

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY EUCHARIST

10:00 AM

MAY 2, 2021



St. John's Episcopal Church
Four Fountain Square
Larchmont, NY

Welcome to St. John's Church. We are glad you have joined us for worship.

For everyone's safety and comfort, we thank you for following all safety guidelines, including wearing a face covering at all times, maintaining appropriate social distance, use of hand sanitizer, etc.

If you are visiting or looking for a new church home, please introduce yourself to our clergy or an usher. Children are welcome and encouraged to participate in our worship services.

Thank you for turning off your cell phones.

Visit our website for our full schedule of our worship services (stjohnslarchmont.org).

If you have a pastoral emergency and need to speak with a priest when the office is closed, you may contact the Rev. Lisa Mason on her personal cell phone at (210) 854-4811.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

If you are attending the service in person, please remember that there is no singing except by the soloist.

Make sure your audio setting on Zoom is now in the "mute" setting. Respond out loud at home to all the responses just as if we were in church together.

Let us take three deep breaths and center ourselves in the present moment. Relax and release some of your stress as we make ourselves available to God so God can be more available to us. Consider sharing your specific concerns, silently or aloud, during the Prayers of the People.

**READ ALOUD AT HOME ALL THE PARTS IN BOLD
WHILE YOUR MIC IS MUTED.**

PRELUDE

HYMN #379

God is Love, let heaven adore him

Abbot's Leigh

(verses 1,3)

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.

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.

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Officiant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Officiant 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.

All **Amen.**

GLORIA

All **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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.
All Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 8:26-40

All are seated.

Carolyn Gallaber A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

People

PSALM 22:24-30

Dorothy Rainier The portion of the Psalter appointed for this morning is from Psalm 22.
Let us read it responsively by the half-verse.

- 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 for ever!”**
- 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 for ever.**
- 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

Carolyn Gallaber A Reading from the First Letter of John.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8

All remain standing for the Gospel.

Rev. Dorothy ✠ 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 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

SERMON

The Rev. Lisa Mason

THE NICENE CREED

All 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

All remain standing as a reader bids the prayers.

Robin Ingram 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.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.

Reader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.

Reader 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

Reader Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.

Reader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Reader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially Ann, April, Bernadette, Betsy, Blanche, Bob, Brian, Caitlin, Carol, Carolyn, Clementine, Collette, Dotty Lee, Ellen, George, Harold, James, Jmel, Laura, Lynn, Matt, Orlo, Patricia, Peggy, Randy, Robert, Sandy, Sara Lee, Sheila, and Tom, give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy

***People* Hear our prayer.**

Reader We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Roland Bouffard and Eric Hansen, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy

***People* Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect and the people respond, Amen.

THE PEACE

Rev. Lisa The Peace of Christ be always with you.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lisa shares brief announcements.

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

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

Rev. Lisa: All things come of thee, O Lord;

***People:* And of thine own have we given thee.**

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All remain standing.

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.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children 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:

***All* 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.

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

All

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

All

AMEN.

Celebrant

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

All

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is observed.

Celebrant

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant

Let us pray.

All

**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 BLESSING

Rev. Dorothy May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ, born of our sister Mary and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother broods over her children, be upon you and remain with you always.

People **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN #344 Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing *Sicilian Mariners*

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, thy love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace:
O refresh us, O refresh us
traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration
for thy Gospel's joyful sound:
may the fruits of thy salvation
in our hearts and lives abound:
ever faithful, ever faithful
to thy truth may we be found;

so that when thy love shall call us,
Savior, from the world away,
fear of death shall not appall us,
glad thy summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with thee in endless day.

DISMISSAL

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

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

POSTLUDE

Liturgical Ministers Today

Rector
Priest Associate
Director of Music
Lector
Intercessor

The Rev. Lisa P. Mason
The Rev. Dorothy A. Greene
Dr. Paul-Martin Maki
Carolyn Gallaher
Dorothy Rainier

*Join us after the service for our Virtual Coffee Hour
Followed by Adult Formation:
Rev. Lisa and Rev. Dorothy
will lead us as we take an exploration into the parables that Jesus told as
part of his teaching.*

