

St. John's Worship Plan for Sunday, May 2, 2021  
Fifth Sunday of Easter  
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

# The Word of God

## Entrance Rite

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

*The Celebrant may say*

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.***

### SONG OF PRAISE S 277 *Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Hurd)*

*The following is said at 8am and sung by the choir at 10:30am*

***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.***



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 Lessons

### FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>26</sup>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.) <sup>27</sup>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 <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>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.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>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?” <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>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.

<sup>40</sup>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.***

*Silence may follow.*

### PSALM 22:24-30

*Recited responsively by full-verse at the 8am, sung by the choir at 10:30am.*

<sup>24</sup>My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

<sup>25</sup>***The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
 and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \****  
***“May your heart live for ever!”***

<sup>26</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*  
 and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

<sup>27</sup>***For kingship belongs to the LORD; \****  
***he rules over the nations.***

<sup>28</sup>To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
 all who go down to the dust fall before him.

<sup>29</sup>***My soul shall live for him;  
 my descendants shall serve him; \****  
***they shall be known as the LORD’s for ever.***

<sup>30</sup>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**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the First letter of John.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>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.***

*Silence may follow.*

## GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

*All stand.*

*Deacon*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People*            ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

[Jesus said to his disciples,] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>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.***

## THE SERMON

THE REV. CURT NORMAN



### Sermon Notes:

#### Genesis 4:1-16

*Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, 'I have produced a man with the help of the Lord.'* <sup>2</sup>*Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground.* <sup>3</sup>*In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.* <sup>4</sup>*The Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.'* <sup>5</sup>*8 Cain said to his brother Abel, 'Let us go out to the field.' And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.* <sup>9</sup>*Then the Lord said to Cain, 'Where is your brother Abel?' He said, 'I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?'* <sup>10</sup>*And the Lord said, 'What have you done? Listen; your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground!'* <sup>11</sup>*And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. It will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.'* <sup>12</sup>*Cain said to the Lord, 'My punishment is greater than I can bear!'* <sup>13</sup>*Today you have*

*driven me away from the soil, and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me.' <sup>15</sup>Then the Lord said to him, 'Not so! Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance.' And the Lord put a mark on Cain, so that no one who came upon him would kill him. <sup>16</sup>Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.*



## THE NICENE CREED

*All stand.*

*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 III

*All remain standing.*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

In the St. John's family, we pray for Ferris, William, Karen, Gloria, Susan, Bill, Mary Kay, Mike, Al & Jane, Sharon, David & Nanette, Ted, Ida, and all of our ministries: the Vestry, the altar guild, the buildings and grounds ministry, our children's, youth, and family ministries, the choir, the Shared Ministry Development Team, the finance ministry, for Al, Amy, Kevin, Rev. Pam, and Fr. Curt.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Carrie Barshaw, Chuck Stuart, and Chad St. Charles.

We pray for those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week.

In the Anglican Communion we pray for Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan, Skip our Assisting Bishop, and Wayne our Bishop Provisional.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we remember today the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Andrew's, Flint – Jay Gantz, Rector.



From the Diocese of Western Michigan we pray for Holy Trinity, Manistee – Christian Baron and Jodi Baron, Co-Rectors

Locally we pray for our fellow Episcopalians at St. Matthew’s and St. Paul, as well as our individual and collective efforts to end food insecurity in Saginaw.

We also pray for our partners in Interfaith Saginaw.

*The Celebrant adds the following Collects.*

For those celebrating birthdays this week we pray: watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week we pray: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that you may faithfully live together in this life, and in the age to come have life everlasting. **Amen.**

Almighty God, who gave to your apostles Philip and James grace and strength to bear witness to the truth: Grant that we, being mindful of their victory of faith, may glorify in life and death the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Collect for the Feast of Saints Philip and James, May 1*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**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.*

*The Priest stands and says*

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**

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**

# The Holy Communion

## **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

# The Great Thanksgiving

## **SURSUM CORDA**

*The People remain standing.*

*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 him thanks and praise.**

## **PROPER PREFACE**

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, 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:

**SANCTUS S 124 Holy, holy, holy (Hurd)**

*Celebrant and People at 8am, sung by the choir at 10:30am*

**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.***

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*The People stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

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*

*Christ has died.*

*Christ is risen.*

*Christ will come again.*

## **EPICLESIS**

*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.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

*People and Celebrant*

*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,*

*forever and ever. Amen.*

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

**FRACTION ANTHEM S 154 Christ our Passover (Hurd)**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*10:30am only*

With those worshipping online, we now pray:

*In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive Communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.*

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

*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.*

**BLESSING**

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

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