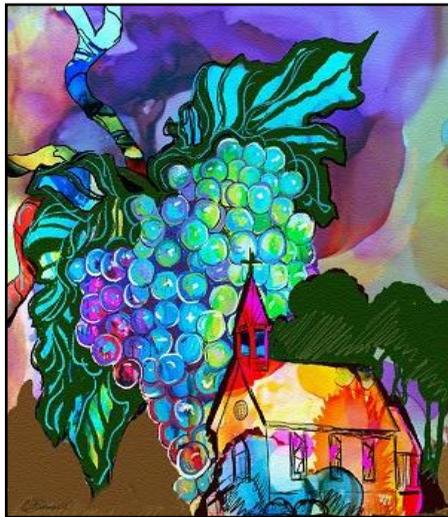


**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
& AFRICAN PALMS USA**

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Sunday May 2, 2021**

**MORNING PRAYER**



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# DAILY MORNING PRAYER

Organ Music: Lord Christ, the Only Son of God

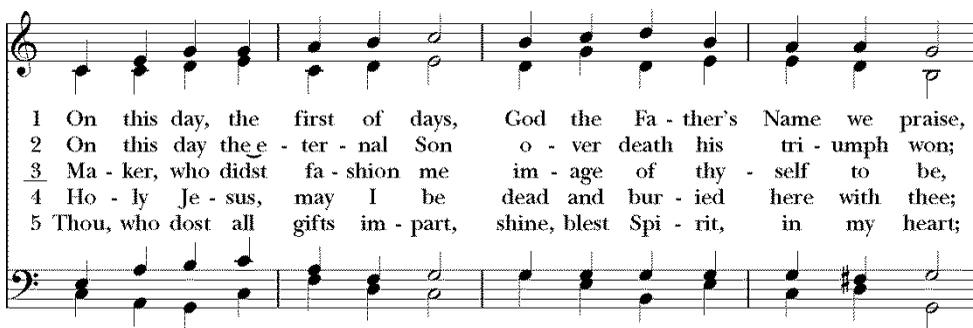
Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

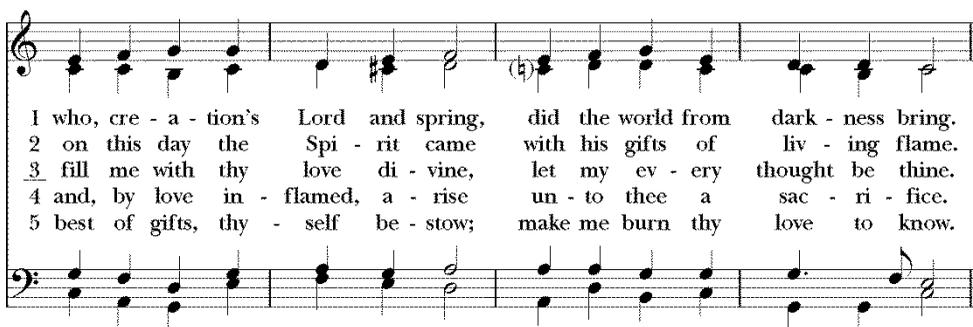
**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Opening Hymn 47

On this day, the first of days



1 On this day, the first of days, God the Fa - ther's Name we praise,  
2 On this day the e - ter - nal Son o - ver death his tri - umph won;  
3 Ma - ker, who didst fa - shion me im - age of thy - self to be,  
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, may I be dead and bur - ied here with thee;  
5 Thou, who dost all gifts im - part, shine, blest Spi - rit, in my heart;



1 who, cre - a - tion's Lord and spring, did the world from dark - ness bring.  
2 on this day the Spi - rit came with his gifts of liv - ing flame.  
3 fill me with thy love di - vine, let my ev - ery thought be thine.  
4 and, by love in - flamed, a - rise un - to thee a sac - ri - fice.  
5 best of gifts, thy - self be - stow; make me burn thy love to know.

6 God, the blessed Three in One,  
dwell within my heart alone;  
thou dost give thyself to me:  
help me give myself to thee.

*The Invitatory and Psalter*

*Officiant*        *Lord, open our lips.*

*People*            *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia**

**Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Christ our Passover    Pascha nostrum

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*

    therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*

    but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*

    death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*

    but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*

    and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, \*

    the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, \*

    by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, \*

    so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

## 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.

**Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

## 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.

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

*The Song of Moses    Cantemus Domino*  
*Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18*

**I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; \***  
**the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.**  
**The Lord is my strength and my refuge; \***  
**the Lord has become my Savior.**  
**This is my God and I will praise him, \***  
**the God of my people and I will exalt him.**  
**The Lord is a mighty warrior; \***  
**Yahweh is his Name.**

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; \*  
the finest of those who bear armor have been  
drowned in the Red Sea.  
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; \*  
they sank into the depths like a stone.  
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; \*  
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.  
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? \*  
who is like you, glorious in holiness,  
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?  
You stretched forth your right hand; \*  
the earth swallowed them up.  
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; \*  
with your might you brought them in safety to  
your holy dwelling.  
You will bring them in and plant them \*  
on the mount of your possession,  
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, \*  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.  
The Lord shall reign \*  
for ever and for ever.

#### A reading from 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.

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

## **Glory to God**

*Gloria in excelsis*

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.**

### **A reading from the Gospel according to John (15:1-8)**

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."

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

### **THE SERMON**

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.

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

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

**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.**

### **Suffrages A**

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R. And grant us your salvation.  
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R. Let your people sing with joy.  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. For only in you can we live in safety.  
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
R. Your saving health among all nations.  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

### **The 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.**

## A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world;  
for our Bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.  
Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations;  
and for the well-being of all people.  
Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed,  
and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

I ask your prayers for the departed.  
Pray for those who have died.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*We take a moment now to offer prayers for those who are sharing in the Eucharist  
within their homes*

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please take a moment to reverently consume the Host, and if you are with family perhaps give the Host to each other with the words "The Body of Christ."*

Gracious Father, we give you praise and thanks for this Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of your beloved Son Jesus Christ, the pledge of our redemption; and we pray that it may bring us forgiveness of our sins, strength in our weakness, and everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### *A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Alleluia, alleluia, Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Closing Hymn 296

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows \_\_\_\_\_



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; \_\_\_\_\_  
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. \_\_\_\_\_  
 as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. \_\_\_\_\_



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. \_\_\_\_\_  
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. \_\_\_\_\_ Al - le -  
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: \_\_\_\_\_



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

Organ Music: Jubilate

Roy Douglas (1907-2015)