

*"Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!"*

# The Fifth Sunday of Easter

*May 2, 2021*

## The Holy Eucharist The Word of God



**Prelude** "I Come with Joy"  
*Hymn Tune: Dove of Peace*

**Greg Bottomley**

**Opening Hymn** (*Please stand as able*)

*Please see page 8*

#47 | "On This Day"

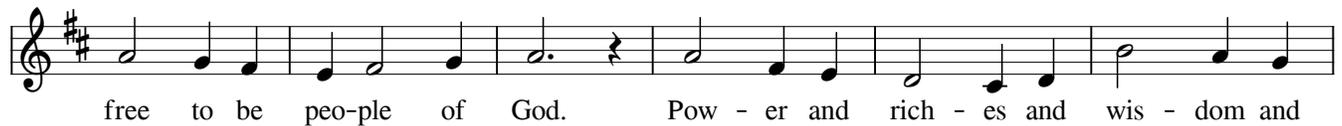
**Children's Chat** - *Robert Freeman*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

*Celebrant* 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.*

**Canticle of Praise:** *This Is the Feast*



2. Sing with all the people of God and join in the  
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glor - ry and  
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.  
*Final refrain*  
This is the feast of vic - tory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays 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, forever and ever.

*People* ***Amen.***

### First Reading *(Please be seated)*

*Reader* A Reading from Acts:

#### *Introduction to the First Reading*

*Led by the Holy Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official, a foreigner, who has worshiped in Jerusalem. Philip proclaims the gospel of Christ to him, he comes to faith, and is baptized by Philip. Christ's salvation is offered to all.*

*Acts 8:26-40*

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 22:24-30



Make known the saving deeds that God has done.

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!” [ANT.]

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. [ANT.]

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow  
down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust fall before him. [ANT.]

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. [ANT.]

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Second Reading - Mike McNamara

Reader A reading from the First Letter of John, the First Chapter:

Introduction to the Second Reading

In this reading the author teaches that we love God and one another because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating our fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others.

1 John 4:7-21

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.

Sequence Hymn (Please stand as able) - Please see page 9

#296 | “We Know That Christ”

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John:

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Holy Gospel (The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.)

John 15:1-8

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.”

*Celebrant*        The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

## THE SERMON

**The Nicene Creed** *(Please stand as able)*

*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

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

***Your mercy is great.***

You have created the heavens and earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Provide for the needs of all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

*(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)*

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.)*

### **The Confession of Sin** *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

*Reader* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

*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 Absolution**

*Celebrant* 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 as able)*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

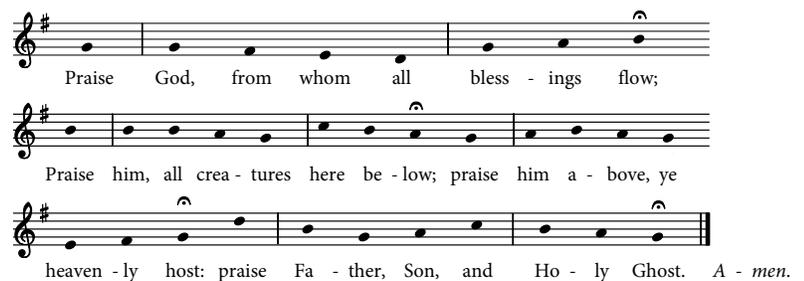
## **The Holy Communion**

*Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.*

*Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:  
The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR  
Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>*

### **Offertory Sentence & Interlude**

**Doxology** *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung.  
Please stand as able)*



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye  
heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

### **Offertory Hymn**

*Please see page 10*

**#304 | "I Come With Joy"**



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.*

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,  
*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.*

### The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

### A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and my soul. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you, my Lord and my God! Amen.*

**Distribution Anthem - "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"** Words: Herbert F. Brokering & Music: David N. Johnson

Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge

### Post Communion Prayer (Please kneel or be seated)

*Celebrant* Let us pray.  
*People* *Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your presence, that as we lament our separation from one another, we may continually show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

### Benediction

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 for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true 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 for ever. *Amen.*

**Closing Hymn** (Please stand as able)

Please see page 11

#448 | "O Love, How Deep"

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the Name of the Risen Christ.

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

**Postlude** Trumpet Tune Antonio Vivaldi

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The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector

J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte

Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming

Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist

Elizabeth Scheer, Videography/Streaming

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Sunday

1 On this day, the first of days, God the Fa - ther's Name we praise,  
 2 On this day the e - ter - nal Son o - ver death his tri - umph won;  
 3 Ma - ker, who didst fa - shion me im - age of thy - self to be,  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, may I be dead and bur - ied here with thee;  
 5 Thou, who dost all gifts im - part, shine, blest Spi - rit, in my heart;

1 who, cre - a - tion's Lord and spring, did the world from dark - ness bring.  
 2 on this day the Spi - rit came with his gifts of liv - ing flame.  
 3 fill me with thy love di - vine, let my ev - ery thought be thine.  
 4 and, by love in - flamed, a - rise un - to thee a sac - ri - fice.  
 5 best of gifts, thy - self be - stow; make me burn thy love to know.

6 God, the blessed Three in One,  
 dwell within my heart alone;  
 thou dost give thyself to me:  
 help me give myself to thee.

Words: Latin; tr. Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.  
 Music: *Gott sei Dank*, melody from *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704;  
 adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

77. 77

Holy Baptism

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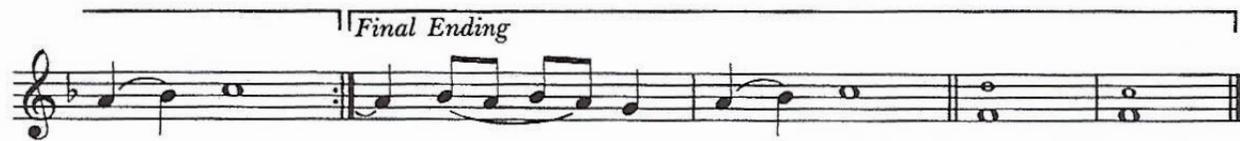
1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows \_\_\_\_\_



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; \_\_\_\_\_  
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. \_\_\_\_\_  
 as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. \_\_\_\_\_



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. \_\_\_\_\_  
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. \_\_\_\_\_ Al - le -  
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: \_\_\_\_\_



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Words: John Brownlow Geyer (b. 1932), alt.  
 Music: Engelberg, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

10 10 10 with Alleluia

# Offertory Hymn

"I Come With Joy"

## Holy Eucharist

304

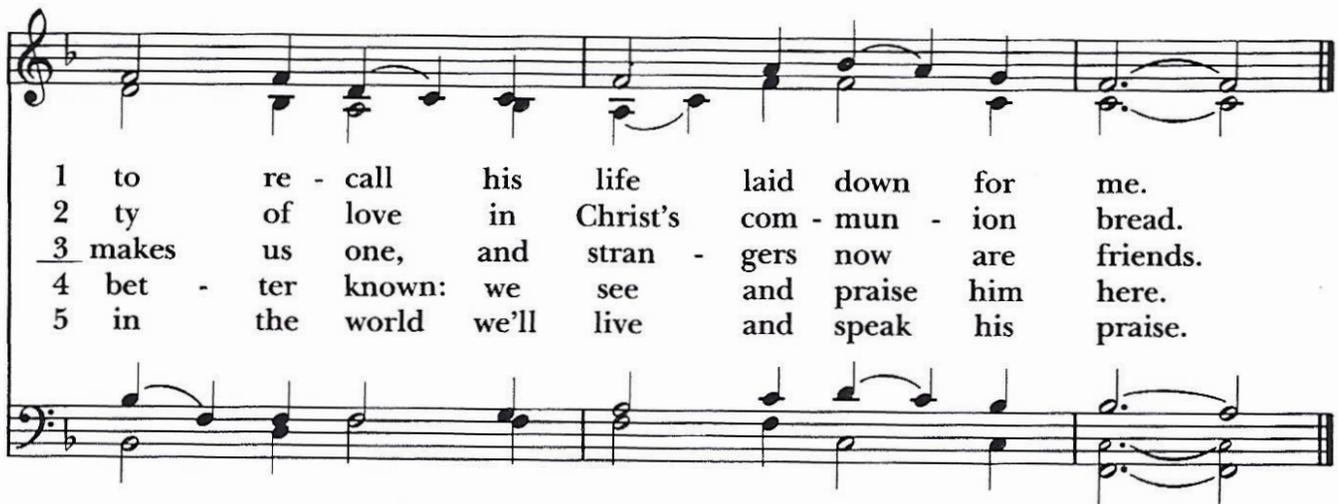
*Unison or harmony*



1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to  
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each  
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll



1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -  
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us  
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship  
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple



1 to re - call his life laid down for me.  
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.  
4 bet - ter known: we see and praise him here.  
5 in the world we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt.

Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)

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Jesus Christ our Lord



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 o - ver - 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.

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