

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

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ChristEpiscopalCR



## All Are Welcome!



Available on YouTube  
[https://www.youtube.com/c/](https://www.youtube.com/c/RectorChrist)  
RectorChrist

April 28, 2024 • In person at 10:15 a.m. or streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube

### PRELUDE

*Dedication*

V. Thomas

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The People's responses are printed in **bold type**.*

### OPENING HYMN

*The God of Abraham Praise*

#401

1 The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;  
2 He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;  
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,

1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;  
2 we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend:  
3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;

1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed:  
2 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,  
3 on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains,

we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.  
and sing the won - ders of his grace for ev - er - more.  
and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.

# Christ EPISCOPAL Church

#### Rector

The Rev. Brian K. Gross  
[briang@christepiscopal.org](mailto:briang@christepiscopal.org)

#### Appointments

Parish Office  
(319) 363-2029

#### Deacon

The Rev. Melody Rockwell  
[melodyr@christepiscopal.org](mailto:melodyr@christepiscopal.org)

#### Business Manager

Becky Palmer  
[beckyp@christepiscopal.org](mailto:beckyp@christepiscopal.org)

#### Office Administrator

Nicole McConnell  
[nicolem@christepiscopal.org](mailto:nicolem@christepiscopal.org)

#### Communications & Technology

Tom Lewis, MDiv  
[tlewis@christepiscopal.org](mailto:tlewis@christepiscopal.org)

#### Organist

Lena Nichols

#### Greeters:

Charles Crawley  
Libby Slappey

#### Acolyte

Daniel Lieurance

#### Office Hours

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Monday-Friday





**Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services.** A staffed nursery is available if desired, for infants through preschool age children. Additionally, activity bags for creative young minds are available for worship services in the narthex. Children make a joyful noise!

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
 People: **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
 Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;  
 People: **There is one hope in God's call to us;**  
 Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
 People: **One God and Father of all.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE:**

#S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the





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.**

**FIRST LESSON:**

Lector: A reading from Acts.

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 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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM:**

<sup>24</sup>My praise is of him in the great assembly; **\*I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.**

<sup>25</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise

him: **\*"May your heart live for ever!"**

<sup>26</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, **\*and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.**

<sup>27</sup>For kingship belongs to the Lord; **\*he rules over the nations.**

[Acts 8:26-40]

**Lector:**  
Judy Schillinger

[Psalm 22:24-30]



[1 John 4:7-21]

**Lector:**  
John Spielman

<sup>28</sup>To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; **\*all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

<sup>29</sup>My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; **\*they shall**

**be known as the Lord's for ever.**

<sup>30</sup>They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn **\*the saving deeds that he has done.**

**SECOND LESSON:**

Lector: A reading from First John.

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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL HYMN:**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

#657

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

**THE GOSPEL:**

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,

[John 15:1-8]



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 Rev. Brian Gross

Lector:

Teresa Pappas

*We believe...*

**SERMON**

**THE NICENE CREED:**

Lector: Let us confess our faith with 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**

Lector: Christ has gathered us as branches of the true vine. Let us offer our needs and thanksgivings to God.

For the whole world and all the churches of God. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For this holy gathering and for our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all the baptized whose faces shine with the light of Christ. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Betsey our Bishop, for our clergy, and for all who minister the people of God. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all nations, peoples, tribes, clans, and families. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all places in strife and unrest, that you may inspire all your people to seek justice and peace and that we may hear the voices of those who are unheard. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**



For those who are sick or are suffering and for those who care for them stir up in us a spirit of grace and generosity that we may freely give to those in need. Today we pray especially for Jean, Joe, Roland, Sandy, Lynne, Charlene, Karlett, Valerie, Lucas, Darrell, Doug, Kris, Susie, Marissa, Renee, Sue, Carolyn, Carol, Tobin-Grace, Adley Jo, and Mark. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For those who have died and for those who mourn. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all those requiring ongoing care and for all those in danger and need: those who are sick or suffering, prisoners, captives, and their families, those who

are hungry, homeless, or oppressed. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

We pray for the people, the missions, and the ministries of our companion Dioceses of Swaziland in Eswatini, Brechin in Scotland, and of Nzara in South Sudan. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

We celebrate those in our congregation with birthdays this week, Lesley, Charlie, and Jenny.

Let us pray for our own needs or the needs of others either silently or aloud.

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

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved**

**our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**THE ABSOLUTION**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

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

People: **And also with you.**

**THE OFFERING**

*We Confess...*



*The Peace, the last part of the Service of the Word, is meant to offer each other a brief word of "peace" as we come together as a community for the Eucharist.*

Online giving:



## OFFERTORY:

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

#383

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru - ler of all na - ture, O thou of  
 2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair - er still the wood - lands, robed in the  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light, and all the

God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,  
 bloom - ing garb of spring; Je - sus is fair - er,  
 twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.

## THE DOXOLOGY

*Old Hundredth*

#380

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Celebrant: All things come of you, O Lord;

People: **And of your own have we given you.**



## THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

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 God thanks and praise.**

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

But chiefly are we bound to praise you  
for the glorious resurrection of your  
Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the  
true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed  
for us, and has taken away the sin

of the world. By his death he has  
destroyed death, and by his rising to  
life again he has won for us everlasting  
life.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -



**Holy Communion is God's feast for *all* of God's people.** Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, to *this* feast, you are most warmly welcome. We receive communion in one kind (the wafer), or both kinds (wafer and wine) by intinction (dipping the wafer in the chalice bowl), or by drinking from the chalice.

*Holy, holy, holy...*

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*You may kneel or stand.*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food



and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

#### **INVITATION**

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION** *Pathetique Sonata (2nd mit)* L. von Beethoven

#### **SENDING OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS**

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.**

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **Eternal God, our Creator, 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 BLESSING**

**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.**

*Our Father...*

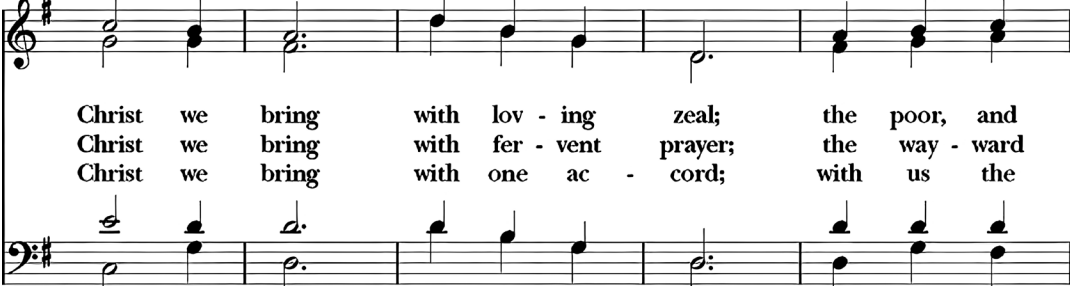
#### **Chalice Bearers:**

Lesley Fleming  
Judy Schillinger  
Teresa Pappas  
Kate Hogg

During the distribution of Communion, anyone may go to the side chapel near the columbarium to receive a prayer for healing and anointing with oil.



1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to  
 2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to  
 3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to



Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and  
 Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward  
 Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the



them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,  
 and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,  
 work to share, with us re - proach to dare,



sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.  
 re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.  
 with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.

**THE DISMISSAL**

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the Risen Christ. Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

**POSTLUDE**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

O. Holden



Celtic Worship  
 SERVICE  
 BEGINS AT 6:00 p.m.