

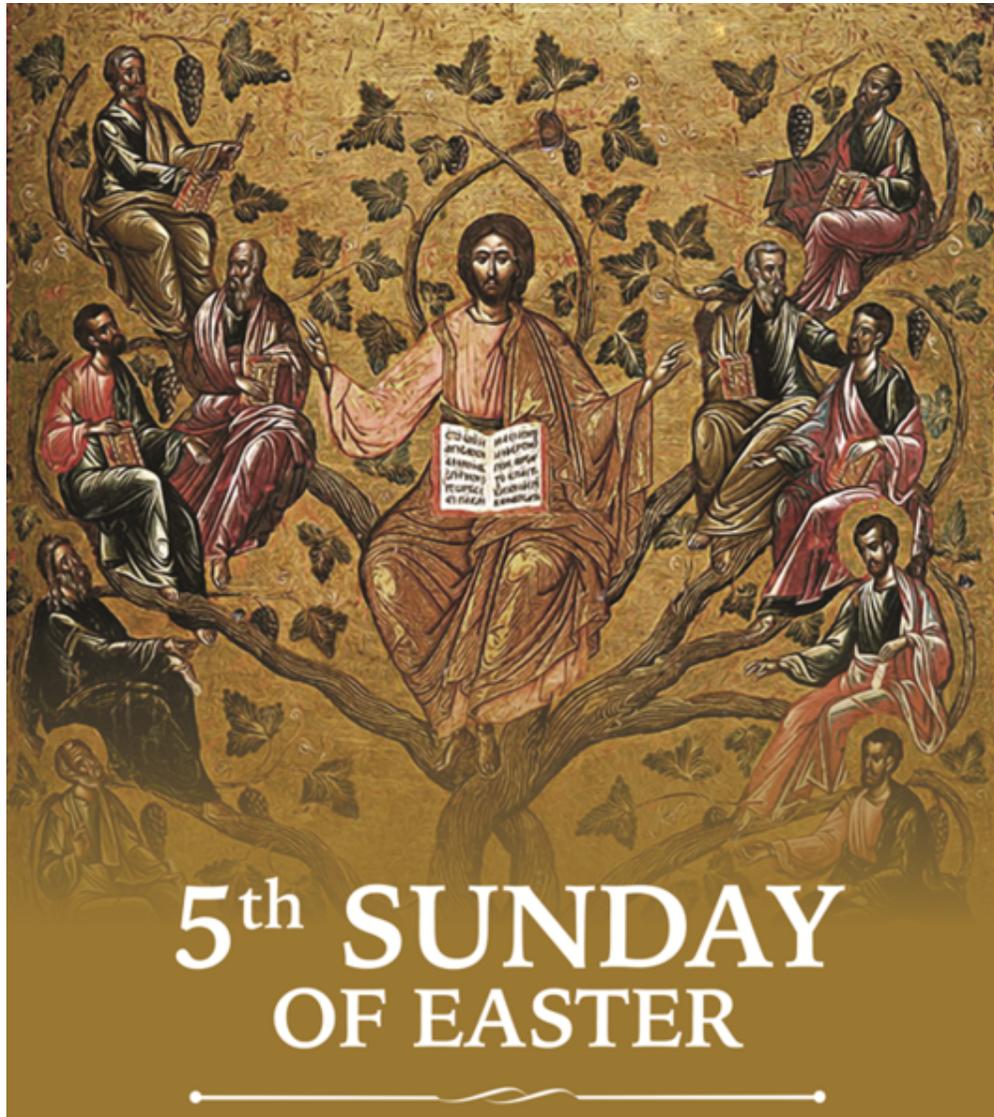
St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

9:00a.m. & 10:30a.m.

Holy Eucharist
Rite II



Processional Hymn – standing as able

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia

The 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.**

Celebrant & People

Christ our Passover Pascha nostrum

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; * therefore let us keep the feast, Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, * but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; * death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; * but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, * and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, * the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, * by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, * so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Celebrant

Collect

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

First Reading: **A Reading 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

Psalm 22:24-30

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.

Second Reading: A Reading 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

Gospel Hymn

The Gospel According to John 15:1-8

Response before the Gospel – **“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.”

Response after the Gospel – **“Praise to you Lord Christ”**

The Sermon

The Rev. Robert Beazley

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.

Prayers of the People – Form VI

BCP 392

The Leader and People pray responsively

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, especially our military men and women, Chris Jr., Andrew, Garrett, Kellyanne, Preston, Timmy, Philip, Tyler, Kyle, Alex, Mitchell, Josh, Matt, Anthony, Beau, Steven, Hank., and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For our partners in Outreach who work to help those who are unable to help themselves, especially The Samaritan Center, Northshore Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, and for the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For our health care workers, those who have been affected by Covid-19, and 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 the children, youth & families of St. Michael's, especially our Youth Renovation Team.
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Presiding Bishop Michael, Bishop Morris, our Rector Robert, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons.
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

For Patrick & Family. For all affected by cancer, especially Amy M., Allison W., Danette, Jenny H., Robert, John, Diane, Savina, Lauren, Julie, Jennifer, Laura, Baby Evelyn, Tan, and Dan.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for Ana & Bob Beatty's 50th Wedding Anniversary; our preschool teachers; for all expectant mothers especially Katie, Anna, Kellyanne & Meghan; for the impending wedding between Annie Beckstrom & Hunter Thrasher, and 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, especially for the souls of those who are still lost from the Seacor Power Lift Boat, 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.

Celebrant continues

O God of patient and gentle strength, who knows our needs even before we ask, may your loving presence guide the Diocese of Louisiana as they search for new clergy to fill the need of various churches. Raise up, we pray, priests who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

*** Give NOLA Day, May 4th * Youth Summit, May 14th *Coffee Hour
*Last Call for Names Tags * Church Work Day May 29th**

3 Ways To Give



IN PERSON



ONLINE
<https://onrealm.org/StMichaelsEpisc68931/give/now>



TXT
"stmla\$25.00" to
73256

Offertory Anthem

Doxology: All things come of thee, oh Lord, and of thine own have we given thee

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

The people stand as able.

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

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 (say),

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people remain standing.

Then the Celebrant continues

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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.

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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, Blessed Michael, 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,

People and Celebrant

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefor let us keep the fast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Anthem

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen**

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

Closing Hymn - standing as able

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

The flowers on the Altar were given by Ana & Bob Beatty in Thanksgiving of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

The Rt. Rev'd Morris K. Thompson, Jr.

Eleventh Bishop of Louisiana
The Rev. Robert W. Beazley, Rector
Allison Kenning, Organist & Choir Director
Stacey G. Tavan, Head of Preschool

Standing in the Posture of our Lord

The second half of the 20th century led to many changes in Christian theology including the Episcopal Church's baptismal theology. As our prayer book states on pg. 297, "Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body the Church." A newly baptized infant is as much a Christian as our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. That infant's prayers do not need to pass through a clergy person before making it to God. The entirety of the congregation's prayers go straight "up" to God during The Great Thanksgiving. This change led to the preference given to the posture of the people to "stand or kneel" after the Sanctus in Rite II.

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, stand in the posture of the resurrection, and resist that muscle memory to kneel!