

Easter at Saint Peter's

The Fifth Sunday of Easter





THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Fifth Sunday of Easter Sunday, April 28, 2024

Kindly enter the worship space quietly and reverently, so that all those seeking stillness may find it. We invite you, too, into a time and space of holy stillness. The following prayers are provided to assist you in your preparation for worship.

A Prayer for Quiet Confidence

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, and that in quietness and in confidence we shall find our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for the Spirit of Grace and Supplication

O Almighty God, you pour out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PRELUDE

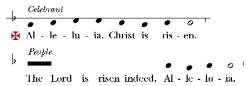
THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

VINEYARD HEAVEN

"Come, we that love the Lord"

The Hymnal, 392

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

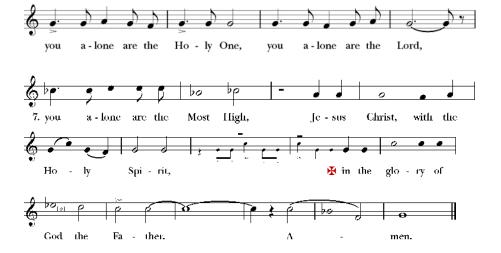


THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Chanted

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.**





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Chanted

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Please kneel for the Collect.

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.**

Please be seated for the First Reading.

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Acts 8: 26-40

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 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 vou 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.

THE PSALTER

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.

THE EPISTLE

1 John 4:7-21

A reading from First Letter of 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gradual Hymn and Holy Gospel.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

THE CALL

"Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life"

The Hymnal, 487

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-18

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

▼ The Holy Gospel of our Lord 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 the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Canon Ezgi Saribay Perkins, The Rector

Please stand for the Nicene Creed.

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. (please bow or genuflect) 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

Please kneel for the Prayers.

Let us join through prayer with everything that lives. Let us acknowledge to God the one life we share, saying: O God, who makes us one, hear our prayer.

Silence

O God, your Holy Spirit is alive in all the earth. Your Spirit that moved and shaped land and sea, trees and beasts still moves and shapes us into creation. Through Christ we know your one Holy Spirit, for you are God of all. That all the world may know your Spirit, we pray: O God, who makes us one,

Hear our prayer.

Open your world before our eyes, so that we see far and near. Show us anew what lives around us, over and behind and within. Give us the mind of Christ. O God, who makes us one,

Hear our prayer.

Bring us to one another, that we may hear and understand each other. Bring trust and sympathy between the peoples of the world. Make all nations one household with many rooms. O God, who makes us one,

Hear our prayer.

Heal us who are sick. Cheer us who are guilty. Love us who are alone. Join us who are distant. Call all the world to yourself. O God, who makes us one,

Hear our prayer.

Enliven the church with the Spirit of Christ. Through us give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort. Make our many gifts one offering for the world. O God, who makes us one, **Hear our prayer.**

For the Church of Bangladesh, the Episcopal Church of Precious Blood, Gardner, for clergy and lay delegates attending the Special Joint Convention, and for St. John's Anglican Church, Izmir, Türkiye. O God, who makes us one,

Hear our prayer.

For those on our Prayer List: Sister Charis, Donna, Audra, Evelyn, Steve, Angelina, Pat, Sally, Tiffany, Kim, Kailey, Max, Steve, HM Charles III, HRH Katherine, Sharon, Loren, and Judy. Are there others? (*Please observe a moment of silence*.) O God, who makes us one,

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Father, keep our minds inside your love, for we are many parts and need to be one. We beg for this unity which only your Spirit can give through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand for the Peace.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

See the Parish Announcements included with this leaflet.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

ENGELBERG

"We know that Christ is raised and dies no more" *The Hymnal,* 296

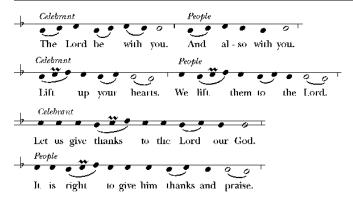
Please stand for Orate Fratres and the Great Thanksgiving.

THE ORATE FRATRES

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

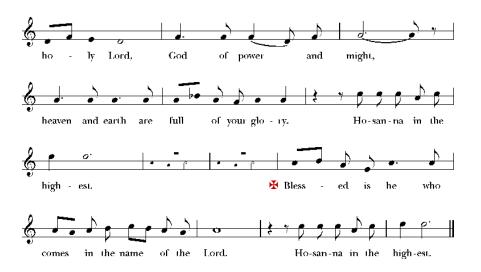
May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,





The people kneel.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Eucharistic Praver D

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.



Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Justin, Michael, Matthew, Ezgi, Patrick, and all who

minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

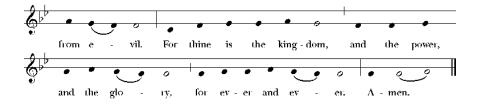
And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Blessed Peter and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

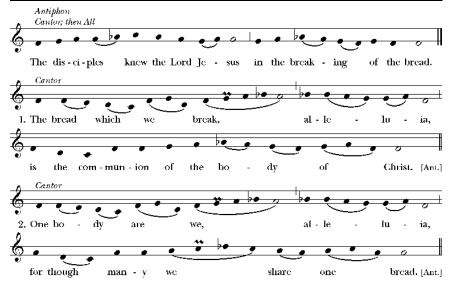




THE FRACTION

Please observe a moment of holy silence.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM



THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We invite you to pray the following prayer silently before receiving Communion.

Be present, be present, O Jesus, our great High Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT

All baptized Christians regardless of denomination are invited to come to the altar rail and receive the Holy Sacrament. Those who are unbaptized are encouraged to come to the rail and receive a blessing. Should you wish to receive a blessing, indicate this by folding your arms across your chest.

We invite you to pray the following prayer silently after receiving Communion.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who in a wonderful Sacrament has left for us a memorial of your passion: Grant us, we pray, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of your redemption; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COMMUNION VOLUNTARY

Please be seated for the Post-Communion Hymn.

THE POST-COMMUNION HYMN | JESU, JESU, DU MEIN HIRT

"Come with us, O blessed Jesus"

The Hymnal, 323

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Please kneel for the Post-Communion Prayer.

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

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen**.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever. **Amen**.

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 forever.

Amen.

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

SICILIAN MARINERS

"Lord dismiss us with thy blessing"

The Hymnal, 344

THE DISMISSAL



We invite you to pray the following prayer silently before exiting the pew.

Grant, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard today with our outward ears, may, through your grace, be grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE POSTLUDE

Please join us in the Parish Hall for a time of fellowship and coffee.

THE PARISH LEADERSHIP

RECTOR The Reverend Canon Ezgi Saribay Perkins
HONORARY ASSISTANT The Very Reverend C. Patrick Perkins
SENIOR WARDEN Mr. Joseph VanWie
JUNIOR WARDEN Mr. Robert Davis
VESTRYPERSONS Sr. Charis, S.H.N

Ms. Candy Fitzwater

Mrs. Sarah

Geisthardt

Mrs. Sara Pinno-Davis

Mrs. Jolene

Schatzinger

TREASURER Mrs. Kathy VanWie ORGANIST Mr. William Louis-Brux

LAY MINISTER FOR PARISH GROWTH Mrs. Amanda

Sprague

RECTOR'S ASSISTANT Mrs. Claire Koehler SEXTON Ms. Valerie Jenkins



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