

The Order of Service: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

Prelude *Gavotte*

Samuel Wesley
Dr. Gukhui Han

Opening Acclamation *(people unmuted)*

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is 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.**

Hymn *I come with joy to meet my Lord*

Land of Rest

(Mute your device and sing loudly and joyfully)



1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll



1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple



1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Collect of the Day *(people muted)*

Celebrant God 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 *Acts 8:26-40 (people muted)*

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Video – *In this newborn light*

John Philip Newell
The Work of the People

A Reading *1 John 4:7-21 (people muted)*

A reading from the First Epistle 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Jubilate Deo*

László Halmos

Jubilate Deo, universa terra:
Psalmum dicite nomini ejus.
Venite, et audite, et narrabovobis,
omnes qui timetis Deum,
Quanta fecit Dominus animae meae.
Alleluja.

Make a joyful noise to God, all nations:
Sing the honor of his name,
Come and hear God's works,
all who fear him,
And I will tell you what he has done for my soul.
Alleluia.

The Gospel *John 15:1-8 (people muted)*

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

The Sermon *(people muted)*

The Rev. Geoffrey Tristram, SSJE

Silence follows the sermon.

Music *It is well with my soul*

Arr. Gary Lanier

Samuel Choi (Clarinet), George Bullock (Cello) & Dr. Gukhui Han (Piano)

Affirmation of Faith *(people muted)*

**We believe in God
who is never confined to our imagining,
is never in bondage to our understanding
and never kept within our dwelling places.**

**Our God is the mystery
of divine and human, bound together,
of power and vulnerability,
of crucifixion and resurrection.**

**Our God is the wonder
of truth and compassion,
of liberation and responsibility,
of eternal wisdom and amazing grace.**

**We celebrate this God
who leaps free of all our boundaries in love,
stretching out beyond any barricades
and in mercy bending deep
into fragile human hearts.**

(Source: Celtic Daily Prayer, Vol. 2 in the Celtic Communion service)

Anthem *We sing to him whose wisdom formed the ear*

Henry Purcell
Harlee Balajadia, Soloist

We sing to him whose wisdom formed the ear,
Our songs, let him who gave us voices, hear.
We joy in God who is the spring of mirth,
Who loves he harmony of heav'n and earth;
Our humble sonnets shall that praise rehearse,
Who is the music of the universe.

And whilst we sing, and whilst we sing we
consecrate our art, And offer up with ev'ry
tongue a heart. And whilst we sing, and whilst
we sing we consecrate our art, And offer up, and
offer up with ev'ry tongue a heart.

The Prayers of the People

*(people muted; please hold down your space bar for the response: **Peace be with them.**)*

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader Risen Lord, you greeted all you met with a word of peace; give us your Spirit to pray
for peace for all people.

For those infected with the novel Corona Virus, and for the medical professionals caring for them:
Peace be with them.

For those who have lost their jobs or have closed their businesses, and for those working in service
jobs, public safety, and healthcare under often unsafe conditions:
Peace be with them.

For those suffering from anxiety and loneliness due to physical distancing:
Peace be with them.

For those who work at the centers of power and those who live on the margins:
Peace be with them.

For those overcome by war, violence, and degradation:

Peace be with them.

For those possessed by envy, rage, and hatred:

Peace be with them.

For those overwhelmed by stress, isolation, fear, illness, loss, and despair:

Peace be with them.

For those who desecrate the earth and those who cherish creation:

Peace be with them.

For those held down by sin and those lifted up by grace:

Peace be with them.

For those who have betrayed our trust and for those we have wronged:

Peace be with them.

For our friends and all who warm us with love:

Peace be with them.

For those who show God's love by caring for God's people and all creation:

Peace be with them.

For those who have died, especially ...

Peace be with them.

For those whose joys and concerns we now raise up in prayer and thanksgiving.

(please unmute yourself to add your prayers and thanksgivings at this time)

For those we have named aloud and those we hold in our hearts:

Peace be with them.

Celebrant Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to God.

Offertory Anthem *Speak, O Lord*

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend arr. John Ferguson

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth; plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In you acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes for Your glory.
Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test out thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.

Cause our faith to rise; Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.

Speak, O Lord, 'til your church is built
And the earth is filled with your glory.

The Great Thanksgiving (*Eucharistic Prayer A*)

Celebrant God 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, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 forever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and people unmuted:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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:

Celebrant and people unmuted:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.**

Lord's Prayer *(Please unmute and join in praying together)*

**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.**

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Drive-by Communion will be offered in the 7th & Linden parking lot from 11:30 until noon TODAY!

Video *At the table*

Work of the People

Anthem *Uncreated One*

Chris Tomlin and J.D.Walt arr. Tom Fettke
Harlee Balajadia, Soloist

Holy Uncreated One, Your beauty fills the skies.
But the glory of Your majesty is the mercy in Your eyes.
Worthy Uncreated One from heav'n to earth come down.
You laid aside Your royalty to wear a sinner's crown.
And O great God, be glorified, our lives laid down, Yours magnified.
And O great God, be lifted high. There is none like You.
Jesus, Savior, God's own Son, Risen, reigning Lord,
Sustainer of the universe by the power of Your Word.
There is none like You, there is none like You.
When we see You matchless face, in speechless awe we'll stand.
And there we'll bow with grateful hearts unto the Great I Am.
And O great God, be glorified, our lives laid down, Yours magnified.
And O great God, be lifted high. There is none like You.

Special prayers, celebrations, and birthdays

Blessing of the People

May God, who has named you,
bless you, reminding you who you are:
a beloved child of God.

May Jesus, who walks with us,
bless us, calling us from fear to peace.

May the Spirit, who energizes all creation,
bless us, opening us to possibilities of new life. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **And also with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude *Soon, Very soon*

Arr. Lloyd Larson
Dr. Gukhui Han