**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**May 2nd, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite II**



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**INFORMATION FOR NEWCOMERS: WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH!**



Our motto is true whether you're here for the very first time

or you've been a member for decades –

**There is a place for you at God's Table!**

Welcome home to Christ Church. We are so very grateful that we can worship together once again. We will need to take special care to ensure the safety of ourselves and others as we worship. Each adult must accept responsibility for his/her own actions. Here are some safety guidelines that will help keep us all safe and healthy:

* Everyone must wear a facemask over mouth and nose at all times while in church buildings, except for a few seconds during Eucharist (see below).
* Maintain a safe distance of six-feet between yourself and others not a part of your household at all times.
* NO informal gathering are allowed in church buildings. Please move directly to seats in the sanctuary upon arrival and exit the building immediately following worship.
* NO singing, even with masks on. Singing spreads the coronavirus much more widely than talking, even with masks on.
* Use the offering plate at the entrance to the sanctuary. Plates will not be passed during worship.
* COMMUNION PROCEDURES: Communion will be in one kind only – Bread only at this time and from the center aisle, not the altar rail. When it is time to come forward for Communion, please form a single line down the center aisle, maintaining six-feet of distance from others. KEEPING YOUR MASK ON, the priest will place a Host in your hands using tongs. RETURN TO YOUR SEAT, then remove your mask momentarily to consume the Host.

**THE WORD OF GOD**

(\*please rise as you are comfortable)

PRELUDE:

OPENING HYMN: “Christ is alive!” Hymnal 182

*During the pandemic, no singing is permitted for the safety of our worshipping community. Thank you for your cooperation.*

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,

he comes to claim the here and now and conquer every place and time.

3  Not throned above, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains,

but daily, in the midst of life, our Savior with the Father reigns.

4  In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn or wealth divide,

he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.

5  Christ is alive! His Spirit burns through this and every future age,

till all creation lives and learns his joy, his justice, love, and praise.

\*OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ has risen!

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

\*COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

\* GLORIA

**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.**

\*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. ***Amen.***

**THE FIRST READING 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.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

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

### **\*PSALM: 22:24-30** ***Deus, Deus meus***

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**

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.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN: “Abide in me fast falls the eventide” Hymnal 662

1  Abide with me: fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens;

Lord, with me abide: when other helpers fail and comforts flee,

help of the helpless, O abide with me.

2  I need thy presence every passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter’s power? Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

3  I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death’s sting? Where, grave, thy victory?

I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

4  Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

heaven’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;

in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

**Gospel**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (John 15:1-8).

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.”

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

***Sermon***  *The Rev.* Dr. Daniel M. Linnenberg

**\*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.**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who 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**

In peace, we pray to you Lord God. Congregational responses are in **bold.**

*Silence*

Blessed are you eternal God,  
**to be praised and glorified forever.**

Hear us as we pray for the unity of the Church.  
**May we all be one, that the world may come to know you.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you,  
**that the life of Christ may be revealed in us.**

We remember those who have died.  
**Into your hands we commend them.**

We praise you for all your saints who have entered eternal glory.  
**May we also come to share your heavenly kingdom.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from sickness, grief or trouble, especially Charlene, Laura, Faye, Chris, Laura, Bonnie, Alice, Diana, James, Joy, Jane, Joni, Kim, Bobby, Sarah, Traudie, Lexie, and Keith.

**In your presence may they find strength.**

Look with kindness on our homes and families, and all who celebrate birthdays this week, especially Bobbi, Peg, and Ben.

**Grant that your love may grow in our hearts.**

Make us alive to the needs of our community, and bless the holy work of Children’s Rescue Center/The Ark, Christ Church Food Pantry, The Fuller Center for Housing, and Safe Harbor House.

**Help us to share one another’s joys and burdens.**

Inspire and lead those who hold authority in the nations of the world.  
**Guide us and all people in the way of justice and peace.**

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Ken, our Diocesan Bishop; Lee Anne, our priest; Daniel our supply priest; Rick, our deacon; and all who minister in Christ, that they may be firmly rooted in your truth and love.

**Inspire us and give us courage to proclaim your Gospel of Resurrection.**

*\**THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

**Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*.***

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: 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.**

Priest: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.***

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

\*OFFERTORY

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

*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 our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

**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.**

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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,

**We remember Christ’s death,**

**We proclaim Christ’s resurrection,**

**We await Christ’s coming in glory;**

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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Blessed Mother Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, 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. ***AMEN.***

And now, 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: Agnus Dei

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

\*THE DISMISSAL *Deacon:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

CLOSING HYMN: “O Christ, the Word Incarnate” Hymnal 632

*During the pandemic, no singing is permitted for the safety of our worshipping community. Thank you for your cooperation.*

1 O Christ, the Word Incarnate,

O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging,

O Light of our dark sky; we praise thee for the radiance

that from the scripture’s page, a lantern to our footsteps,

shines on from age to age.

2  The Church from our dear Master

received the word divine, and still that light is lifted

o’er all the earth to shine. It is the chart and compass

that o’er life’s surging sea,  
mid mists and rocks and quicksands,

still guides, O Christ, to thee.

3  O make thy Church, dear Savior,

a lamp of purest gold, to bear before the nations

thy true light as of old;  
O teach thy wandering pilgrims

by this their path to trace, till, clouds and darkness ended,

they see thee face to face.

POSTLUDE:

**Ministers for May 2nd, 2021**

**Altar Guild:** Joan Hurley

**Lector:** Fred Bartenstein

**Ushers**:Steve Sharp and Anne Strothman

**Music Technician:** Fred Bartenstein

**General Information**

**Rector:** The Rev.Canon Dr. Lee Anne Reat

**Supply Priest:** The Rev. Dr. Daniel M. Linnenberg

**Deacon**: The Rev. Rick Incorvati

**Senior Warden**: Dawn Ivy

**Junior Warden**: Scott Yeazell

**Treasurer**: Ken Bladh

**Vestry at Large**: Bonnie Bingman, Kay Koeninger, Jimmy Ryan,

Linda Mortensen, Joyce Spangler, Denise Sharp, Keith Doubt, and Leeza Wheeler

**Parish Administrator & Program Coordinator**: Kelly Zeller

**Director of Music**: Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Nursery Attendant**: Jerushia Knox

**Facility Manager**: Paul McAfee

**Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox

**Altar Flowers**

The flowers are given today in loving memory of Ruth Bayley by Cindy Bayley Mellott



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