

CHRIST IS RISEN!



AND SO ARE WE!

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

3601 Alabama Ave SE Washington, DC 20020

Rector: Rev. Todd Thomas Music Director: Rogers, BM, MS, CAGO

Sunday, April 28, 2024 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Our mission: Following Jesus by living in love,
walking by faith and serving our Malou community.*

We're so glad you're here! This bulletin has all the information you'll need.

Our Worship Service

Choral Introit Come My Way, My Truth, My Life Vaughan Williams

Opening Hymn: "In Christ There Is No East or West" LEVAS #62 (vs. 1-4)

Verse 1 In Christ there is no East or West, In Him no South or North;
But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide earth.

Verse 2 In Him shall true hearts everywhere Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord Close binding human kind.

Verse 3 Join hands, disciples of the faith, What e'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as a son Is surely kin to me.

Verse 4 In Christ now meet both East and West, In Him meet South and North;
All Christly souls are one in him Through out the whole wide earth.

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.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: "To God Be the Glory" OLFB #15 (chorus only)

Chorus To God be the glory, To God be the glory, To God be the glory
For the things He has done! With His blood He has saved me,
With His pow'r He has raised me To God be the glory
For the things He has done!

Prayer 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.**

Our Scripture Readings for the Day *You may be seated for the readings.*

A Reading Acts, Acts 8:26-40

Then 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, the 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.**

A Reading from Psalm 22, Psalm 22:24-30

24 For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me but heard when I cried to him.

**25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.**

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever!

**27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.**

28 For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

**29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.**

30 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.

READER: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

PEOPLE: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

A Reading from 1 John, 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 abides 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 a brother or sister 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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: "Celtic Alleluia" Carroll/Walker

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

1. Organ 2. Cantor 3. Congregation 4. Cantor (verse) 5. Congregation

The Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8 **Rev. Todd Thomas**

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

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. 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."

READER: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Gospel Acclamation: "Celtic Alleluia" Carroll/Walker

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Choir and Congregation

The Sermon

Rev. Todd Thomas

The Nicene Creed *Please stand as you are able for the Creed*

ALL: **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.

Please stand or kneel as you are able for the Prayers of the People

Prayers of the People

- LEADER: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Almighty God, help your people to seek truth, to live together in love, and to speak and act for peace in the world. Lord, in your mercy:
- PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer.**
- LEADER: Help us to value one another, to honor one another, and to serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy:
- PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer.**
- LEADER: Help us preserve and honor the earth, using natural resources wisely for our good and the good of all who will follow us. Lord, in your mercy:
- PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer.**
- LEADER: Bless our families and friends, and all those with whom we share our days. Bless those we name before you, now... *you may silently or aloud lift the names of those you know who most need a blessing.* Lord, in your mercy:
- PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer.**
- LEADER: We lift to you those on our church prayer list, who need you at this time, especially Marsyl, Lillie, Fred B., Carmen, Shanice, Constance, Father Errol, Carroll, Bishop Paula, Willie, Callie, Tanya, Otis, Christine E., Calvin, Wilbert, Lisa, Bob, Doris J., Edgar, Ernest, Kimberly, Virginia, Danny, Deborah, Ruby, Ted, Carrie Mae, Dorothy, James, Christine S., Herman S., Elfreda, Noah T., Delores, David, Rosa, Alice, Charles, Bernard, Cynthia, Donna, William, and Elaine. Lord, in your mercy:
- PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer.**
- LEADER: We commend to your mercy all who have died, [especially], that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy:
- PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer.**
- CELEBRANT: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession *Please stand or kneel as you are able for the Confession.*

CELEBRANT: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PEOPLE: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

CELEBRANT speaks the absolution.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace, Announcements & Celebrations

CELEBRANT: The peace of Christ be always with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

You are invited to stand and give a greeting to those around you!

Offering Our Gifts Back to God

CELEBRANT: We should not neglect to do good and to share what we have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Thank you all for making this parish family a priority in your giving.

Offertory Anthem: "I've Just Come from the Fountain" Traditional Spiritual

Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow" OLFB #655

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

CELEBRANT: All things come from you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **And of your own have we given you.**

Gathering in Gratitude at God's Table of Grace

Please stand as you are able.

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 God thanks and praise.**

CELEBRANT: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

CELEBRANT and PEOPLE:

Sanctus **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

CELEBRANT: Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

PEOPLE: AMEN.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

CELEBRANT 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.**

Breaking the Bread

CELEBRANT: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

PEOPLE: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

CELEBRANT: These are the gifts of God for the people of God; all are called and all are welcomed at God's Table of Grace. Receive as you are able, for God loves you.

You may be seated and will be invited row by row to come forward and receive a wafer. All who seek a deeper walk with God are invited. Please ask for a gluten free wafer if needed. Please come forward down the middle aisle and return to your seat by the outside aisles.

Communion Hymns "Take Me to the Water"

LEVAS #134 (1-4)

Verse 1 Take me to the water, take me to the water,
take me to the water to be baptized.

Verse 2 None but the righteous, none but the righteous,
none but the righteous shall see God.

Verse 3 I love Jesus, I love Jesus,
I love Jesus, oh yes, I do.

Verse 4 He's my Savior, He's my Savior,
He's my Savior, oh yes, He is.

"Abide With Me"

H1982 #662 (vs. 1-4)

Verse 1 Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Verse 2 I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

Verse 3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Verse 4 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

CELEBRANT: Let us all pray together with those online the prayer of spiritual communion.

PEOPLE: **My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Though I may not now be able to receive you in bread and wine from the altar, I invite you to live within my heart. I know you are with me; never let us be separated. Amen.**

CELEBRANT: And now let us pray.

Please stand as you are able for this prayer, the blessing and the closing hymn.

CELEBRANT and PEOPLE:

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.

Sending Prayer *Used to send forth Lay Eucharistic Visitors with consecrated gifts.*

CELEBRANT: We send you forth with these holy gifts to bless those who could not be with us today, but who still share our joy and hope in Christ.

PEOPLE: **Go also with our prayers to be a blessing to those we love.**

CELEBRANT: We are one Body as we share one Bread and one Cup.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" OLFB #336 (vs. 1-4)

Verse 1 I know that my Redeemer lives; What joy the blest assurance gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my everlasting Head!

Verse 2 He lives, to bless me with His love; He lives, to plead for me above;
He lives, my hungry soul to feed; He lives, to help in time of need.

Verse 3 He lives, and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives, my mansion to prepare; He lives, to bring me safely there.

Verse 4 He lives, all glory to His name; He lives, my Savior still the same;
What joy the blest assurance gives; I know that my Redeemer lives!

The Dismissal

CELEBRANT: Go in peace to love and serve your Lord and your neighbor.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Choral Benediction: "Like the Murmur of a Dove's Wings" by Daw/Cutts



WE ASK YOUR PRAYERS for our members who will celebrate their birthdays and anniversaries this week.

WE ALSO ASK YOUR PRAYERS for our parishioners, relatives and friends.

Thank you to all who have helped prepare, lead, and participated in our worship!

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