

GOOD SHEPHERD

Episcopal Church and School



I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Holy Eucharist
Rite Two

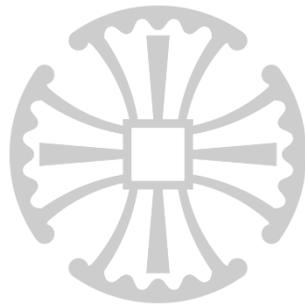
May 2, 2021 ♦ 10:00 a.m.

MISSION

We exist to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love.

VISION

We are called to be a vibrant spiritual and educational community resource, radiating God's love for everyone, everywhere.



WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU

Welcome to Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and School. We are glad you decided to join us for worship this morning. Please take a moment to fill out the Communication Card in your bulletin and place it in the Offering Plate at the back of the church after in the service.

OUR BRIDGE

2021 is a year of transition. We are moving from a pre-pandemic place to another new and different world. To get us there, we are called to reevaluate our goals and plans, which have been dramatically shifted by the events of 2020. We are still the same church. Our mission and vision have not changed. We are simply moving ahead together as a community, and we are called to recognize that the most effective way to do God's work in the world is to adapt. As we cross over into the new place God is preparing **for** us, this is our BRIDGE.

Build Relationships
Reevaluate Priorities
Imagine Change
Develop Disciples
Grow Leaders
Engage Community

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

The people stand.

HYMN

God is love: let heaven adore him

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

Celebrant 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 *Sung by cantor*

Glory to you

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.**

The people are seated.

THE READINGS

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

- 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand

HYMN

I come with joy to meet my Lord

THE HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 15:1-8

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

David Dixon, *Youth and Family Minister*

The people stand.

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:

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

Lord Jesus, you are the Vine and we are the branches. You are the source of our life and only when we abide in you can we produce abundant fruit. We offer ourselves to you this day, as we pray, "**Hear us, O risen Christ.**"

For your Church throughout the world, that all your people may walk in your ways and follow the path of love that casts out all fear; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That we may do the works that Jesus revealed in his ministry, the healing of the sick, the raising up of the lowly, the giving of sight to the blind, and the blessing of the poor and the grieving; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

For those who are spiritually lost, who question their faith, or whose souls are wrapped in the shadows of doubt, that they may share their misgivings with Jesus, who gently unfolds the truth and reveals a way; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

Give strength and patience, O Lord, to those in need; to those who have lost jobs; to those who are caring for children at home; and to all who are seeking peace and rest; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

Grant your healing presence and grace to those who are sick and those in hospitals, to doctors, nurses, and all other health care professionals; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That the Church, the community of the baptized, may vigorously proclaim the alleluias of Easter, revealing the light of Christ, whose victory over death breaks the chains of darkness and despair; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for the beauty that is set before our eyes, and for the mysteries yet unseen, that we may honor the expansiveness of creation and the guardians of its splendor; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for missionaries throughout the world, who reveal God's Word in challenging times and places; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That the Lord may comfort those in the waning days of life, and bring to life eternal those who have died, in the hope of the resurrection; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

As a chosen people who share the royal priesthood of Christ, let us add to these petitions.

The congregation is invited to offer additional petitions at this time.

Let us now pray for our own parish family.

Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of Good Shepherd truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT *Prayed by Celebrant*

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on these your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you as you celebrate your birthday or wedding anniversary this week, and always. **Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

Although we are not able to pass the alms basins at this time, you may place your gifts in the offering plates at the back of the church. You are also invited and encouraged to continue your support of the mission of the Church through online giving or by mailing your offerings to the church office.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

We Have Been Told

D. Haas

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Prayer B*

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.**

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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Cantor sings

*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.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the bread followed by a moment of silence.

FRACTION ANTHEM (*Sung by the cantor*)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant 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.

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

Wondrous Love

M. Pooler

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

We sing the praise of him who died

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Celebrant Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

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

POSTLUDE

*The Sanctuary Candle is given this month to the glory of God
in loving memory of Al Arbuthnot by the Good Guys, his brothers in Christ.*

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God

Our vocalists today are Ian Anderson and Debbie White

OUR STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Douglas F. Scharf, *Rector*
The Rev. Allison Spencer, *Assisting Priest*
Merike Seely, *Parish Administrator*
Timm C. Johnson-Reynolds, *Music Director*
Dr. Rosemary Marshall, *Head of School*
Jo Wood, *Director of Hospitality*
David Dixon, *Youth and Family Minister*
Debbie White, *Assistant Music Director*
Letty Anderson, *Business Manager*
Beth Long, *Thrift Store Manager*
Ann Ballard, *Volunteer Office Assistant*

OUR VESTRY

Heather Graham, *Senior Warden*
Mike Howard, *Junior Warden*
Mark Chittum, *Clerk*
Mike Greene, *Treasurer*

Beth Bohnsack, *Beverly Cunningham,*
Gwen Gouéry, *Kathy Hawken,*
Mike Hanseter, *Steve Pollard,*
Tracy Smith, *Rob Taylor, Matt Ulman*



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