



April 28, 2024

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
Eucharistic Prayer A

Welcome to
St. David's Episcopal Church

The Word of God

Hymn in Procession

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

Hymnal 296

(Engelberg).

- 1) We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!
- 2) We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life
as living members of our Savior Christ. Alleluia!
- 3) The God of splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three-in-One. Alleluia!
- 4) A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing: Alleluia! Amen.

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

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.**

Glory to God

(Canticle 20) (Powell)

S 280



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



King, al - mighty 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
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

BCP 357

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.

The Lessons

New Testament:

Acts 8:26-40

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

²⁶An 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.)

²⁷So 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 ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah.

He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

³²Now 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.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”

³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

³⁶As 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?”

³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

³⁹When 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.

⁴⁰But 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalter:

Psalm 22:24-30

²⁴My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

²⁵The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

“May your heart live for ever!”

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

²⁷For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.

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

²⁹My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord’s for ever.

³⁰They 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 the First letter of John.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way:

God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

¹⁰In 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.

¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world.

¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So 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.

¹⁷Love 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.

¹⁸There 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.

¹⁹We love because he first loved us.

²⁰Those 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.

²¹The 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

In Christ there is no East or West (*McKee*)

Hymnal 529

1) In Christ there is no East or West,
in him no South or North,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2) Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as his child
is surely kin to me.

3) In Christ now meet both East and West,
in him meet South and North,
all Christly souls are one in him,
throughout the whole wide earth.

Please remain standing.

The Holy Gospel:

John 15:1-8

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said to his disciples,] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.

²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit.

Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

⁴Abide 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.

⁵I 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.

⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

⁸My 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 Sermon: The Reverend Jeff Wallace

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Please stand.

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, Form IV

BCP 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world, especially Christ Episcopal Church in Mt Pleasant; The Church of Bangladesh; Kairos Prison Ministry; the congregations of St. David's Anglican Church, St. David's Episcopal Church; and St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; and St. David's Episcopal School & Daycare staff and families.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; especially Joe, our president; Henry, our governor; and David, our mayor; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially Justin, the archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our presiding bishop; Ruth, our bishop; Jeff, our priest, and for all the clergy and people of God, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially: *(See Prayer List Insert)*

We remember also our shut ins, chronically ill, and those who live alone, and any you wish to name aloud or in your heart.

Members of the congregation may add their own petitions or thanksgivings.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Eleanor Williams, Angela Smith, and Freda Miller; that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

The Celebrant says

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8, 9*

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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 Priest stands and says

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

Please stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

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

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Hymn

Like the murmur of the dove's song (*Bridegroom*)

Hymnal 513

1) Like the murmur of the dove's song,
like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush,
like the new flame's eager might:
 come, Holy Spirit, come.

2) To the members of Christ's Body,
to the branches of the Vine,
to the Church in faith assembled,
to her midst as gift and sign:
 come, Holy Spirit, come.

3) With the healing of division,
with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness,
with the peace beyond compare:
 come, Holy Spirit, come.

All things come of thee, O Lord.
And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand.

BCP 361

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.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy

(Schubert/Proulx)

S 130 / BCP 362

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 -

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.

The People stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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

BCP 363

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

People and Celebrant

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist. You may decline the bread and/or the wine by crossing your arms over your chest when offered to you at the altar. You may also choose to remain seated in your pew.
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The Celebrant says

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 Elements of Bread and Wine are distributed.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, blesses the people.

Recessional Hymn

God is Love, let heaven adore him (*Abbot's Leigh*)

Hymnal 379

1) God is Love, let heaven adore him;
God is Love, let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him
and exalt him with one voice.

God who laid the earth's foundation,
God who spread the heaven above,
God who breathes through all creation:
God is Love, eternal Love.

2) God is Love; and Love enfolds us,
all the world in one embrace:
with unfailing grasp God holds us,
every child of every race.

And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then we find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.

3) God is Love; and though with blindness
sin afflicts all human life,

God's eternal loving-kindness
guides us through our earthly strife.

Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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Announcements:

◆ St. David's is again hosting the group of people who care about **homelessness** in our area. If you would like to be a part of this conversation, or hear what others are saying, join us in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, April 30, at 6:00pm.

◆ The next project of the Cheraw Ministerial Alliance will be the **National Day of Prayer**, this **Thursday, May 2**. Come gather at 6:00pm at Centennial Park, at the corner the Second Street and Market Street, for a brief community prayer time.

◆ Our new **Bible Study** recently started. Join us **Sunday mornings at 9:30** as Fr. Jeff and Jeff Buckner lead conversations about various Bible topics. Participate as much or as little as you like; you'll certainly learn something you didn't know before, and we hope you'll enjoy the small-group camaraderie.

◆ Join us for our **Social Time** between Sunday School and our service, and again following the service. We'll enjoy a light snack and pleasant chat in the Chapel. This will also help preserve the quiet of the Sanctuary.

◆ St. David's Episcopal Church is a distribution point for the Chesterfield County **FoodShare** program, which makes fresh produce available to local citizens at reasonable cost. Get more information at their Facebook page, **FoodShareChesterfield**, or email **foodsharecchc@gmail.com**.

Our next delivery dates are:

Order by 5:00pm **Friday, Apr 26**.....pick up on **Thursday, May 2** (12:30-3:30)

Order by 5:00pm **Friday, May 10**... pick up on **Thursday, May 16** (12:30-3:30)

Order by 5:00pm **Friday, Jun 7**pick up on **Thursday, Jun 13** (12:30-3:30)

Order by 5:00pm **Friday, Jun 21**..... pick up on **Thursday, Jun 27** (12:30-3:30)



Welcome!

Regardless of whether or not you regularly attend here, we are happy to have you as one of us today! Feel free to come up close, and kneel before our Lord's altar and receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you need a gluten-free wafer, then please indicate this to one of the ushers.

Of course, if you prefer to remain seated during Eucharist, we are fine with that as well. We merely hope that your experience with us today is divinely positive and truly meaningful.

As Priest-in-Charge, I would be glad for us to have a conversation during the coffee hour or to have a scheduled appointment for another time. I love answering questions about why we do what we do and about who we are as Episcopalian Christians. If you have a confidential matter to voice, I can be trusted as a priest and as a certified grief counselor.



Again, I am very happy that you have chosen to be with us this day. Feel free to contact me personally. On Sunday afternoons, I am only available for pastoral emergencies.

Blessings, Father Jeff+

St. David's Episcopal Church Vestry

- Phil Powell, Senior Warden
- Sarah Spruill, Junior Warden
- Margaret Plettinger-Mitchell, Secretary
- Anne Pate, Treasurer (ex officio)
- Jeff Buckner
- Van Pate
- Sally Powell
- Rob Wolfe

•Michael Williams, Organist

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