



Digital Bulletin
May 2, 2021 9:00 AM
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Prelude "As It Began to Dawn" Lani Smith

Welcome & Introduction

Moment of Silence

Opening Hymn "The Call" Hymn 487 v. 1-3

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.
2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes a guest.
3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move:
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

Book of Common Prayer Pg. 355

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. **Amen.**

Gloria Book of Common Prayer Pg. 356

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.**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (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.**

- 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.

People **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

A Reading from the First Letter of 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.**

The Gospel

Celebrant 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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon The Reverend Gary Darress

Meditation "Who You Say I Am"
 Sung by Amalia Dobbins

By Reuben Morgan
& Ben Fielding

The Nicene Creed

The Book of Common Prayer, Pg. 358

**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 Form VI

The Book of Common Prayer, Pg. 392

Deacon In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.
Silence

Deacon For all people in their daily life and work;
People **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Deacon For this community, the nation, and the world;
People **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Deacon For the just and proper use of your creation;
People **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Deacon For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
People **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Deacon For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
People **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Deacon For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kym, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
People **For all who serve God in his Church.**

Deacon And we pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence

Deacon We pray for the sick in body, mind, or spirit: Ji-bril, Laura, Miles, Ashleigh, Cheryl, Reuben, Gael, Cindy, John, Aaron, Linda, James, Steve, Nancy, Tom J., Naomi, Rose, Sophia, Mary Lou, Katie, Amy, Brenda, Logan, Judy, Edwina, Roger, Jamison, and Hank.
 We pray for the deployed and those serving in the military: Garrett, Danielle, and Zachariah.
 Pray for those celebrating birthdays this week: Charles B., Father Tom, Terry, Chris, Jim M., Gavin, Trenton, Julie, Michael, Jane, Ethan, and Jennifer. We also give thanks for the anniversary this week of Barry and Nancy Oswell.
 We pray for those who have died.

The Confession

The Book of Common Prayer Pg. 360

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

**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.**

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

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

(You are encouraged to use your cell phone to exchange the peace via text message)

Announcements

Digital Offering

(To make a one-time contribution to St. Michael's or to pay your pledge online;)

1. Using your text message on your smart phone, text the word GIVE to 719-223-3446.
2. Then click on the secure link sent to you via text message to make a contribution.

The Doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow"

Hymn 380, st. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below,
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

The Book of Common Prayer Pg. 361

Celebrant All things come of thee O Lord.

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

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is a right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(An appropriate Proper Preface is offered here and the service continues as follows.)

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.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and

eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died.**
 Christ has risen.
 Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

The Book of Common Prayer Pg. 364

**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 Book of Common Prayer Pg. 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Post Spiritual Communion Prayer

Lord of the Feast,
thank you for feeding us with the
spiritual Body and Blood of Christ.
May we be reminded of the many times
we have been fed at your table,
always being drawn closer to you
in the breaking of the bread.
We acknowledge your presence among us,
just as you were present with your disciples.
May your Holy Spirit continue to strengthen us
to live, learn, and love beyond our walls.
For the sake of your love in our lives,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Final Blessing

Closing Hymn “Come, gracious Spirit”

Hymn 512 v. 1-4

1. Come, gracious Spirit, heav'nly Dove,
with light and comfort from above.
be our guardian, thou our guide
o'er every thought and step preside,
2. The light of truth to us display,
and make us know and choose thy way;
plant holy fear in every heart,
that we from thee may ne'er depart.
3. Lead us to Christ, the living Way,
nor let us from his precepts stray.
Lead us to holiness, the road
that we must take to dwell with God.
4. Lead us to heaven, that we may share
fullness of joy for ever there
lead us to God, our final rest,
to be with him for ever blest.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude “Christ lag in Todesbanden”

J.S. Bach

Service Note

The organ postlude for today's worship is a chorale treatment written by Bach of Martin Luther's hymn "Christ Lag in Todesbanden" or "Christ Lay in Death's Bonds". The lyrics were written by Luther and the melody was cowritten by Luther and Johann Walther. The hymn was published in 1524 and used by

various musicians for their compositions over the centuries. It may be found in our current hymnal as hymn #186. The hymn celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus, with particular reference to a struggle between Life and Death. During the postlude today, Bach's hymnal version will be played first followed by Bach's chorale treatment. Bach uses patterns within the music to illustrate his Christian theology throughout the arrangement. Listen closely, the pedal patterns illustrate the stone rolling away from the tomb. The four note patterns symbolize the cross and the large leaps imply joy. Bach's setting was one of joy for his contemporary congregants.

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Service Participants

The Rev. Matt Holcombe, Rector
The Rev. Gary Darress, Deacon, Preacher
Amalia Dobbins, Soloist
Teresa Allen, Organist

A special thank you to
our AVL Volunteers