

CHRIST CHURCH

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ASPEN



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 2, 2021

Welcome to Christ Church! We're glad you're worshipping with us today.

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent; for this is the House of God.
Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

10:00 AM

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The Book of Common Prayer, pp. 355-366

Prelude

Here I am to Worship, Arr. Heather Sorenson

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Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

The Collect for Purity

Gloria In Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

The Priest says: 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. (Please be seated.)*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

The full texts can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

The First Lesson: *Acts 8:26-40*

Psalm: *Psalms 22:24-30 (Please stand)*

The Second Lesson: *1 John 4:7-21*

The Gospel: *John 15:1-8 (Please stand)*

Sermon

The Rev. Peter Munson

A period of silence will be kept.

The Nicene Creed, p. 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.

Prayers of the People, Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. (*Pause*)

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us pray for our families and friends at Christ Church, Aspen.

We pray for our friends, John & Elaine McGovern, Jan & Bob Blaich, Patsy & Darby, Marsha, Peter and Julia Munson, Don, Jessica & Philip, George Baker, Keith Gardner, and Bobbi Ann. We pray for Roger, Joann, Tony, Brad Noel, Susan & Mickey, Petra, Galileo and little Otto. We pray for all who serve this great nation in uniform in nearby and far-off places. We pray for the young people and students of Aspen, for their schools and staff, and for their learning and growing.

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Peace *All stand.*

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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

Welcome / Announcements / Birthday & Anniversary Prayers / Travel Prayers

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Music

Abide with Me with Beethoven's Adagio, Arr. Gail Smith

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*The people remain standing*)

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 him thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...etc. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

(The people stand or kneel.)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself...etc. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Presider continues: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father...etc. ...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 great AMEN is said as a loud acclamation.*]

Please stand.

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then the following is said:

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

Invitation and Distribution of Holy Communion

After the Invitation, members of the congregation will be invited to come pick up the blessed elements, one per person, at the altar rail. Please come up the center aisle and return to your seat via the outside aisle. After everyone has returned to their seats we will all receive communion together.

Communion Music

Feast of Glory, Arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

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Post-communion Prayer, p. 365

Presider 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.**

A Blessing by the Priest

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

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

Postlude

Prelude in E Major, BWV 937 J.S Bach

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CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ASPEN

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LESSONS, PSALM & GOSPEL

The First Lesson: *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.

The Second Lesson: *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.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: *John 15:1-8* (Please stand)

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."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Psalm 22:24-30 (Please stand)

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!"

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.**

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

**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.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,**