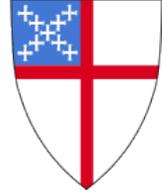




EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Fifth Sunday in Easter

MAY 2, 2021 | YEAR B | RITE II



- THE LITURGY OF THE WORD -

The people's responses are in **bold**

PRELUDE | *WHERE TRUE CHARITY AND LOVE DWELL, GOD HIMSELF IS THERE*

OPENING ACCLAMATION | BCP 355 | Fr. Birch

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY | BCP 355 | Fr. Birch

Celebrant 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.
People **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS | BCP 356 | David Hurd, b.1934

Choir / People

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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.**

Celebrant 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.

People **Amen.**

FIRST READING: ACTS 8:26–40 (NRSV)

| Lector

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

*A*n 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.**

Silence may follow.

*M*y 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 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.

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 4:7–21 (NRSV)

| Lector

Reader A reading from the first letter of John.

*B*eloved, 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.

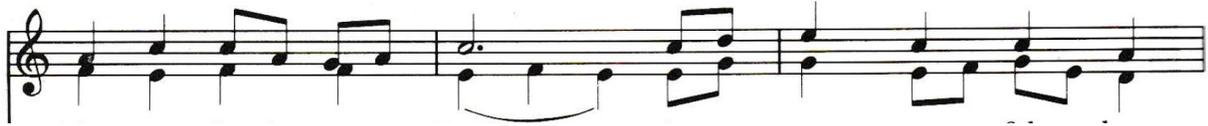
Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN | #529 IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST | McKee



1. In Christ there is no East or West, in
2. Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what
3. In Christ now meet both East and West, in



1. him no South or North, but one great fel - low-
2. e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
3. him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are



1. ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
2. as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
3. one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt.

Music: McKee, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. And harm. Harry T Burleigh

CM

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8 (NRSV)

| Dcn. Lauri

Deacon 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."

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

THE SERMON

| Fr. Birch

THE NICENE CREED

| BCP 358

| Lector

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

| BCP 392 (VI)

| Dcn. Lauri

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
**For our families, friends, and neighbors,
 and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the
 world;
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and
 peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice,
 and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind

of trouble;
**For those who minister to the sick, the
 friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all
 who seek the Truth.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Diana
 our Bishop; and for all bishops and other
 ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this
 congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of
this life; and for the new ministry of
Fr. Birch.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may
have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

| BCP 364

| Dcn. Lauri

Deacon As our Savior, Christ, has taught us, we now pray.

All

**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

| BCP 360

| Fr. Birch

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

THE BLESSING

| Fr. Birch

Celebrant May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. Amen.
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

DISMISSAL

| BCP 366

| Dcn. Lauri

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Presider :: Rev. Birch Rambo | **Deacon** :: Rev. Lauri Watkins

Lectors :: Sandi Orbell, Doug Bonham, Karen Fabiano

Virtual Choir :: Lucy Booth, Mari Dole, Annie Heckel, Patty Krier, Bridey Connolly,
John Loughran

Organist :: Margaret Gries | **Audio Production** :: Annie Heckel

Video Recording & Production :: Don Laufer | **Art** :: Mike Van

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