# ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - WALPOLE, NH

Sunday, April 28, 2024, 10 am - The Fifth Sunday of Easter

## HOLY COMMUNION

PRELUDE

To the Spring by E.Grieg

Vladimir Odinokikh

WELCOME

# THE WORD OF GOD



Music: McKee, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

#### All stand as able

Alleluia. Christ is risen. Celebrant: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia. People:

### **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

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.** 



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

### 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

### THE FIRST READING

Acts 8:26-40

People may be seated while Lector reads.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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

Lector and people read responsively by half verse.

- 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 SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-21

A Reading from the First letter of John.

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.

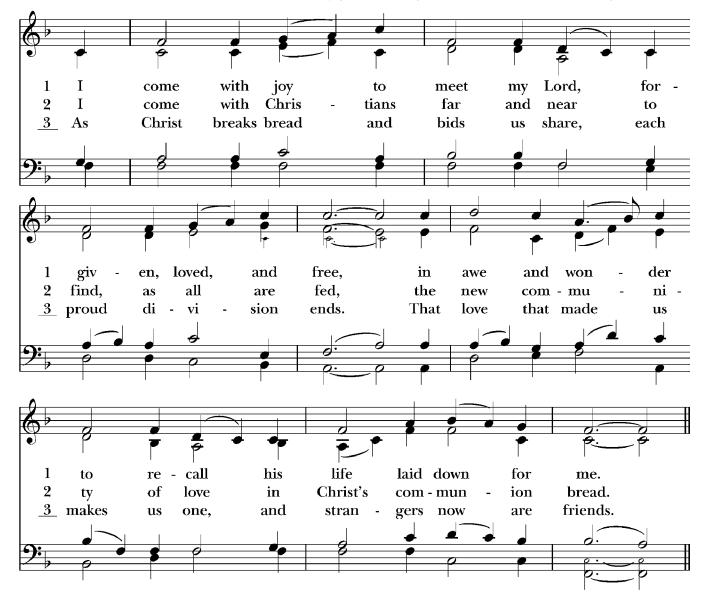
By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the 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** 

I come with joy to meet my Lord



#### GOSPEL

People stand to hear the gospel.

John 15:1-8

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **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."

The gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** 

**THE CREED** After a time of reflection, all stand as they are able

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.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The LEM and people pray responsively. People remain standing if able.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence* For all people in their daily life and work; **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.** 

For this community, the nation, and the world; For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation; For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression. For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble. Especially for Phil Rogers, Ruth De Puy, Christine Palmieri and Family, Dawn Nasman, Christena Nasman, Lenora Nasman, Bob and Maryann Lindberg, Katrina, Marilyn Wilking, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Brianna Miller, John Boudrieau, Natalie, Rebecca Dupin, Avery, Doug Barnes, John Tuttle, Fred and Ellie Ernst and family, Mary Lou Montgomery, and Peggy Pschirrer. **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.** 

For the peace and unity of the Church of God, for St. Andrew's-in-the-Valley, Tamworth, and for peace on earth: **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.** 

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Rob our Bishop, Fred our Priest, and Bill our Deacon; and for all bishops and other ministers;

#### For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *Silence The People may add their own petitions* Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.** 

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. Silence The People may add their own thanksgivings We will exalt you, O God our King; And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Silence The People may add their own petitions Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; Who put their trust in you.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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

All stand. People may greet one another from their seats

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

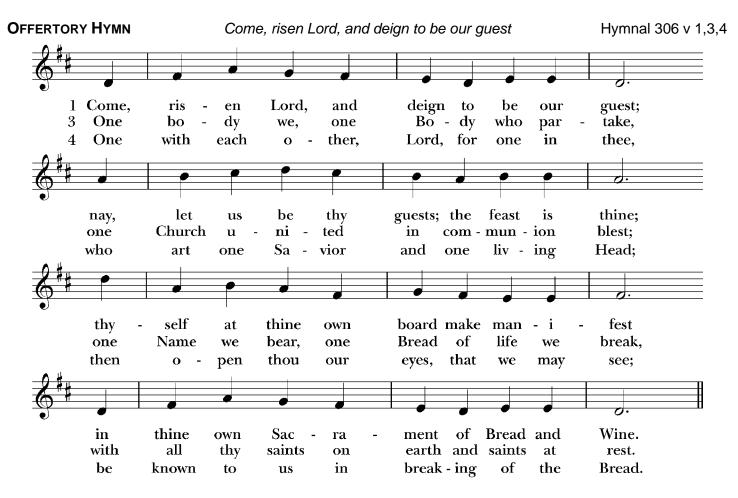
#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. Psalm 50:14

The congregation may be seated as the Offering is received.



**DoxoLogy** All stand.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

# 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 him thanks and praise.

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

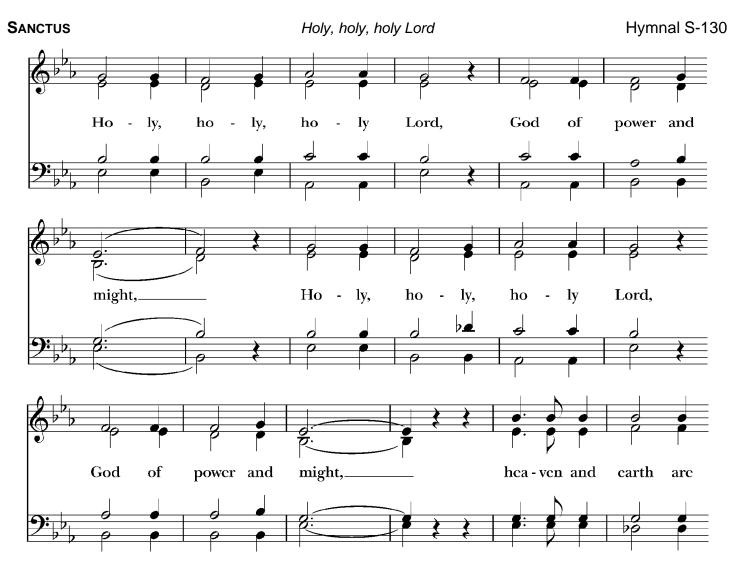
#### Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

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:





The people stand or kneel

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 Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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**.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome at the Lord's table. If you wish a blessing, cross your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are available; let the priest know at the altar that you'd like one.

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. Amen.

COMMUNION

Forgive our sins as we forgive (Hymnal 674)

Vladimir Odinokikh

#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

People stand as they are able

Let us pray.

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.

### BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen**.



#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Officiant:	Fred Chisolm	The Rev. Fred Chisolm
Organist:	Vladimir Odinokikh	Vladimir Odinokikh
Acolyte:	Conor O'Donnell	Conor O'Donnell
LEM	Drew Street	Joe Cuoco
Lector(s)	John Proctor	Linda O'Donnell
Altar Guild	Lisa Cuoco	Patti Sparks
Flowers	Jane Loomis	Dot Herr & Linda O'Donnell
Ushers	Al Sparks & Josh Beer	Andrew Wilking & Charllie Montgomery
Counters	Lisa Cuoco & Linda O'Donnell	Patti Sparks & Brad Purinton
Hospitality	Karen Proctor	Alison Brule

## WORKING TOGETHER AT ST. JOHN'S

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

#### **Outreach Committee Meeting May 5th**

The Outreach Committee will meet May 5<sup>th</sup> during Coffee Hour. We'll try to get people assigned to each outreach project so that our outreach can get rolling right away. Please contact AI Sparks if you missed the first meeting and would like to be part of our outreach efforts or if you have any questions.

#### Fall Mountain Food Shelf

During April we will focus on baked beans, hearty soup, and peanut butter. These are frequently requested items. Betsy McGuire is our Fall Mountain Food Shelf Coordinator.

**Our Priest in Charge**: The Rev. Fred Chisolm can be reached at (802) 649-6495 (cell) or via email at rector@StJohnsWalpole.org.

**St. John's Vestry 2024:** Marilyn Wilking (Senior Warden), Drew Street (Junior Warden), Sue Bauer (Treasurer), Linda O'Donnell (Clerk), Alison Brule, Joe Cuoco, and Chuck Loomis. Both wardens may be reached at <u>info@StJohnsWalpole.org</u>.