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Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021 • 9:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Liturgy of the Word

*A warm welcome to all this Sunday Morning! Our
worship is guided using the Book of Common Prayer
and Enriching Our Worship.*

Bold text indicates parts for the Assembly to say.

Smaller Italic text offers directions for the service.

Prelude: Musical Selection

Welcome Announcement

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The canticle Christ Our Passover is said in unison while the presider asperges the people.

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.
Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, *
so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

The Collect of the Day

BCP 224

The Presider says to the people

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The Lessons

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:24-30

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.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Musical Selection

The people stand as they are able.

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 15:1-8

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to 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."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Joseph Peters-Mathews

There will be a period of reflection and silence after the sermon. The people stand as they are able.

The Nicene Creed

**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

Please respond to the bidding, “God of love who abides in us.” with “Bring us to abide in you.” The Presider says a collect to conclude the prayers.

The Peace

Offertory Sentence

A Prayer Conspicuously Placed in Absence of The Great Thanksgiving during the Great Pandemic

The Presider begins

Let us pray.

Lord, you have taught us to seek you and to find you in the bread and the wine of your table ... And so we lament:

All say

**Turn to me and have mercy,
for I am lonely and oppressed.
Hear my prayer and my cry;
be not silent at my tears.**

The Presider continues

For surely, Lord, we are not alone ... Our flesh is now yours, shaped for these days in which we are living.

Nourished by Christ,

**teach us also to be broken with Christ
and shared with this hungering world.**

Soften our hearts and strengthen our resolve ... one God, now and forever.

AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

Announcements

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

St. Hilda St. Patrick Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Gregory Rickel, Rector
Mission Congregation of the Diocese of Olympia
15224 52nd Ave. W, Edmonds, WA 98026

425-743-4655

office@sthildastpatrick.org

www.sthildastpatrick.org

The Rev. Joseph Peters-Mathews, Vicar

vicar@sthildastpatrick.org

Kenneth Walker, Music Director

kenneth.10fingers@gmail.com

Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.

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Please send announcements and changes for Sunday's bulletin to
bulletin@StHildaStPatrick.org by Monday evening.