

Welcome to St. John's Church



Baptism of the Ethiopian Eunuch
Gijsbert Jansz Sibilla (1595/99-1655)

The Fifth Sunday of Easter:

April 28, 2024
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
78 Green Hill Road
Washington, CT 06793

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527
Parish Office Hours: *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*
St. John's Email: stjohnschurch@snet.net
St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>
St. John's YouTube Page:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

MORNING PRAYER

Choral Prelude

I Am the True Vine

Anonymous

Text: *I am the true vine and my father is the husbandman: Ev'ry branch that beareth not fruit in me, he will take it away; ev'ry branch that beareth fruit will he purge, that it may bring forth more fruit..*

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 182

Christ Is Alive!

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Christ Our Passover S # 49

Pascha nostrum (chanted by all)



- 1 Alleluia, alleluia. *
- Alleluia, alleluia.
- 2 Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
- therefore let us keep the feast,
- 3 Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
- but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
- 4 Alleluia, alleluia. *
- Alleluia, alleluia.
- 5 Christ being raised from the dead will never die a gain; *
- death no longer has dominion over him.
- 6 The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
- but the life he lives, he lives to God.
- 7 So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
- and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 8 Alleluia, alleluia. *
- Alleluia, alleluia.
- 9 Christ has been raised from the dead, *
- the first fruits of those who have fallen a sleep.
- 10 For since by a man came death, *
- by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
- 11 For as in Adam all die, *
- so also in Christ shall all be made alive.
- 12 Alleluia, alleluia. *
- Alleluia, alleluia.

(Gloria Patri may be added)

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

As it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be forever. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia. *

Alleluia, alleluia.

Psalm # 22:24-30 *the congregation is invited to sit and join in the Refrain.*

Refrain

Make known the sav - ing deeds that God has done.

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 Readings

INTRODUCTION: In our reading we hear the story of the Ethiopian Eunuch.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles: (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.

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

Canticle *Jubilate Deo in D*

William Child (1606-1697)

Text: *O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.*

*Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; *
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.*

*O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving
and into his courts with praise; *
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.*

*For the Lord is gracious;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.*

INTRODUCTION: This second reading teaches us to love one another, as love is from God.

A Reading from the First Letter of 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.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn # 457

Thou Art the Way

1 Thou art the Way, to thee a - lone from sin and death we flee;
 2 Thou art the Truth, thy word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
 3 Thou art the Life, the rend - ing tomb pro - claims thy con - quering arm;
 4 Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: grant us that way to know,

and all who would the Fa - ther seek, must seek him, Lord, by thee.
 thou on - ly canst in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
 and those who put their trust in thee nor death nor hell shall harm.
 that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

INTRODUCTION: In our third Reading. Jesus is the true vine to which fruitful branches are united.

A Reading from the Gospel of St. 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.”

The Word of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Sara Coles, *Licensed Lay Preacher*

The Apostles’ Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant 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.*

The Suffrages

V. Help us, O God our Savior;

R. *Deliver us and forgive us our sins.*

V. Look upon your congregation;

R. *Give to your people the blessing of peace.*

V. Declare your glory among the nations;

R. *And your wonders among all peoples.*

V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

R. *Never forget the lives of your poor.*

V. Continue your loving kindness to those who know you;

R. *And your favor to those who are true of heart.*

V. Satisfy us by your kindness in the morning;

R. *So we shall rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.*

The Collect of the Day

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.*

A Collect for Sunday

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, who didst stretch out thine arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our own hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love thee: for the honor of thy Name. *Amen.*

Offertory Anthem *Beloved, If God So Loved Us* Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)

Text: *Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. And this commandment have we from God, that those who loveth God love their neighbor also. (I John 4: 11, 21)*

Officiant: Let us continue our prayers, pausing now so that all may add their own prayers or petitions, either silently in their hearts or aloud in our midst.

The General Thanksgiving

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, world without end. Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn # 296

We Know That Christ is Raised



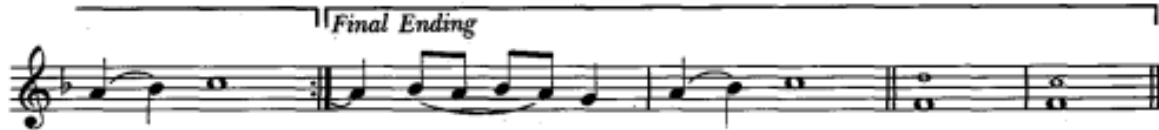
1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.____
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.____
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.____
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows.____



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold;____
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life.____
 The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God.____
 as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood.____



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.____
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.____ Al - le -
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.____
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:____



lu - ial — Al - le - lu - ial A - men.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.* *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

John Magee: *Worship Leader at 8:00 a.m.*

Rebecca Bent: *Worship Leader at 10:00 a.m.*

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

Sara Coles: *Licensed Lay Preacher*

John Magee: *8:00 Reader*

Worth Bracken: *10:00 Reader*

Sara Coles: *Veejay (VJ)*

Ginny Reynolds, MB Witt: *Altar Guild*

Natalie Dyer, Bob Futh: *Ushers*

Emily Fitzhugh, Veronique Dulack: *Coffee Hour*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Staff

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*

Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

Vestry

Mary Davis, Worth Bracken: *Wardens*

David Gillespie: *Treasurer*

Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*

Justin Ormand: *Clerk*

Class of 2024

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

Class of 2025

MB Witt, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

Class of 2026

Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Justin Ormand

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt

Laura Daly: **Alternate**

The Frederick Gunn School Music Program Presents

A Chamber Concert

An Eclectic Mix of Music Solos & Small Ensembles

April 28 | 7:00 p.m.



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78 GREEN HILL ROAD | WASHINGTON, CT



The
Frederick
Gunn
School