



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MORNING PRAYER

Fifth Sunday of Easter • April 28, 2024 • 10:30 a.m.

*Welcome to St. John's. We are happy you are joining us in worship today. Our service is printed here, with congregational responses printed in **bold**. Hymns are printed in the hymnals in the pews. Mask wearing is optional.*

MUSICAL PRELUDE

HYMN • People of God

1 Peo - ple of God, ga - ther to - ge - ther, come, let us
2 Hear - ing God's word, heed - ing the mes - sage, come and re -
3 Bear - ing your gifts, en - ter God's pre - sence; come, let us
4 Wo - men and men, har - mo - ny blend - ing, come, swell the

sing on this glo - rious day. Shout - ing a - broad
joice as we an - swer the call. With one ac - cord,
share in the hea - ven - ly feast. Mend - ing all rifts,
cho - rus in lov - ing ac - cord. Rais - ing a - gain

praise to the Mak - er, come and with bo - dy and soul let us pray.
made in God's im - age, come in com - mu - ni - ty, wel - com - ing all.
heal - ing di - vi - sions, come and from sor - rows and hurts be - leased.
thanks ne - ver end - ing, come to the God who is Wis - dom and Word.

Refrain

Come, let us join in the hea - ven - ly dance,
prais - ing in joy - ous ce - le - bra - tion.

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OPENING SENTENCE

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**Glorify to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

God's Paschal Lamb is sacrificed for us

PSALM 22:24-30 (*read responsively*)

- 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 forever!"
- 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 forever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

A READING FROM BOOK OF ACTS

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN • Let all things now living

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 His law he en - for - ces, the stars in their cours - es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise, who fash - ioned and
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; the hills and the

made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who still guides us
moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the deeps of the

on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, his
o - cean pro - claim him di - vine. We too should be voic - ing our

light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the
love and re - joic - ing; with glad a - dor - a - tion a song let us

night, till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is
raise till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks -

ban - ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
giv - ing: "to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

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A READING FROM THE 1st LETTER OF JOHN

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

**You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord: we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you became man to set us free
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.**

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN (*The congregation remains seated.*)

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."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Ms. Brigid Dwyer

HYMN • 662

Eventide

Abide with me

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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

THE OFFERTORY

An offering is received to support St. John's ministry of sharing God's love with the world. To donate online, go to www.stjohnsboonton.org and click the "Give Here" icon on the right-hand side, or point your camera at our QR code on the next page.



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PRESENTATION HYMN

Lasst uns erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Alleluia, alleluia,
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE PRAYERS

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

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.

SUFFRAGES

Show us your mercy, O Lord;
And grant us your salvation.
Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
Let your people sing with joy.
Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
For only in you can we live in safety.
Lord, keep this nation under your care;
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
Let your way be known upon earth;
Your saving health among all nations.
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Create in us clean hearts, O God;
And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

THE COLLECTS

Collect of the Day

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.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

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 mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves 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.

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN • 379

Abbot's Leigh

God is love

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth and serve the risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

LEADING AND SUPPORTING OUR WORSHIP TODAY:

Ms. Brigid Dwyer *Officiant and preacher*
The Rev. Deacon John H. Van Dine Sr. *Deacon*
Mr. Kevin Bidwell *Server*
Ms. Kathy Cascone *Lector*
Mr. Wyatt Sikora *Pianist*

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