

The Fifth Sunday after Easter

May 6, 2023 5:30pm

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Opening Hymn

The day thou gavest (vs. 1, 2)

Hymnal #24

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended, the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended, thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy Church, unsleeping while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping, and rests not now by day or night.

John Ellerton (1826-1893)

Easter Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Collect for Purity

Gloria

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.

Collect of the Day

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

The First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

¹*In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; * deliver me in your righteousness.*

²*Incline your ear to me; * make haste to deliver me.*

³*Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; * for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.*

⁴*Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, * for you are my tower of strength.*

⁵*Into your hands I commend my spirit, * for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.*

¹⁵*My times are in your hand; * rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.*

¹⁶*Make your face to shine upon your servant, * and in your lovingkindness save me.*

The Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Holy Gospel: John 14:1-14

[Jesus told his disciples,] ¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People

All remain standing.

Presider or deacon . . . we pray to Lord.

Response Hear our prayer.

The Peace

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

Hymnal #487

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

George Herbert (1593-1633)

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee**

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

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.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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

People *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.*

Celebrant *Holy and gracious Father. . .*

. . .Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption. . .

. . .Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

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

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music

Holy God, we praise thy Name

Hymnal #366

Part I

Holy God, we praise thy Name, Lord of all, we bow before thee;
all on earth thy scepter claim, all in heaven above adore thee;
infinite thy vast domain, everlasting is thy reign.

Hark, the loud celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord: holy, holy, holy Lord!

Lo, the apostolic train join, thy sacred Name to hallow;
prophets swell the loud refrain, and the white-robed martyrs follow;
and, from morn till set of sun, through the Church the song goes on.

Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name thee,
while in essence only One, undivided God we claim thee;
then, adoring, bend the knee and confess the mystery.

Part II

Christ, thou art our glorious King, Son of God enthroned in splendor;
but deliverance to bring thou all honors didst surrender,
and wast of a virgin born humbly on that blessed morn.

Thou didst take the sting from death, Son of God, as Savior given;
on the cross thy dying breath opened wide the realm of heaven.
In the glory of that land thou art set at God's right hand.

As our judge thou wilt appear. Savior, who hast died to win us,
help thy servants, drawing near. Lord, renew our hearts within us.
Grant that with thy saints we may dwell in everlasting day.

Para. the Te Deum, Sts. 1-4, Ignaz Franz (1719-1790), tr. Clarence Walworth (1820-1900).
Sts. 5-7, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

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

Closing Music

Christ is made the sure foundation (vs. 1, 4)

Hymnal #518

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help for ever, and her confidence alone.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee, for ever with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory evermore with thee to reign.

Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1856), alt.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the spirit.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Postlude



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