



"I am the vine, ye are the branches"

Apse ceiling, Peterborough Cathedral (Cambridgeshire, England), c1500, reconstructed, 1856.

*The Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024 — 9:00 am*

Christ Church

(Episcopal / Anglican)

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The Rev. Don Caron, *Priest*

The Rev. Leslie Mazzacano, *Deacon*

Peter Homan, *Organist*

Joan Sanders, *Parish Secretary*

Christ Church
Riverton, New Jersey
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
THE HOLY EUCHARIST, Rite II, Prayer C
April 28, 2024 — 9:00 A.M.

Prelude “*Easter Morn*”

E. Lamare

Processional Hymn 335 “*I Am The Bread Of Life*”

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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.**

The Gloria S-280 “*Glory to God in the highest*”

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 Lessons

A Reading (Lesson) from 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.***

Solo *“The Lord is my light and my salvation”*

M. Allitson

Psalm 22:24-30 *Deus, Deus meus*

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.

A Reading (Lesson) 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

The Gospel Hymn 178

"Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks To The Risen Lord"

Then, all standing, the Deacon:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

John 15:1-8

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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Don Caron, *Priest*

The Nicene Creed (*Sung to the tune of Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing 686 or Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 657*)

We believe in God the Father, God almighty, by whose plan,
earth and heaven sprang to being, all created things began.
Jesus infant born of Mary He grew up in Galilee.

From the water with John the Baptist, He began his ministry.
Christ, who on the cross forsaken, like a lamb to slaughter led,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, he descended to the dead.,
We believe in Jesus risen, heaven's king to rule and reign,
 to the Father's side ascended. till as judge he comes again.
We believe in God the Spirit; in one Church, below, above;
 saints of God in one communion, one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,. Christ our Savior,
 Lord and friend. we shall rise with him in glory.
 to the life that knows no end.

Prayers of the People for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Presider: Christ has gathered us as branches of the true vine.
Let us offer prayers to God who does for us whatever we ask.

Leader: For the holy churches in every place, and for the unity
of all. ***Glory and praise to you, O living God.***

For the whole world and all the churches of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For this holy gathering and our sacrifice of praise and
thanksgiving. *Glory and praise to you, O living God.*

For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sally, our Bishop, Don our Priest, Leslie our Deacon. and for all the holy people of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For all nations leaders, especially Joseph, the President of the
President of the United States, Phillip the Governor of New
Jersey and all peoples, tribes, clans, and families.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For all those in danger and need, the sick and the suffering especially *Ruth, Sharon, Donna, Cheryl, Carol, Jeanette, Susan, Lynn, Jane, Cynthia, Katie, Kelly, Eileen, Doris, Sean, Arlene, Barry, Joan, Mel, Carol, Pat, Paul, David, Stephanie, Natalie, Shannon, Sylvia, Ted, Alice*, prisoners, captives, and their families, the hungry, homeless, and oppressed.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the dying and the dead, especially, *David Green & Evelyn Halter.*

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For ourselves, our families, and those we love.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

Remembering the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord.

Presider: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who abides in all who love you. Hear the prayers we offer this day and give us your Spirit of peace to love our brothers and sisters; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Peace (*All stand.*)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

Offertory Solo “*The Day Of Resurrection*”

Ellacomb

The Doxology (*Hymnal 380 Verse 3*)

All: ***Praise God of whom all blessings flow***

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above the heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Amen

The Holy Communion Eucharistic Prayer C

The Great Thanksgiving

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: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe,
you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Holy Holy, Holy Lord (Hymnal S-130)

All: ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,***
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

Then the Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Rachel and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. ***AMEN.***

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

(spoken)

*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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Invitation

Communion Solo

"How Deep The Father's Love For Us" S. Townend

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

*Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in
these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body
of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now,
Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory,
now and for ever. Amen.*

Birthday Blessings

Anniversary Blessings

Announcements

Final Blessing

Recessional Hymn LEVAS 216 “*In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified*”

The Deacon, dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Alleluia, Alleluia

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia

Organ Postlude “*Sortie Toccata*”

T. Dubois

+ + +

THE CHAPEL SANCTUARY LIGHT is lit

in loving memory of *David Green & Evelyn Halter*, by Jamie Reed

Participating in the 9am. Service

Soloist: Eli Goldberg

Lector: Mike Kinzler *Acolyte:* Fred Hill, Jeff Mack

Ushers: Ed Worthy, Harry Shea *Videographer:* Linda Yansick

Altar Guild: Martha Caiazzo, Sheryl Telford, Joan Atkinson

Counters: Don Dietz, Bob Engle

MID-WEEK SERVICE A celebration of the Eucharist is held every Wednesday at 10:00. It includes special mention of the persons on the parish prayer list and asks for God’s healing for the world. The Service lasts about 45 minutes, with a conversation on the Person and scriptures of the day.

THURSDAY STUDY GROUP will continue, Thursday, May 2nd at 10 a.m. in the Parish Parlor. Our study title is “FIRST LIGHT; JESUS AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD”. This is a study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God with John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg, two of the world’s leading Jesus scholars on location throughout the Galilee and Jerusalem. The title of the first session is “The Matrix of Jesus.”

MEN’S GROUP. We will meet for about an hour every first and third Saturday of each month @ 9:00 am, and we will talk about the things that are important for a man’s spiritual life. It’s an opportunity to deepen relationships with other men of the parish, too.

MEDITATION GROUP meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 2:30 p.m. in the Parish House parlor. All are welcome—contact Mel Caron at melanieannecaron@gmail.com.

MINISTRY TO RIVERVIEW ESTATES - On the first and third Sunday of each month, at 3:00 pm Christ Church leads a Communion service for the residents. Members of the parish are welcome to help the participants beginning at 2:45.

FISHES AND LOAVES MINISTRY May 21st, Noon to 2pm Join us for a free Lunch and Fellowship, all are invited and welcome, Bring a friend, Chair lift is available, No charge, but donations are welcome

Follow us on Facebook page! facebook.com/christchurchriverton

Check out our Website @www.christriverton.org

And on YouTube [Www.youtube.com@christchurchriverton2957](https://www.youtube.com@christchurchriverton2957)

Burlington Convocation

Our regular spring Convocation Meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 22, at 7pm. Fr. Ryan Paetzold has graciously volunteered to host us at Grace Church, Pemberton, and as this will be a hybrid meeting, you are welcome to join via Zoom. The Zoom information is below.

Our agenda includes a time to check in with each other and hopefully elect clergy representatives to the Board of Missions and the Nominating Committee.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85141745996?pwd=ZWNVRkNvTnJTbUN3TFVjbDU1U0FwUT09> **Meeting ID:** 851 4174 5996

Passcode: 207673

