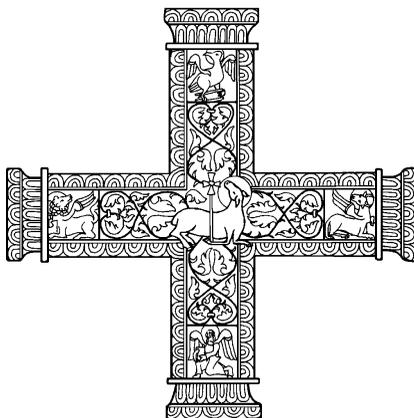


# *Grace Episcopal Church*

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021, 10:00 AM

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## *Welcome*

In the name of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, we welcome you to worship in the Episcopal tradition. During the liturgy there are times when the congregation is directed to kneel or stand for significant periods. If you are unable to do so, please know that you are welcome to be seated.

**Music** is considered an element of prayer and is therefore an important part of worship.

At this time, *singing during worship is reserved only for the cantors.*

**Masks** must be worn by everyone when approaching the church and inside the church, covering both the nose and mouth (except for those under 2 years of age).

**Offerings** may be placed in the basket at the font as you enter or leave the Nave, or on-line at [www.gracekirkwood.org/give-to-grace](http://www.gracekirkwood.org/give-to-grace).

**Hearing assistance** is available; please ask an usher.

*We enter into silence in preparation for worship  
and request that you silence cell phones and similar device.*

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

**The Voluntary**

*The Rejoicing*

Georg Friedrich Händel  
(1685-1759)

**Hymn**

*Abbot's Leigh*

God is Love: let heaven adore him; God is Love: let earth rejoice;  
let creation sing before him, and exalt him with one voice.  
God who laid the earth's foundation, God who spread the heavens above,  
God who breathes through all creation: God is Love, eternal Love.

## THE WORD OF GOD

*Celebrant*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People*

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

### The 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

Christ the Lord is risen again! Christ has broken every chain!  
Now through all the world it rings that the Lamb is King of kings. Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ our Paschal lamb indeed, Christ today your people feed.  
Alleluia!

### 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

*Philip explains to the Ethiopian eunuch the good news of Jesus.*

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.

*Lector*    The Word of the Lord.

*People*    **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 22**    *Deus, Deus meus*

Michel Guimont

*Refrain: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.*

I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD.

The lowly shall eat their fill;

They who seek the LORD shall praise him:

“May your hearts live forever!”

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

All the families of the nations shall bow down before him.

To him alone shall bow down all who sleep in the earth;

Before him shall bend all who go down to the dust.

## The Second Lesson

1 John 4:7-21

*God's indwelling in the Christian is manifested in love for one another.*

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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel Acclamation

Colin Mawby

Alleluia. Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia.

## The Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

*Jesus declares that he is the source of spiritual life for all who are his disciples.*

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "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."

*Priest*     The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*     **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

The Reverend Virginia L. Bennett

**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:**

**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.**

**Prayers of the People** — *The People remain standing.*

*Celebrant* Christ has gathered us as branches of the true vine. Let us offer prayers to God who does for us whatever we ask.

*Intervessor* For Deon our Bishop, Todd and Virginia our Priests, and for the Staff and Vestry of this parish; for the Anglican Church of Brazil and Naudal their Archbishop; for all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. Risen Lord ...

*People* **Glory and praise to you.**

*Intervessor* For all nations and their leaders; for healthcare workers; for those serving in the military; for first responders; for those who have responsibilities in public life, and for reconciliation and peace in the world. Risen Lord ...

*People* **Glory and praise to you.**

*Intervessor* We pray for Mike, Stan, Rebecca, Molly, David, Mary Etta, Alice, Ginger, Emily, Joel, Ben and the Voller Family, Jane, Carol and Ted, Jason, Chris, Jim and for those we name aloud..., have compassion on all those who suffer from any grief or trouble; for travelers and refugees, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, and for those in prison. Risen Lord ...

*People* **Glory and praise to you.**

*Intervessor* For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead. Risen Lord...

*People* **Glory and praise to you.**

*Intervessor* We give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and make us faithful stewards of your great bounty, and for those thanksgivings we name aloud... Risen Lord ...

*People* **Glory and praise to you.**

*Intervessor* Lifting our voices with all creation, Saint Matthew and all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

*People* **To you, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who abides in all who love you. Hear the prayers we offer this day and give us your Spirit of peace to love our brothers and sisters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## Announcements

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## Anthem at the Offertory

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life;  
Such a Way as gives us breath,  
Such a Truth as ends all strife,  
Such a Life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength;  
Such a Light as shows a Feast,  
Such a Feast as mends in length,  
Such a Strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart;  
Such a Joy as none can move,  
Such a Love as none can part,  
Such a Heart as joys in love.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*It is customary during the Great Fifty Days of Easter for the people to stand through the entire Eucharistic Prayer.*

## Eucharistic Prayer B

*Celebrant* 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 our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

.....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:

## **Sanctus**

David Thorne

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

#### **The Fraction Anthem**

*New Plainsong*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### **The Communion of the People**

*For those who are not able to receive the Sacrament, we invite you to make a Spiritual Communion.*

In union, O Lord, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since all the faithful cannot receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into all our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

### **Handbell Music at the Communion**

*Come Thou Almighty King*

Bill Ingram  
(b. 1940)

### **The Post-communion Prayer — *The People stand.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**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 Easter Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Hymn

*Gelobt sei Gott*

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring: “Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!”

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord  
the life laid down, the life restored: “Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!”

## The Dismissal

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

## The Voluntary

*Fugue in G*

Georg Friedrich Händel  
(1685-1759)

Acknowledgements

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*The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Bill Cadwallader  
in memory of his wife, Mary.*



## TODAY'S MINISTERS

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Organist & Choir Master	Phillip Brunswick
Cantors	Lindsay Amen, Lisa Kohler, Pat O'Brien, Susan Vernon
Lector	Wes Proctor
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Ushers	Bill Cadwallader, Richard Russell
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***The Mission of the Church Is the Mission of Christ***

- ~ *To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom*
- ~ *To teach, baptize and nurture new believers*
- ~ *To respond to human need by loving service*
- ~ *To seek to transform unjust structures of society*
- ~ *To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation  
and sustain and renew the life of the earth*

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