



The Anglican Church of St Augustine of Canterbury

May 2, 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Gathering the Community

Hymn

“Come and Journey with a Saviour”

Bente Willis soloist

Opening Responses

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Presider May God’s grace and peace be with you.

People May God fill our hearts with joy.

Prayer of the Day

Presider Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of the commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Listening to God

First Reading — Acts 8.26-40

Deborah Robertson

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 the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22.24-30 (*Deus, Deus meus*)

Bente Willis, cantor

- 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.

Second Reading — 1 John 4.7-21

Deborah Robertson

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 Saviour 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 the Church.

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

The Gospel

Leader May God be with you.

***People* And with your spirit.**

Leader The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.

***People* Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel Reading — John 15.1-8

The Rev'd Elizabeth Nelson

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.”

Reader Let anyone with ears to hear, listen.
People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

The Rev'd Megan Jull

The Prayers of the People

Lauren MacRae

The Lord's Prayer

Presider Gathering our prayers into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

All **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 for ever. Amen.**

The Peace

Presider My friends in Christ, the peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrating the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Music

The Prayer over the Gifts

Presider Let us pray.

All Gracious God, you show us your way and give us your divine life. May every thing we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

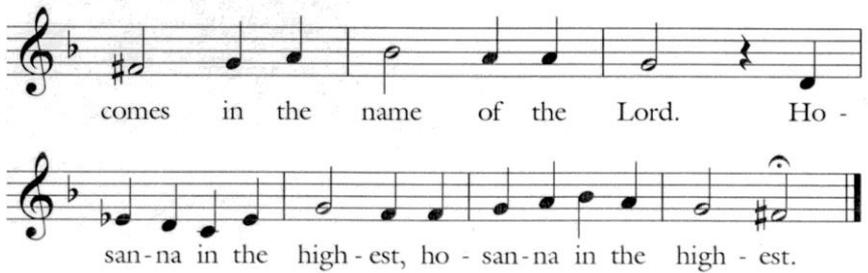
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

The Sanctus





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Presider

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling 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 Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In Jesus, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Jesus, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, 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, Father, according to his command,

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

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, 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, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Lord, we died with you on the cross.

People Now we are raised to new life.

Presider We were buried in your tomb.

People Now we share in your resurrection.

Presider Live in us, that we may live in you.

Invitation to Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

People Thanks be to God.

The Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the



world: have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the



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Communion Music

"Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life"

Prayers after Communion

Presider Let us pray.

People God of love, in this eucharist we have heard your truth and shared in your life. May we always walk in your way, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Presider Glory to God,

People whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour and grant you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Out to Serve

The Dismissal

Response: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude Voluntary VIII, Largo

John Stanley

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