



CHURCH



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. May 2, 2021

Hymn #304 v. 1, 2, 4 (1982) *"I come with joy to meet my Lord"*

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free, in awe and wonder to recall, his life laid down for me.
2. I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ's communion bread.
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near, is in such friendship better known, we see and praise him here.

Officiant If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Colossians 3:1

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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. Alleluia!

Christ our Passover Pascha nostrum

1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.
Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.
Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, *
so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

The Psalm Appointed

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.

*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. Alleluia!*

The Lessons

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.

Here ends the Reading.

The Canticle is prayed aloud together

11 The Third Song of Isaiah Surge, illuminare
Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
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. Alleluia!

John 15:1-8

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."

Here ends the reading.

Homily

Hymn #141 (VF) *“Christ the Vine”*

Christ, the vine and God, the gardener, we the branches bearing fruit.
We can bring forth shoots of promise when our lives in Christ take root.

Christ, the fruit from Jesse springing, you fulfilled the prophet’s trust.

And you pray that we, your body, will fulfill your trust in us.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together,

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

The Lord's Prayer

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. *And grant us your salvation.*

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

- R. *Let your people sing with joy.*
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. *For only in you can we live in safety.*
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. *Your saving health among all nations.*
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

We pray especially this day for those who are sick or suffering: John S., Sully, Joey, Maria, Zoma, Marilyn, Peter, Kerri, Rich, Janet, Frank, Caroline, Mary, Gloria, John... and all whom we mention now either silently or aloud.

We commend to you all who have died especially all whom we mention now either silently or aloud.

The Officiant then says the following Collects

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.*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hymn #577 (1982)

“God is love, and where true love is”

(Refrain:)

God is love, and where true love is God himself is there.

1. Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling. Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be his greeting. Let us fear and love him, holy God eternal. Loving him, let each love Christ in one another.
(Refrain)
2. When we Christians gather, members of one Body, let there be in us no discord but one spirit. Banished now be anger, strife and every quarrel. Christ, our God, be always present here among us.
(Refrain)
3. Grant us love’s fulfillment, joy with all the blessed, when we see your face, O Savior, in its glory. Shine on us, O purest Light of all creation, be our bliss while endless ages sing your praises.
(Refrain)

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Hymn #376 (1982)

“Joyful, joyful, we adore thee”

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love; hearts unfold like flowers before thee, praising thee, their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away; giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.
3. Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our Brother: all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Glory to God 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. Ephesians 3:20,21

Special Orthodox Easter Organ Meditation

Sunday, May 2nd, 4PM

Facebook Live

Featuring: Charles Houmard & Angela Garcia-Clark

In the Episcopal Church the first Sunday of the month a special collection is made for the clergy discretionary fund. Please remember to consider donating to this special fund which helps those in need in our community.

During the pandemic changes were made to keep us safe and some of our beloved traditions have been put on hold. One of these is the last Sunday collection for a cause or organization that is near and dear to us at St. Mark's. This Mother's Day, in honor of the occasion we are all invited to generously give to the Holy Family Shelter in Willimantic which cares for homeless, single mothers and their children. Blue envelopes will be available at drive-in church or you can visit our web site to make a donation. The final day for this in gathering will be the last Sunday of May. Our generosity makes the love of Christ a reality to those who may be lost our lonely. Please give generously. <https://holyfamilywillimantic.org>

