



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
April 28, 2024  
11 a.m.

*We welcome you to Christ Church Cathedral. Since 1839, this Christian community has gathered for worship. To learn more about the ministries we share in this place, you are invited to fill in one of the welcome cards found in the pew rack. We are glad you are here!*

 *The Cathedral is equipped with a hearing loop for assisted listening via telecoil.*

## The Holy Eucharist: Rite One

THE REV. CANON LUZ MONTES  
Celebrant

*The Liturgy is found in The Book of Common Prayer (BCP).  
Hymns and service music (S) are in The Hymnal 1982.*

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Fidelis* from *4 Extemporations*

Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

### CHORAL INTROIT

Tone VII

V. With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, alleluia:

R. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth: the Lord hath delivered his people, alleluia, alleluia.

### HYMN 47

*Gott sei Dank*

### *The Word of God*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*BCP page 323*

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

### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY AND THE SUMMARY

*page 323*

### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS S 202

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

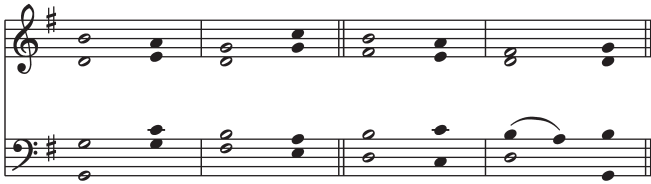
O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### THE FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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



My praise is of him in the great as/sembly; \*  
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those  
 who / worship him.  
 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
 and those who seek the Lord shall / praise him: \*  
 “May your heart live for / ever!”  
 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the / Lord, \*  
 and all the families of the nations shall bow be/fore him.  
 For kingship belongs to the / Lord; \*  
 he rules over the / nations.  
*Second half of chant*  
 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in /worship; \*  
 all who go down to the dust fall be/fore him.  
 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall / serve him; \*  
 they shall be known as the Lord’s for / ever.  
 They shall come and make known to a people yet un/born \*  
 the saving deeds that he has / done.

THE SECOND READING

1 John 4:7–21

HYMN 529

McKee

ALLELUIA

Tone II



Al - le - lú - ia.

V. **Alleluia.** I am the way, the truth, and the life;  
 R. No one comes to the Father but by me. **Alleluia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1–8

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

*After the Gospel reading, the Priest says*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Canon Bradley Varnell

THE NICENE CREED

page 326

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form III, page 387

THE PEACE

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

*The People greet one another in the name of the Lord, after which  
 the people are seated for brief announcements.*

## *The Holy Communion*

*Offerings of alms and bread and wine are received.*

### AT THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM

John Ireland (1879-1962)

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified, in the Name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your service.

—*Song of Solomon 8:6, 7; John 15:13; I Corinthians 6:1; Romans 12:1*

*Emily Schuck and John Gallagher, soloists*

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Eucharistic Prayer II, page 340*

### SURSUM CORDA S 112

### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS S 114

Healey Willan

*The People remain standing.*

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER CONTINUES

*page 341*

### FRACTION ANTHEM

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

### AGNUS DEI S 158

Healey Willan

*The sacrament of Holy Communion has been precious to Christians for 2,000 years. It is a way in which many sense the reality of God's forgiveness, our union with God and each other, and the eternal life to which we belong. Please know that you do not have to be an Episcopalian to receive Communion. To receive, you may kneel or stand at the altar rail. Receive the Bread in the palm of your hand and the Wine either by drinking from the cup or by intinction, touching the Bread to the Wine. Gluten-free Bread is available; simply ask at the altar rail. If you need Communion brought to you in the pew, please tell an usher.*

### AT THE ADMINISTRATION

ANTHEM

Richard Lloyd (1933-2021)

View me, Lord, a work of thine:  
Shall I then lie drowned in night?  
Might thy grace in me but shine,  
I should seem made all of light.

Cleanse me, Lord, that I may kneel  
At thine altar, pure and white;  
They that once thy mercies feel,  
Gaze no more on earth's delight.

Worldly joys, like shadows, fade  
When the heav'nly light appears;  
But the cov'nants thou hast made,  
Endless, know no days, nor years.

In thy word, Lord is my trust,  
To thy mercies fast I fly:  
Though I am but clay and dust,  
Yet thy grace can lift me high.

— *Thomas Campion (1567-1620)*

*Chelsea Berner, soloist*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

page 339

THE BLESSING

HYMN 448

*Deus tuorum militum*

THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Tuba Tune

Norman Cocker (1889-1953)

*Cathedral tours highlighting the lore of the building, its windows, its woodwork and more are given by a guide each Sunday following the 11 o'clock service.*

*Look for the guide under the crucifixion window at the rear of the nave.*

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**Readings this Week from the *Revised Common Lectionary***

THE READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 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 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

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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 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."

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### *The Book of Remembrance*

This week we remember James Lee Ketelsen.

### *The Beauty of Flowers*

The flowers on the Cathedral Altar are given to the glory of God in loving memory of our nephew, Tyler Bludau, by Shirley Bludau and Mike Grimes.

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# Welcome

## Sunday, April 28, 2024

### Announcements

#### ❖ TODAY

**Pastoral Care Lunch & Care** • Today from 12:30–2 p.m. in the McGehee Conference Room volunteers will gather for a light lunch and card-writing project to send words of encouragement to those who may be sick or homebound. No experience needed. See you there!

**Latino Ministry Celebrates Children** • The Latino Ministry celebrates Día Mundial del Niño (Children's Day) this afternoon at the reception following the 1 o'clock service. There will be pizza, games, prizes, and more. All are welcome!

**Join the Reception Committee** • The Reception Committee seeks volunteers to assist with the upcoming Pentecost Evensong reception on Sunday, May 19. Donate homemade or store-bought finger foods, cookies, or other treats. Visit the Cloister table today or May 12 to sign up or learn more about the committee's work via [www.christchurchcathedral.org/hospitality](http://www.christchurchcathedral.org/hospitality)

❖ **Cathedral Book Club** • A different book is discussed on the first Wednesday of the month. On May 1, the group will discuss *The Irregulars: Roald Dahl and the British Spy Ring in Wartime Washington*. For more details on this book or joining the group visit: [www.christchurchcathedral.org/bookclub](http://www.christchurchcathedral.org/bookclub)

❖ **Gather Round for May Fete** • One of the oldest Cathedral traditions takes place on Sunday, May 5! A special bilingual Eucharist will be held at 10 a.m., followed by the maypole festivities in the Bishop's Courtyard. Stay for food, games, fun and fellowship perfect for all ages. Visit the table in the cloister to learn more and volunteer, or visit: [www.christchurchcathedral.org/mayfete](http://www.christchurchcathedral.org/mayfete)

❖ **Ascension Day Eucharist** • Join us on Thursday, May 9, for an Ascension Day service with music in the Golding Chapel at 12:05 p.m. This Holy Eucharist marks the final appearance of the Risen Lord to the apostles.

❖ **Make your 2024 EMC Pledge** • There's still time to make your annual pledge! Submit your pledge by dropping a pledge card in the offering plate or scan the QR code to pledge online. Questions? Contact CFO Patrick Saccomanno at [psaccomanno@christchurchcathedral.org](mailto:psaccomanno@christchurchcathedral.org) or 713-220-9759.



❖ **Childcare is available during worship services** • Follow Agnus the Lamb to the Jones Building where you can find childcare for various ages (6 weeks–5 yrs). Have questions? Contact KariAnn Lessner at [kalesner@christchurchcathedral.org](mailto:kalesner@christchurchcathedral.org)



*For more information about these and other events  
at the Cathedral, visit [www.christchurchcathedral.org](http://www.christchurchcathedral.org)*

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**After-Hours Emergency Pastoral Care Line • 713-826-5332**

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