness and change for the suffering, O God, that they might know your saving
help. Awake, O Sorrowful, rise from death,
And Christ will give you life!

Bring newness and change to even the departed, O God, that they might forever grow in
your likeness. Awake, O Saints, rise from death,
And Christ will give you life!

Bring newness and change to our hearts, O God, that we might grow larger in faith and
hope. Awake, O Soul, rise from death,
And Christ will give you life!

Awake, O Sleeper, rise from death, for Christ has burst forth from the tomb, making all
things new. Rise and live, says the Lord. This day God has made for life and all joy!
Amen, alleluia!

The Lord's Prayer

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 Peace

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements

Blessing of Firefighters

Thanksgivings of the Community

You are invited to come forward to offer public thanks for the movement of God's Spirit in your own life: thanks for a birthday, an anniversary, a new job, and unexpected act of compassion, or another grace-filled change in your life. We close this time with the following prayer:

O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they mark this day. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

The Blessing

May the God who formed all things in Love, draw you near to God's own heart, empower you by the power of the Spirit to live the Way of Love with fellow travelers, and send you to participate in the resurrection and healing of God's world.

And may the blessing of our Lord - loving, liberating, and live-giving - be with you and remain with you forever. Amen.

Processional: *God is Love, let heaven adore him (v. 1,3)*

Abbot's Leigh

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of christ, alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!