



Fifth Sunday of Easter ☩ April 28, 2024
Holy Eucharist: Rite Two ☩ 10 a.m.

PRELUDE "Ciacona in E Minor"

Dietrich Buxtehude

Please stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 296 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

Engleberg

The people's responses are in bold.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE ACCLAMATION

Please remain standing.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

HYMNAL S 236 Canticle 13, A Song of Praise *Benedictus et Domine*

John Rutter

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of you majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.**

Please be seated

THE LESSON Acts 8:16-40

A Reading from the Book of Acts.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept.

PSALM 22:24-30

Please remain seated. Read responsively by whole verse.

My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD; *

he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *

they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *

the saving deeds that he has done.

HYMN 705

As those of old their first fruits brought (stanza 1)

Forest Green

Please stand and face the reader of the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

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 our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Please be seated.

The Rev. Canon Lucy Amerman

THE NICENE CREED

Said by all, standing.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

Please remain standing.

The Leader and the People pray responsively.

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, remembering especially Natalie Blumenthal, Nancy Lamont, Don Morrison, Foster Nichols, Brian Ward, and the needs and concerns of others on our parish prayer list;

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.

Silence is kept. The people may add their own petitions.

THE CONCLUDING COLLECT

Gracious God: Grant that your people may have in them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and guide us into harmony of relationship through loving-kindness and the wise use of all that you have given; for you are drawing all things into communion with you and with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness, and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give toward the continuing work of Ascension as the Body of Christ in the world.

In addition to giving in the offering plate, you can make a gift by texting "AscensionDenver" to 73256 or visit www.ascensiondenver.org/give. Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"This Joyful Eastertide"

Vernon Hoyle

Please stand as the offering is presented.

PRESENTATION HYMN 210

The day of resurrection! (stanza 3)

Ellacombe

**Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin,
The round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen their notes together blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.**

Children are invited to gather around the altar.

Bells are rung.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Bells are rung.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM: Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.**

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please be seated.

*All are welcome to receive the Sacrament. You may kneel or stand at the altar rail where you will receive the consecrated bread, followed by the consecrated wine if you choose to receive it. We do not offer intinction at this time. Please remember that communion in one kind is full communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. **Please indicate if you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer.***

COMMUNION HYMNS

Sung by all, seated.

HYMN 487

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

The Call

HYMN 662

Abide with me

Eventide

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE EASTER BLESSING

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life 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 448 O love, how deep, how broad, how high

Deus tuorum militum

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE "Processional"

William Mathias

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.



PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Canon Lucy S. L. Amerman; **Assisting Priest:** The Rev. Amy M. Feins **Crucifer:** Lucy Miller; **Torchbearers:** Freddie Wold and Marilyn Wold; **Eucharistic Ministers:** Chuck Macdonald and Cora Neslin; **Lector:** Chris Miller; **Intercessor:** Doris Kimbrough; **Musicians:** Dr. Cindy Lindeen-Martin, *Organist and Director of Music*, Ascension Parish Choir, and Liam Harty, *Guest Organist*; **Ushers:** Hank Dougan and Kristin Ferguson; **Greeter:** Lorie Amass; **Livestream Assistant:** Walt Smith
Altar Guild: Julie Mahoney, Kathleen Reilly, and Cynthia Shannon

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This service conforms to *Holy Eucharist: Rite Two*, which begins on page 355 of the *Book of Common Prayer (BCP)*. *Scripture readings* are appointed by the *Revised Common Lectionary* (Episcopal) and are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible. Psalm texts are taken from the *BCP*. *Hymns* are from *The Hymnal 1982*. *Other liturgical elements* may include materials compiled from publications, including *Enriching Our Worship*, the *Book of Occasional Services 2022*, *Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018*, *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, the prayer books of other member churches of the Anglican Communion, and other contemporary liturgical resources. All used by permission. All rights reserved. *Other Music* from St. James Music Press License No. 17150. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net (text and streaming) No. A-720857. All rights reserved.



THE PARISH PRAYER LIST

We pray for those for whom our prayers have been requested, remembering especially Diane Anderson, Natalie Blumenthal, Jean Brown, Julia Brown, Agostino Burzio, Lynne Chmelar, Paula Christopoulos, Michael Curry, Elinor Davis, Courtney Echerd, RJ Graham, Helen Gscheidle, Barry Hansen, David Johnson, John Klockentager, *Nancy Lamont*, Gregory Lemos, Celeste Lythgoe, Chuck Macdonald, Jim Macdonald, Jim Menne, Lisa Mikolajchak, *Don Morrison*, Helen Morrison, Mark Nachtigal, Foster Nichols, Meg Nichols, Jamie Ross, Buzz Schaumberg, James Sullivan, James Terrell, Bow Urbana, Michel Vallée, Betsy Wahlberg, Maura Walsh, Brian Ward, George Weaver, Peter Westwood, Bert, Juan, Nancy, and the victims of the turmoil in Haiti and the wars in the Holy Land and Ukraine. We pray for those who are expecting children, remembering especially Kelly and Charlie Blanchard, Kirsten and Misha Calkins, Carey Leigh and Dutch Crews, Morgan and Monet Duval, Amy and Mike Gentile, Catherine and Schuyler Grey, and Georgia and Paul Troy. We pray for those who have died, remembering especially Bill Dorn, and the World Central Kitchen aid workers.

In the Parish cycle of prayer, we pray for those celebrating birthdays in April, remembering especially Anna Zumbahlen (April 1); Natalie Blumenthal (April 2); Charlotte Kundts (April 3); William Wetzel and Stone Whitcomb (April 4); Buzz Schaumberg (April 6); Teddy Cotter and Dorothy Wilson (April 7); Pierson Wiedenmayer (April 9); Tom Kanan and Mason Rice (April 10); Ben Stapleton (April 11); Cora Neslin (April 12); Peter Westwood and Lea VanSchaack (April 13); Seth Wiggins (April 15); Rob Brown (April 16); Arthur Pearson (April 18); Jan Douglas and Tom Shannon (April 20); Audrey Herman (April 23); John Murdock (April 24); Tyler Ray (April 25); Court Wold (April 29); Isabel Howard and Margaret Renick (April 30); *for Julie Tyree and Ruth Dickson, our Accountants, Elvia Rodriguez, our bookkeeper and our Officers and Vestry; and for all who care for those living on the streets of Denver, especially for the work of our mission partners St. Francis Center and Women's Homelessness Initiative.*

In the Anglican and Diocesan Cycles of Prayer, we pray for *The Church of Bangladesh; Little Shepherd of the Hills, Crestone; St. Barnabas, Denver; St. Paul's, Lakewood; St. Raphael, Security; All those who work with children and youth; and St. Philip and St. James, Apostles (May 1).*

Names in italics are new to the prayer list this week. Names which have appeared on the prayer list for three months will be removed unless otherwise requested. You are most welcome and encouraged to contact the Parish Office to request new prayers and earlier removal or extension of existing prayers.



*Where faith and real life intersect
and from where we are called to share God's love in the church and in the world*

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Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment.