



HOLY EUCHARIST

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024, 9:00AM

Christ Church Episcopal

671 Route 28, Harwich Port, MA 02646 508-432-1787

www.christepiscopalharwich.org christchurchharwichport@comcast.net

The Rev. Donna Foughty, Rector

Maggie Ribb, Minister of Music

Todd Woolley, Sexton

Lisa Berman, Parish Administrator

Vestry

Bill Walsman, Todd Woolley, Wardens

Karen Butler, Treasurer; Lisa Delong, Assistant Treasurer; Bob Lawton, Clerk

James Creutz, Jennifer Lutz, and Elaine Mason, Members

Sharing Christ's love in the world and creating a nurturing place for all.

Prelude

O Love, How Deep! How Broad! How High!

E.F. Wolf

Processional

We Know That Christ Is Raised and Dies No More

#296 Hymnal 1982

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.** *The Celebrant may say*

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.**

Gloria

Glory to God: Gloria in Excelsis

#S280, Canticle 20 Hymnal 1982

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.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **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.**

The Lessons

A Reading from Acts¹

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 22² *Deus, Deus meus*

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

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

¹ Acts 8:26-40

² Psalm 22:24-30

- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
 he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
 all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;
 my descendants shall serve him; *
 they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
 the saving deeds that he has done.

A reading from The First Epistle of John³

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.

Gradual

The Christ Who Died But Rose Again

#447 Hymnal 1982

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John⁴

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

³ 1 John 4:7-21

⁴ John 15:1-8

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 Rev. Donna Foughty

On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing

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.

The Prayers of the People

Caring God, we thank you for your gifts in creation: for our world,
the heavens tell of your glory;

for our land, its beauty and its resources,
for the rich heritage we enjoy.

We pray for those who make decisions about the resources of the earth,
that we may use your gifts responsibly;

for those who work on the land and sea, in city and in industry,
that all may enjoy the fruits of their labors and marvel at your creation;

for artists, scientists and visionaries,
that through their work we may see creation afresh.

Silence

We thank you for giving us life;
for all who enrich our experience.

We pray for all who are deprived of fullness of life, especially Sandy Allard, Mike Andolina, George Arsenault, Chris Axner, Sherry Barker, Dan Clark, Betty Hadfield, David Hardiman, Pat Hart, Meredith Hatchard, Terry Hill, Bradley Jugler, Julie Kraft, John McGinn, Meghan McGoldrick, Jack and Jill McLaughlin, George Meadows, Sheila Moss-White, Darwin Price, Rich, Stephen Shuart, Meg Smith, Rick Strawn, Dave Truesdale, Patti Watson, Bob Wright, Michael Curry and all those displaced or injured by natural disasters, violence or war;

For prisoners, refugees, and those who are sick;

Silence

We pray for all those who have died, especially those who have died from violence and war, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Silence

We pray for those in politics, especially President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, our Congress, as well as medical science, and social and relief work.

We pray for your Church and for our bishops -- Justin Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our presiding bishop, our bishops Alan and Carol, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons. In the Anglican cycle of Prayer we pray for The Church of Bangladesh. In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for Churches of the Concord River Deanery including the St. John's Chapel at the Groton School, St. Michael's Church of Holliston St. Paul's Church of Hopkinton, St. Luke's Church of Hudson, the Congregational Chapters of the Episcopal Church Women, and

for all who seek to bring life to others.

Silence

We thank you for all the blessings of this life, including those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

We will exalt you, O God our king.

Silence

We thank you that you have called us to celebrate your creation.

Give us reverence for life in your world.

We thank you for your redeeming love;

may your word and sacrament strengthen us to love as you love us.

God, Creator, bring us new life.

Jesus, Redeemer, renew us.

Holy Spirit, strengthen and guide us.

God of peace, let us your people know, that at the heart of turbulence there is an inner calm that comes from faith in you. Keep us from being content with things as they are, that from this central peace there may come a creative compassion, a thirst for justice, and a willingness to give of ourselves in the spirit of Christ. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Invitation for birthday and anniversary blessings

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself as an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory

Anthem: *Christ Be Beside Me*

Malcolm Archer

Presentation of the Gifts

All things come from you O Lord.

And of your own have we given you.

The Great Thanksgiving

The people stand or kneel.

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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:

Sanctus

S 125 Hymnal 1982

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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. At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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:

Celebrant and People

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.**

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, 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.

Please follow the directions of the ushers.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [**Amen.**]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [**Amen.**]

Communion Hymn

I Come With Joy To Meet My Lord

#304 Hymnal 1982

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Most loving God, creator and redeemer, we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory.

Through Christ, and with all your saints, we offer ourselves and our lives to your service. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to stand with you in your world. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant, our friend and brother. Amen.

The Blessing

Announcements

Recessional Hymn

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

#448 Hymnal 1982

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

Postlude

Praise To the Lord the Almighty

J.G. Walther

Those serving in today's service

Kam Anderson, reader; Sidney Coursen, greeter, Todd Woolley, usher
Karen Butler, Lay Eucharistic Minister; Meg Pappas, coffee host
Jean Bertrand, flower delivery

For Sunday, May 5

TBD, reader; Sandy Allard, greeter, TBD, usher
TBD, Lay Eucharistic Minister; TBD, coffee host
Sidney Coursen, flower delivery

News and Noteworthy

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Bishop's visit and the concert last Sunday. Everything was just lovely.

Upcoming Events

April 26, 3-9:00pm

Use of Parish Hall by Cape Abilities for Friday Night Social

May 5, 9:00am

Rogation Sunday – bring your seeds or plants for a blessing!

Ongoing

Tuesdays, 12:00pm

Book Lovers' Gathering (new book: *Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver)

Wednesdays, 5:00pm

Contemplative Service with Taizé music

Thursdays, 5:00pm

Choir rehearsal

"I am the true vine"



JESUS CHRIST
JOHN 15:1