Worship Plan for Sunday, April 28, 2024

Easter 5 ELW Holy Communion Setting 3

WELCOME & PRELUDE

(Please stand as you are able)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (ELW p. 97)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

the wellspring of grace,

our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,

let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning

your voice thundered over the deep

and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea

into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official

entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John

and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection

you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,

freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,

giving all honor and praise to you,

through the risen Christ, our source of living water,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**.

Look, here is water! Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen (ELW 377)

GREETING (ELW p. 138)

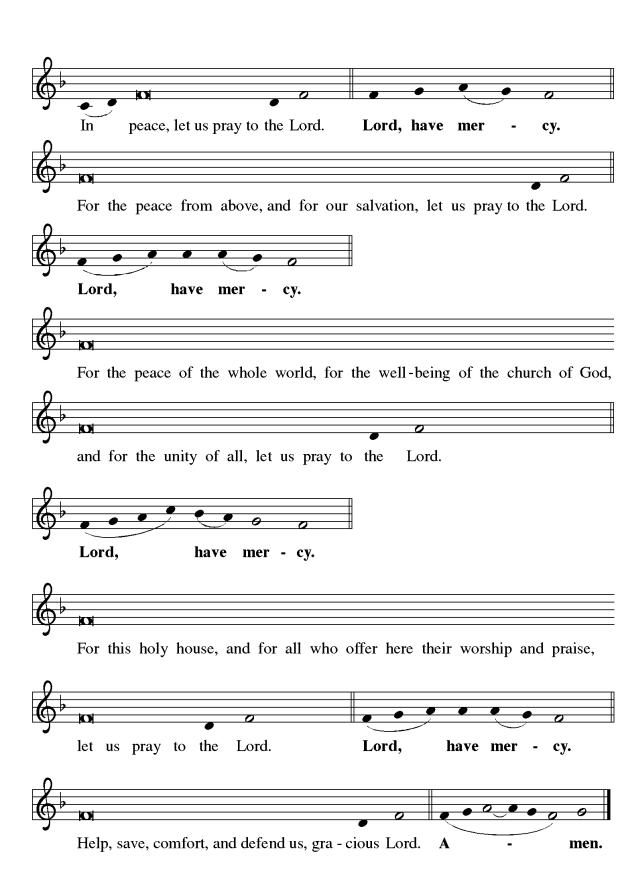
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE (ELW p. 138)

PM





CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW P. 139)



PRAYER OF THE DAY (S&S)

Let us pray. O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated for the readings.

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

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

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As 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?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When 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. ⁴⁰But 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.

PSALM: PSALM 22:25-31







Psalm 22:27

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- ²⁵From you comes my praise in the ^I great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who ^I fear the LORD.
- ²⁶The poor shall eat ¹ and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!

- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn ¹ to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow ¹ before God.
- ²⁸For dominion belongs | to the LORD, who rules o- | ver the nations. R
- ²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow ^I down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- ^I fore the LORD.
 - ³⁰Their descendants shall | serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.
 - ³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people ^I yet unborn, saying to them, "The ^I LORD has acted!" **R**

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21



A reading from 1 John.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if

we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Love 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. ¹⁸There 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. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those 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. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(ELW p. 142)



Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and in them bear much fruit.

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

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

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: THERE IN GOD'S GARDEN

(ELW 342)

NICENE CREED

(ELW p. 105)



Together let us confess our faith using the words from the Nicene Creed.

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 and the Son,*

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



Gathered together as God's holy people, let us pray for the Church, One Holy, catholic and Apostolic, for the world, for our nation and state. Let us pray: O Lord, hear our prayers not according to the poverty of our asking, but according to the richness of your grace, so that our lives may conform to those desires which accord with your will.

A brief silence.

Lord Jesus, thank You for cutting us from our tree of death and grafting us to Your living Self. Give us courage: Your Father's pruning shears frighten us! Give us faith: He prunes us to bear much fruit in You! Give us Love: it is the sweetest fruit of Your blessed vine. Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

As we pray, Lord, we ask that You guide Your Church with Your perpetual governance so that we may walk in Your ways. Increase Your mercy on us so that with You as our Ruler and Guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal. Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who risk their lives for the sake of others. Bless the doctors, nurses, and scientists fighting the myriad of diseases plaguing humanity. Bless all those in need. Allow us to bring Your light into lives darkened by sickness, loneliness, mourning, fear and uncertainty. Shine the light of Your healing Love upon us all. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

You give us Your peace, O Lord, and we rest comfortably in it. Help us to share that peace with all whom we meet and work and live. Bring peace to where there is no peace. Grant peace to all the world, O Lord, and put an end to war, terrorism, and religious and ethnic hatred, persecution, and violence. We pray for the Middle East and southwest Asia, Africa, and the

rising tensions and threats in the western Pacific. Lord, in Your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Strengthen our world leaders to work for peace. Give them the desire and the strength to accomplish Your will for the good of all people entrusted to their care. Teach us all to settle differences peacefully; and to act honorably, speak respectfully, and live justly. Lord, in Your mercy, Hear our prayer.

In difficult times You restore Your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank You for the lives of our beloved dead and the saints who have gone before us. Lord, in Your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Into Your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 143)

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you. Please share a sign of Peace with each other.

MEAL

(ELW p. 106) **OFFERING**

(Please stand as you are able)

OFFERING HYMN: Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW 186)

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 144)

Let us pray.

Risen One.

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 144-5)

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give us thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 144)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

That we should at all times and in all places

Give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

Through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

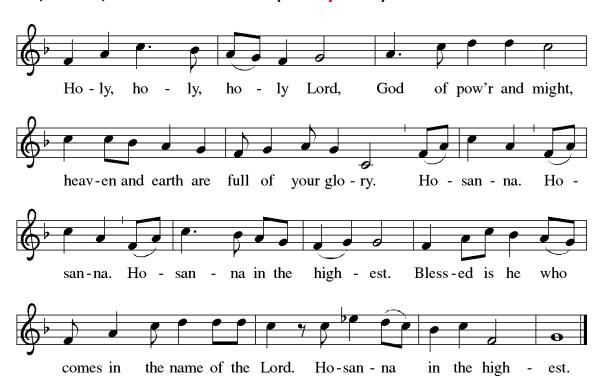
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

With the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

We praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

(ELW p. 145)

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen, amen, amen.**

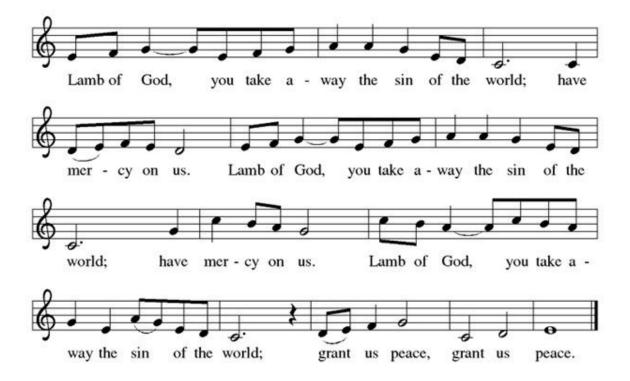
LORD'S PRAYER

(ELW p. 145)



Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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. LAMB OF GOD



(Please be seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

(ELW p. 146)



Welcome to Christ's meal. We understand that this is not our table, but this is Christ's table, and all are welcome to partake of Christ's meal. If you are participating live stream, we invite you to share in the bread and fruit of the vine. Please follow along.

(Gluten free wafers are available. The pre-filled cups have grape juice in them. You can take an empty cup to be filled with wine from the chalice.)

We will commune our Choir first, then the Right side of the sanctuary and finish with the Left side of the sanctuary.

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table!

COMMUNION (ELW p. 112)

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen**.

(Please stand as you are able)

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(ELW p. 113)

(S&S)

Let us pray.

Shepherding God,

you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen**

(Please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please stand as you are able)

BLESSING (ELW p. 114)

PM

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope,

→ bless you now and always.

Amen

SENDING SONG: Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain (ELW 363)

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 146)



Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God.

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