



The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

A musical prelude is played, followed by a welcome and announcements from a member of the clergy.

Lisa Lonie, carillon; Michael Smith, organ

standing, Hymn 182, Christ is alive! Let Christians sing *Please hum along as the choir sings.*

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,

he comes to claim the here and now, and conquer every place and time.

In every insult, rift and war, where color, scorn or wealth divide,

he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.

Christ is alive! His Spirit burns through this and every future age,

till all creation lives and learns his joy, his justice, love and praise.

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

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, *sung by the choir.*

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise_ you for_ your glo - ry. Lord Je- sus. Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are

seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, re-cieve our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the

Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit.

In the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. — A - - - men.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.**

seated, 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. **Thanks be to God.**

A portion of Psalm 22, *sung by the choir*

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 from the First Epistle 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. **Thanks be to God.**

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

(15:1-8)

Glorify 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.**

seated, The Sermon

standing, The Nicene Creed

**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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. 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;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Justin, our Archbishop, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Daniel, our Bishop, and all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially for Debbie Phillips, Maureen Pugsley, and Ed Meyers. Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially Stephen M. Woodruff, in whose memory the altar flowers are given.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant concludes with a collect.

standing, The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of Christ's peace with a smile or a gesture.

seated, The Offertory *As the altar is prepared, the choir sings*

"I sat down under his shadow"

Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

He brought me to the banqueting house, and His banner over me was love.

--Song of Solomon 2:3-4.

Please stand at the conclusion of the choir anthem.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of po-wer and might. Heaven and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.

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.

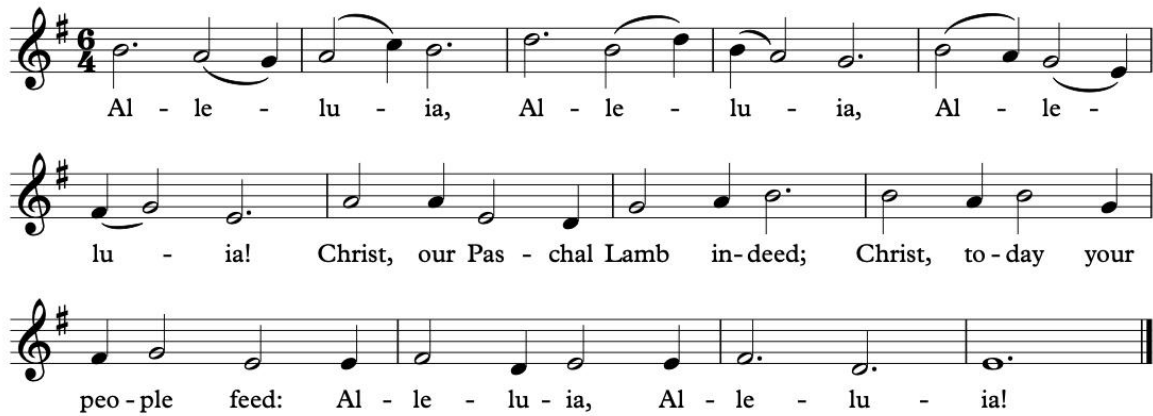
We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

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 Thomas 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:

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -
lu - ia! Christ, our Pas - chal Lamb in-deed; Christ, to - day your
peo - ple feed: Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

If you are participating via livestream, you are invited to pray this Act of Spiritual Communion.

(God of love and grace, we give you thanks for your presence within us and within the body of Christ; grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to physically receive them, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit to embody your holy and life-giving presence in the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord, Amen.)

To receive the Body of Christ, at the usher's guidance approach the celebrant, keeping a six foot physical distance from others. The celebrant will place the host in your hand; consume it as you return to your seat via the side aisle.

Let us pray. *All:* 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.

The Celebrant blesses the people, followed by the hymn.

Hymn 657, Love divine, all loves excelling *Please hum along as the choir sings.*

Love Divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart. Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy grace receive; suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love. Finish then thy new creation pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee, Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

The Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Parish Prayer List

Maureen Pugsley, Ed Meyers, David Manuel and the Manuel Family, The Davidson Family, Debbie Phillips, Joyce Lawson, Dick Lull, Robert Farm, Pat Beard, Karen Lewis, Regina Brown, Matt Rhodes, Julie Steckel, Amy Hirsch, and Dick Hood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dine and Donate for the St. Thomas' Preschool! Tuesday, May 4 at Cantina de Feliz, Cantina de Feliz - 424 S Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington, PA 19034. 20% of your ticket will be donated back to St. Thomas' Preschool!
- Landscape Commission Plant Sale: Saturday, May 15 from 10 am to 1pm. Plant material will include an assortment of perennials dug and divided from parishioners gardens and annuals and vegetables started from seed. Plants will be located on tables with ample spacing outside the Barn and will be priced in increments of \$5 to keep making change to a minimum. Cash only.
- The flowers that grace the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Stephen M. Woodruff, M.D. by his family.

If you would like an announcement to appear here, please fill out the form found at www.stthomaswhitemarsh.org.

General Questions? info@stthomaswhitemarsh.org

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Signup for In-Person worship by going to the website and clicking RSVP at the top. You must pre-register to attend all services, including the 8am.
- The Rector's Book Club is a faith formation opportunity for adults or teens in the St. Thomas' community to discuss a book with one another and Fr. Matthew Burdette. May's book is "Enriching our Vision of Reality: Theology and the Natural Sciences in Dialogue" by Alistair McGrath. The Rector's Book Club meets on the last Saturday of every month. There is no need to sign up.
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84551709340?pwd=SFhEcodPMiZiQjV4cnhiUnVrWnVYUT09>
Meeting ID: 845 5170 9340, Passcode: 058336
- Inter-Faith Housing Alliance needs volunteers to help turnover Apartment 7 at Hope Gardens. 31 S. Spring Garden St. Ambler. The job includes cleaning, minor repairs to cabinets and closet doors, replacing tile walls and flooring in the bathroom, and painting. The project starts April 5. Small groups and individuals welcome. Shifts available weekdays, evenings, and weekends now through May. Sign up on the Announcements page of the church website.
- Help out Our Little Roses! The Our Little Roses mission team has concluded that our annual Bingo fundraiser wouldn't be nearly as fun if we had to go virtual, so we have postponed the event and plan to be back in 2022! HOWEVER, Our Little Roses still needs our help. This has been a devastating year, not only given COVID, but 2 Category 4 Hurricanes that hit last November! Keeping the girls and staff healthy, safe and on track with their education has been a challenge. We invite you to join us in raising funds to provide an Educational Scholarship for one of the 8 preschoolers living at OLR. The scholarship is \$70/month. So, if 24 people donate a minimum of \$35, we can make sure at least one of these girls joins a preschool classroom next fall, for a full year! Donations can be made by going to the website, ourlittleroses.org, and clicking the DONATE TODAY button. Or, checks can be made out to "OLRFMS" and sent to: OLRFMS, P.O. Box 530947, Miami Shores, FL 33153-0947. Please contact Marggy Ells or Kim Morris with any questions.
- Please continue to donate items to the Roslyn Food Cupboard. A list of needed items can be found in the announcements section of the church website. Contact Mimi Kepner (mimikepner@gmail.com, 215-872-6432) or Pam Serra (pam@msk-traderisk.com, 215-858-9626). Donations can be left inside the narthex (lobby) of the church, Mon-Fri from 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM.