



## THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 28, 2024 (10 am)

*The Rt. Reverend. Anne B. Jolly, Bishop of Ohio*

***The Reverend Tom Furrer, Interim Rector***

*James W. Shiell, Director of Music*

*Paul W. Keriotis, Director of Spiritual Formation*

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### **Prelude**

Nimrod (from *Enigma Variations*) – Edward Elgar

### **AT THE PROCESSION TO THE ALTAR**

*The People stand for the Processional Hymn and remain standing through the Collect of the Day*

**Processional Hymn No. 379** God is love: let heaven adore him – *Abbot's Leigh*

### **Opening Acclamation**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

*The Celebrant says the 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.**

**Song of Praise No. S280**

Glory to God

*setting:*

*Robert Powell*

### **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

***People* And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray together.

**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 WORD OF GOD

### **The First Reading: 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.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 22:24-30** [*sung by the choir*]

*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.

### **The Second Reading: 1 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.



**Raise us and bless us, O God.**

You give life to the creation by renewing the earth in every season. Curb our exploitation of natural resources, and cause us to preserve the health of plant and animal habitats. We pray.

**Raise us and bless us, O God.**

You give life to the world by laying a cornerstone among the nations. Rebuild the powers and principalities around us in ways that protect the vulnerable and raise up the lowly. We pray.

**Raise us and bless us, O God.**

You give life in places of chaos. Bring an end to the wars in Ukraine, Israel, Palestine and Azerbaijan. Heal the sick, soothe the suffering and bless the dying. Restore peace and rebuild this land, O God. We Pray.

**Raise us and bless us, O God.**

You give life to those in need by the anointing of your Holy Spirit. Comfort those who suffer, encourage those who care for the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and wipe away the tears of all who mourn. Especially... We pray.

**Raise us and bless us, O God.**

You give life to this community of faith by infusing us with love for one another. Inspire us to reach out to our neighbors in meaningful ways and bring the joys of community to a wider family of people. We pray.

**Raise us and bless us, O God.**

You give life to your saints by setting a banquet table of rich food. Feed us with the bread of life and bring us with all your saints to the feast that has no end. We pray.

**Raise us and bless us, O God.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**Prayer for our Rector Search** *(in unison)*

**O God, giver of all good gifts, look graciously upon Christ Episcopal Church as we seek our next rector to shepherd our parish family. Send your Holy Spirit to guide the Search Committee and Vestry that they may discern your will. Give them wisdom, patience, and open hearts as they consider candidates. Lead us to a faithful pastor who will preach your Word with truth, care for your people with love, and equip us for the work of ministry. Grant that Christ Church may receive a rector who will serve Us and lead us closer to You through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

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.**

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.**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

## **THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

**Offertory Anthem:** Eternal Love – Paul Sjolund

**Offertory Response:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow – *Lasst uns Erfreuen*

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

**Great Thanksgiving:** Enriching Our Worship – Prayer 1

*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 him thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

**Sanctus S-125 – Holy, holy, holy**

*setting:*

Richard Proulx

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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. Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Fraction Anthem S-155**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover

*setting:*

*Gerald Near*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;**

**therefore let us keep the feast.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**



# ALPHA Talk #13 “Why & How Should I Tell Others ?”

## I. Why tell others?

- Jesus told us to:

**“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you”**

Matthew 28: 18 – 20

- For the good of others – Spiritual hunger of the world
- It is God News in a bad news world. Gospel = “good news”

## II. How do we tell others?

Two opposite dangers: Insensitivity and fear of failure

### 1) Presence: Matthew 5: 13-16

“Salt of the earth... light of the world. Let your light shine before others that they might see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven”.

### 2) Persuasion: 2 Corinthians 5:11

“Knowing what the fear of the Lord is, we try to persuade others.”

### 3) Proclamation: John 1: 39-46

“Come and see.”

#### **4) Power: 1 Thessalonians 1:5**

“Our gospel came to you, not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit with full conviction.”

#### **5) Prayer: Acts 4: 29-31**

“And when they had prayed, the place...was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.”

Don't give up. Whenever you pass along the Good News, it has an effect.

### **Discussion Questions**

- 1) What did you think / feel about the talk today?
- 2) Have you ever spoken to friend, family members, colleague about your church life, your faith, your relationship with God?
- 3) If you did not know anything about Christianity, how would you like to be told about it?
- 4) What do you think / feel about people telling others about their faith?
- 5) Can you think of anyone who might benefit from hearing about your faith experiences?

## The Distribution

*All baptized Christians are welcome and invited to come to the altar rail for communion. Or, if you would like communion brought to your pew, please inform an usher. The bread may be consumed and a sip taken from the common cup, or the bread may be held and dipped or intincted in the common cup **or** if you would simply like a blessing, please cross your arms on your chest and the priest will make the sign of the Cross on your forehead.*

**Music at the Distribution:** Pastoral Symphony and He Shall Feed His Flock (*Messiah*) – G. F. Handel

## Postcommunion Prayer

**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.**

## Easter Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn no. 657** Love divine, all loves excelling – *Hyfrodol*

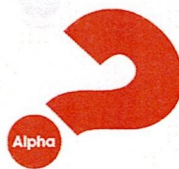
## Dismissal

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

## THE ALPHA COURSE – Discussion

### How & Why Should I Tell Others?



**We invite everyone to join us for discussion for the Alpha topic in the Narthex and Garth Hall.**

## Postlude

Festival Voluntary – Flor Peeters

### **Assisting with our Worship at 10 am:**

The Parish Choir, Laurie Jones – piano, Susanna Reilly - cello

Jeffrey Heakin – Lector      Karen Andrus– Chalice Bearer/Lector

Faith Scarmuzzi – Chalice Bearer/Prayers of the People

Liinda Day & Sandy Schlecht – Greeters

Deb Clary & Kathy Hughes – Altar Guild

TBD - Ushers

Deb Murphy & Don Scarmuzzi– Audio/Visual

## **LINCOLN SCHOOL**

### **CHANGES...**

In one week, CEC donations of macaroni and cheese and ramen noodles created a surplus for the first time ever in my memory.

Two needs were identified – spaghetti cups and pants for both boys and girls.

Requests were received for more spaghetti cups – a favorite of the kids. Cups are the safest food for a child to prepare. They just need to be heated up in a microwave, The cans are perfect for families where an adult is preparing the food.

### **Clothing needs**

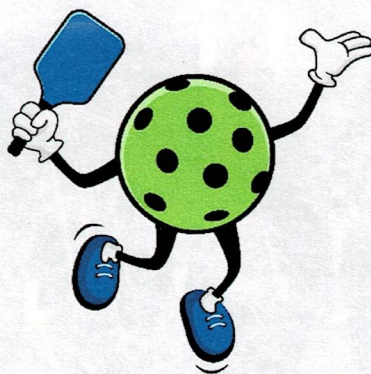
Girl leggings sizes 6 to 14

Boy sweatpants sizes 8 to 14

Future considerations. In five weeks school will be out. The kids will no longer have access to breakfast and lunch nor will the food pantry be open daily. Community Liaisons informed me that limited emergency food supplies are available through the school Secretaries who work year around. What can CEC do to support a summer food program? Please share your ideas. Linda Day 330-395-8818 or [lindabday@aol.com](mailto:lindabday@aol.com)

Once Again Thank you and God Bless You

**No Pickleball on  
May 4<sup>th</sup>  
d/t Rummage Sale in  
the Parish Hall**



## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The church will have a **RUMMAGE SALE on May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4th, 2024**. We plan to have a fall rummage sale, so hold winter items until then. All donations can be taken to the church in the mornings Monday through Thursday and placed by the handicap door on the cart or desk. Set up will be the week of the 29<sup>th</sup>, and the 29<sup>th</sup> will be the last day to bring in items. If you need something picked up call Steve 330-770-4763.

Set up for the Rummage Sale begins Monday April 29, 2024, and runs all week long. We need your help setting up. There is a lot that goes into this sale just to get ready for it. Any help you could give would be much appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Steve Watts. Thank you.

### **ARTS ON ATLANTIC: A Night at the Movies** **Today, Sunday, 2024 at 4:00 PM**

The Park Avenue Brass Quintet will play an assorted selection of favorite movie music at Christ Episcopal Church. From Batman to Wizard of Oz and from Goldfinger to Star Trek this concert will delight everyone! Come and listen.



**LINCOLN SCHOOL 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation** On May 21<sup>st</sup> CEC will welcome 100 Lincoln 8<sup>th</sup> graders and 15 staff members to a celebratory breakfast to honor their graduation. Volunteers are needed to help welcome, provide table services, decorate and distribute treat bags. If interested, please contact Linda Day at 330-395-8818 or [lindabday@aol.com](mailto:lindabday@aol.com). More info to follow.

### **PRAYERS NEEDED**

We have learned that Father Bob Linberg is having some health issues and has been put on the list for a kidney transplant. He is asking for prayers for healing and strength. If you are able please keep him in your prayers. You can also send him cards to let him know you are thinking of him. His address is listed below:

Father Bob Linberg  
16 Winch Hill Rd.  
Swanzey, NH 03446

### **BULLETINS:**

The bulletins that we print out for the service each week is for your use. We do not need it back. You can take it home with you and put the announcements for the week on your refrigerator.

### **INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK**

There will be an international Potluck on Sunday May 19th. Lynn Peteritis will do a presentation on her experiences traveling to China and Fr. Tom will give us a Kateri update. It is also Pentecost, so wear your red!

Here's the alphabet breakdown for food: A-E last names: bring desserts

dish  
great!!!!).

F-S last names: bring main  
(international favorite would be

T- Z last name: bring veggie or your choice

Drinks will be provided. Let's have some fun and listen to our church family member and leader!!!!!!

**SIGNING DIOCESAN RELEASE:**

We are required to have picture release forms signed in order for the diocese to use our pics for the diocesan search profile they are developing. Forms are in the narthex on the tables or in the library on the tables. Please sign if you agree to having your picture used. You can leave them on the tables signed or give them to an usher or vestry/ search committee member. Thanks

**NEEDED INFORMATION:**

We are looking for the person who made the cheese blintzes for the Arts on Atlantic. There are people who want the recipe. They were a huge hit.



# CREED (follows sermon)

We be - lieve in God al - might - y, An - chor  
We be - lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and  
We be - lieve in God's own Spi - rit, bond - ing

of scorned all things that be, Ma - ker  
all and the cru - ci - fied; tak - en  
all the saints with in one Church

of the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er  
from the cross, was bur - ied. True Life  
cath' - lic. one Church ho - ly. where for -

of the sky and sea. We be - lieve in God's Son,  
there had tru - ly died. We be - lieve that on the  
give - ness frees from sin; in the bo - dy's re - sur -

Je - sus, now for us both Lord and  
third - day Christ was raised up from the  
rec - tion, for the break - ing of death's

Christ of the Spir - it and of Ma - ry born to  
grave, then as - cend - ed to God's right hand. He will  
chain gives the life that's ev - er - last - ing. this the

bring a - bun - dant life.  
come to judge and save.  
faith that we have claimed.

## Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God 35

## Refrain

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -  
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

## Verses

1. God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want;  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love;  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
2. Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul;  
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth;  
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.
3. Though I should wander the valley of death,  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side;  
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.
4. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.
5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;  
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

Text: Psalm 23; Marty Haugen  
Music: Marty Haugen  
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