The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024 8:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite I





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Services: Sunday at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM Our Sunday 10:00 AM service is livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

Standing, sitting, and kneeling: Throughout the bulletin, there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

A gentle Reminder: Please enter the Nave Quietly and reverently and silence your phones.

Most of the sung music is found in the blue hymnal, *The Hymnal*, *1982*. In the bulletin, an "H" indicates the hymn section of the book; an "S" indicates it's from the service music section in the front of the book.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remain seated.

ACCLAMATION

Please stand.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from

whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy

holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Glory be to God on high,

All and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,

we worship thee,

we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;

thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ,

with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And with thy Spirit.

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.

All Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING Acts 8:26-40

Lector The First Reading is taken from Acts chapter 8...

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

Lector We will read responsively Psalm 22...

Lector My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence

of those who worship him.

People The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall

praise him: "May your heart live for ever!"

Lector All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the

families of the nations shall bow before him.

People For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.

Lector To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down

to the dust fall before him.

People My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be

known as the Lord's for ever.

Lector They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that

he has done.

THE SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-12

Lector The Second Reading is taken from First John chapter 4...

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 John 15:1-8

Please stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Deacon 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 be to thee, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Deacon Cindy Roehl

NICENE CREED Please stand.

People

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

Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.

Deacon Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. God of Light and Life,

People We pray to you.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Whitney, our Rector; Kathy, our Assisting Priest; Cindy, our Deacon; Michael, our Visiting Priest; to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese; St. Mary's, Dade City; St. John's, Brooksville; St. Peter's, Plant City; St. John the Divine, Sun City Center; Grace Church, Tampa; St. Andrew's, Tampa; St. Chad's, Tampa; St. Clement's, Tampa, and St. Francis', Tampa; and to all priests, deacons, and the laity in their ministry; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. God of Light and Life,

People We pray to you.

Lector And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. God of Light and Life,

People We pray to you.

Lector We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially our elected leaders, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. We pray that all God's children, especially those in the Middle East, might live in the hope of the world peace for which we are created. God of Light and Life,

People We pray to you.

Lector And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [Add handwritten names from notebook] and all those who, in this transitory life, are in

trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those listed in the weekly news who have asked for our prayers. I now invite you to pray for others by name, aloud or in your hearts. [Leave time...] God of Light and Life,

People We pray to you.

Lector Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works,

that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We give thanks for the flowers given to the Glory of God, and for all the blessings of this life, especially the birthdays this coming week of for Caroline Bates, Priscilla Bowman, Ann Chaplin, and Estelle Comeau and also the anniversaries of Dan & Gloria Smith, Terry & Indra Eldridge, Joe & Betty

Lombardo and Brad & Sarah Guerrie. God of Light and Life,

People We pray to you.

Lector And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith

and fear, [especially... add names from notebook]. Please add names of those on your heart, silently or aloud. [Leave time...] We beseech thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. God

of Light and Life,

People We pray to you.

Lector Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and

Advocate.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

People AMEN.

THE GREETING OF PEACE Please stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Please be seated.

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Deacon As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge

People All things come from thee, O Lord and of thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II

CelebrantPeopleCelebrantThe Lord be with you.And with thy spirit.Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. But chiefly are we

bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

People Holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel or stand, as you choose.

Celebrant All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

Celebrant and People And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

Celebrant By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to receive the Sacrament. If you would like to receive wine you may do so by sipping from the chalice

or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to intinct (dip) the wafer for you.

If you desire a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body

goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without

end. Amen.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Please stand.

Celebrant announces the blessing.

People Amen.

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant The Rev. Whitney Burton Deacon The Rev. Cindy Roehl

Crucifer/Chalicist Wendy Anderson

Lector Barbara Groff

Prayers of the People Wendy Anderson

Ushers John Scmidt and Jay Harvey

Prayers are requested for:

The Week of Apr 21 – Butch N, Marc W, Mike T, Gene B, Mandville P, Mariann T, Barbara C, Dustin B, Arlene H, Tammy, Baby Miller, Dan, Emme, Gerry B, Christ E, Becky G, Diane T, Marc J, Christohper J, Elena C, Heather S, Collete S, Bonnie L, Maria M, Milly L, Bill GW, Bob S, Olena & Family, Eileen J, Diana S, Nick V, Jen, Dylan, Marilyn, Brian S, Anne C, Kari G, Jerry O, Adrianna P, Lou F, Kipling/, Darby S, Linda C, Judy, Scott, Chris, Berk Family, Mais Family, Hopwood Family, Jim, Sue R. Paul, Bill V, Marc J, Hilda M, Eva P, Enez P, Tracey S, Andrew, Beck, Sydney, Adriana P

Celebrations this week: Birthdays - Carolina Bates, Priscilla Bowman, Ann Chaplin, Estelle Comeau

Anniversaries – Dan & Gloria Smith, Terry & Indra Eldridge, Joe & Betty Lombardo, and Brad & Sarah Guerrie

Announcements

Parking Lot Paving – The paved parking lot will be closed to be resealed and restriped May 7-10. Please use the Peace Park in the meantime.

Rector's Discretionary Fund Sunday – Next Sunday, May 5th, all loose plate offering will be directed to the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

Summer Services – For June and July we will worship as one community at 9am.