



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Wilson, NC

Fifth Sunday in Easter

May 02, 2021

The Rev. Paul H. Castelli, AF, SCP – Celebrant and Preacher

Dexter Ruffin, Organist (no music at 8:00am service)

Lay Readers: Kim Clark (8:00am), Pat Williams (10:30am) Ushers: Brian Jinks, Ed Daniel

Counters: Bryant McCarthy, Kristine Daynes

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Open Voluntary

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn

This joyful Eastertide

H 192

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

The Celebrant may say

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.*

Gloria (*spoken*)

BCP 356

**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.**

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

*** Collect of the Day**

BCP 225

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 WORD OF GOD

The Lesson

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:24-30

BCP 612

- 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 Epistle

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* Sequence Hymn

God is Love, let heaven adore him

H 379

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

* The Gospel

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."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Paul H. Castelli, AF, SCP

* Nicene Creed (*Standing*)

BCP 358

**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 of the People, Form III**

BCP 387

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Sam and Anne, our Bishops; Paul, our rector, and for all bishops, priests, deacons, and those in religious orders.

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Joe our President, Roy our Governor, and Carlton our Mayor and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world.

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on; those who have immediate needs -- Pat Grainger, Elizabeth Thomas, Buster Dawson, Eva Morriss, Mike Pierce, Tom Sheen, Joanna Powell, Brenda Toole, Ruth Schoenberg, Dewey Sheffield, the Foltz family, Kris Hing, Anna Jane Ruffin, Bonnie Campbell, Miles Johnson, April Lamm, Bobby Cunningham, those affected by Covid-19, those affected by the lack of respect for the dignity of every person; and, those who have ongoing needs as listed in our website and those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed, eternal rest; especially Butch Bass.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

We pray for the mission and ministries of our sister Episcopal Churches of St Mark's and Guadalupana.

We pray for our military personnel serving throughout the world, particularly those in war zones. We pray for those affected by terrorism, both domestic and abroad, and for those who protect us from such acts of violence; especially Col. Kye Tso McCook.

We pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week, especially; Jody Bissette, Naomi Byrum, Dorothy Jeffrey, Henry Walston, Mia Blanton, and Tom Rhodes.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Concluding Collect

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

A Confession of Sin is said here if it has not been said earlier. On occasion, the Confession may be omitted.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and 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.**

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

*** The Peace**

BCP 360

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*** Doxology**

*** Eucharistic Prayer D**

BCP 372

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

Sanctus

BCP 363

Celebrant and 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.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with blessed Timothy, our patron,) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

**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.**

Fraction *(spoken)*

BCP 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.

Agnus Dei *(spoken)*

S 162

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Communion

***Jesus lives! thy terrors now
Alleluia, alleluia***

H 195

H 191

*We believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, the consecrated bread and wine.
Communion in the Episcopal Church is open to all baptized Christians and they are invited at this time to the altar rail to receive Christ's Body and Blood. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please inform the Priest and one will be provided for you.
If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest to signify that to the Priest.*

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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.**

Lay Eucharistic Ministers are sent forth by all, saying: We send you forth bearing these holy gifts,
 that those to whom you go may share with us one bread and one cup, the communion of Christ's body and blood.

Blessing

*** Dismissal**

Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

*** Closing Hymn**

Awake and sing the song

H 181

Closing Voluntary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminder: UTO Boxes

United Thank Offering boxes can be found in the back of the church, on the organ, in Anderson Hall, and in the reception area of the office. **They are to be returned Sunday, May 16th.** Some things to be thankful for:

- You wake up and feel good every day.
- You have good friends.
- The sun is shining.
- You can understand your new computer program.
- You know that God loves you.



Youth and Family Ministry Meetings Reminder

Attention all parents, children, and youth of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church: We hope you will join Fr. Paul for a Zoom meeting today between our Sunday services at 9:15 AM: with youth and children (parents are welcome). Please email Father Paul at rector@sttimothyswilson.org to let him know if you'll be joining the conversation this morning. He will then send you a Zoom link allowing you to join the meeting.

Office Volunteers Needed

We are seeking volunteers to work in the office to help with answering phones and other tasks. Hours available are Monday-Thursday 9am-12noon or 1:30pm-4:30pm, and Fridays 9am-12noon. If you can help contact Evelyn Baskervill to discuss scheduling at (252) 230-4941 or email ebaskervill@yahoo.com.

Sign Up Continues for Holy Eucharist Services

Online sign up to reserve a seat for our in-person Holy Eucharist continues for Wednesdays at 12:05pm, and Sundays 8:00am and 10:30am. If there are no seats remaining for a particular date, please call the office to sign up on the waitlist. **The current capacity limit for each service is 50 people.** For this reason, we ask that people who have recently been able to attend to not sign up on the main registration, but to add their names to the waitlist instead. If you have not attended for four or more Sundays, you are welcome to sign up for the main registration again. Please understand that frequency restrictions will be reduced as our permissible capacity increases. If you sign up and your plans change and you cannot attend, please cancel your seat so someone else can attend.