



*The Fifth Sunday of Easter
28 April, 2024*

Welcome to Church of the Apostles

We are glad you are here and welcome you to fully participate in God's mission and ministry at Church of the Apostles. All are welcome, without exception or reservation. We are an inclusive Christian community that makes a difference in peoples' lives.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude

'O Love that Will Not Let Me Go'

Arr. Courtney

Processional

O Love, How Deep, How Broad

448



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949).

Bishop Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Bishop There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People **One God and Father of all.**

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider 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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

Reader 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 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.

Presider The word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm

Psalm 23

Let us say the Psalm responsively by half verse.

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.

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.

Reader A reading from 1 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord

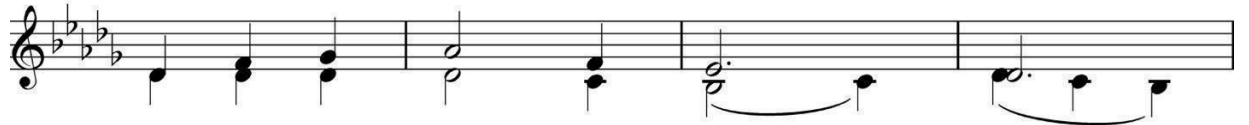
People Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

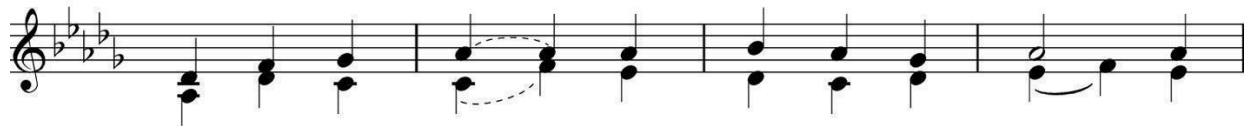
I Want to Walk as a Child of Light



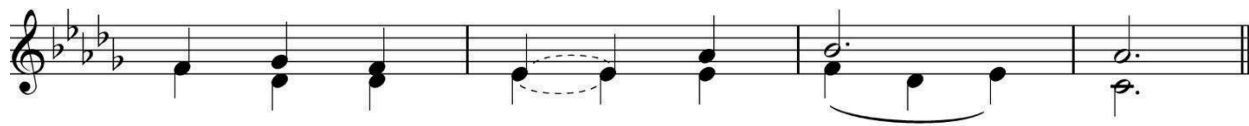
1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.

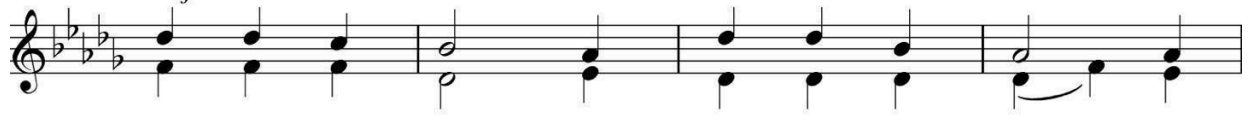


God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and

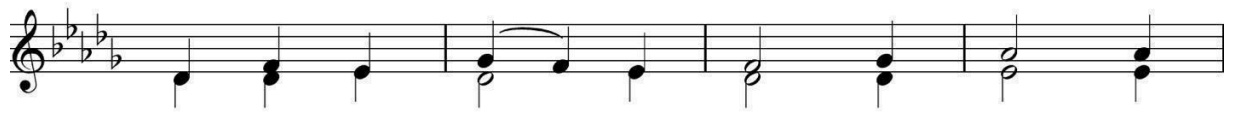


star of my life is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The



night and the day are both a - like. The



Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

The Gospel

John 15:1-8

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to
Saint John

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

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. 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."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer A. Reddall

A period of silence follows the sermon.

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

The Bishop says

The Candidates will now be presented

Candidates are presented for confirmation, reception, and renewal of baptismal vows.

The Bishop asks the candidates

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate I do.

Bishop

Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as Savior and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People We will.

Bishop Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all People, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidate

The Bishop then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

A person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

A period of silence follows

The Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

For Confirmation

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him* for your service; and sustain *him* all the days of *his* life. **Amen.**

For Reception

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

For Reaffirmation

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. **Amen.**

The Bishop lays hands upon each candidate.

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another with the sign of peace. You may type PEACE in your ZOOM or Facebook Live chat. Birthday and Anniversary Blessings, Other Reasons for Giving Thanks.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Offertory

'God's Great Love'

Tunney/Goss

The Doxology

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One, give thanks be-cause he's

6 giv-en — Je - sus Christ, His Son. And now let the weak say, "I am

11 strong," let the poor say, "I am rich, — be-cause of what the Lord has done for

16 us." Give thanks, — give thanks, — we give thanks! —

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo -

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with Apostles and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray.
Pray either version of the Lord's prayer in your preferred language

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.

Our Father in heaven, holy is your
name. Your kingdom come, your will
be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sin as we forgive those
who sin against us. Save us from the
time of trial and deliver us from evil for
yours is the kingdom and power and
glory forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia! 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.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE AND HEALING PRAYER

All who seek Christ are welcome to receive the bread and wine made Holy. If you prefer to receive a blessing please come forward and cross your hands over your chest when the host is offered to you. Gluten free wafers are available. We affirm that all who worship with us online fully receive the spiritual presence. After receiving communion, you may go to the Healing Prayer Circle for Healing Prayer.

The Communion Music ‘Center of My Joy’ Smallwood/Gaither

The Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

People God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

The Recessional Hymn *God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him*



1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all




earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness


Hymn continues on next page



and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall



da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so



all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

The Dismissal

Presider Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

The Postlude

'Revive Us Again'

Arr. Shackley



Flowers at the altar given by:

Carol & Jeff White in honor of their 41st Anniversary.

Weekly Prayer List

We pray, O God, for Emily, Carolyn, Bobbi, Harry, Richard, Tom, Janel, and all those suffering the effects of violence, hatred and fear especially the people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Russia.

We continue to pray for Augustine, Charles & Elizabeth, Rosato Family

For President Joe and Governor Katie.

For our Presiding Bishop Michael, Bishop Jennifer, and our clergy, Rev. Dominic and Rev. Sherry.

*Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

For those who are serving in the Armed Forces at home or abroad, particularly Campbell Kerr, Robert Graham, Zack Rodriguez, Tom Marshall, Tim Jeffers and Thomas Aragon.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer St. George's

Anglican Cycle of Prayer The Church of Bangladesh

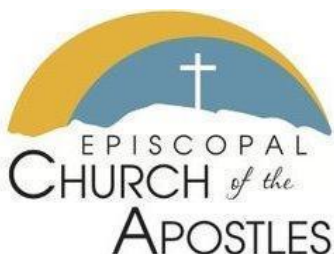
Prayer request forms are available at the Greeters' Table. You may complete and place them in the offering basket. People will remain on the prayer list for three weeks. Please contact the office to extend if needed. If you would like private prayer, please contact the office.

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