

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Glenside, Pennsylvania

May 3, 2026

10 a.m.

Gathering in Joy

Prelude: Brother James' Air

Searle Wright (1918-2004)

Opening Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82)*, #487 **Come, my way, my truth, my life**

The Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Presider: 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.**

Listening for God's Word

The First Reading - Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (*Please use the Book of Common Prayer*)

BCP 622

The Epistle - 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner", and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.
But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that
you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous
light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: Be Still, My Soul

Katharina von Schlegel

1. Be still, my soul- the Lord is on thy side! Bear pa-tient-ly the
2. Be still, my soul- thy God doth un-der-take To guide the fu-ture
3. Be still, my soul- the hour is has-t'ning on When we shall be for-

cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to or-der and pro-vide-
as He has the past; Thy hope, thy con-fi-dence let noth-ing shake-
ev-er with the Lord, When dis-ap-point-ment, grief, and fear are gone,

In ev-ry change He faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul- thy
All now mys-te-rious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul- the
Sor-row for-got, love's pur-est joys re-stored. Be still, my soul- when

best, thy heav'n-ly Friend Thru thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be-low.
change and tears are past, All safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

The Gospel Reading -*John 14:1-14*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Response: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Joanne Epply-Schmidt

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

**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

adapted from *Glimpses of Glory*

The response to "Lord, may we know you" is **and the power of your resurrection**

The Presider ends with this prayer

In you is our hope, O Christ, who died and now is risen, and lives with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrating Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem: For the Beauty of the Earth

Sally DeFord (1959-)

The Presentation Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82)*, #518 Christ is made the sure foundation

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

Enriching Our Worship Prayer 3

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy

Norah Duncan

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are
5 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
9 Bless-ed is he whōmes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Unity Mass, Norah Duncan IV, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

“Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with Peter, Philip, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Elevation:

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP 364

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

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God

Norah Duncan



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Unity Mass*, Norah Duncan IV, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Presider continues

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion of the People

Communion Music: Melody

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

The Post-Communion Prayer

Presider and people together

**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.**

Sending Forth

The Blessing

Eucharistic Visitor (*occasional*)

Presider: In the name of the congregation of St. Peter's we send Rick Pearce forth bearing the gift of Holy Communion to Calvin Haas.

All: We who are many are one body, because we all share in one bread and one cup.

When your birthday or anniversary is announced, please stand in your place and remain standing as we pray.

Birthdays:

<i>Audrey Kipphut</i>	<i>05/04</i>
<i>Bill Hower</i>	<i>05/08</i>
<i>Rosalinda Ibanez-Memba</i>	<i>05/08</i>
<i>Carol Lorentz-Burnett</i>	<i>05/09</i>

Anniversaries:

<i>Kristina Marchuk & Scott Clemens</i>	<i>05/03</i>
<i>Ken & Cathy Kress</i>	<i>05/04</i>
<i>Pat Sampson & Mohammad Altamary</i>	<i>05/04</i>
<i>Donna & Mark Evans</i>	<i>05/07</i>
<i>Sharon & Charlie Keyser</i>	<i>05/07</i>

Birthday & Anniversary Prayer

BCP 830

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

- Special thanks to The Rev. Joanne Epply-Schmidt for leading morning worship while Rev. Barb attends confirmations. Please pray for all our Confirmation candidates.
- Consider donating to the food cupboard. Donations will be matched up to \$1,000 for the entire month of May, our third generous match offer.
- Community Partnerships will collect infant and toddler clothes until Layette Sunday next Sunday, May 10, when Rev. Barb will bless the donated items. Please place your items in the donation bin located on the ramp near chapel.
- Parish Picnic: We will have Morning Prayer on Sunday, May 31 at 10 a.m. at Fort Washington Park. See the newsletter for more information on donations and directions.
- Scan the QR code below to access the recent newsletter.



Closing Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82), #517 How lovely is thy dwelling place*

The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude: *Allegro brillante*

Marianne von Martinez 1744-1812)

Worship Ministers

Presider & Preacher: *The Rev Joanne Epply-Schmidt*

Deacon: *The Rev. Bob Smith*

Acolytes: *Michael Colino, Patrick MacMahon, Teresa Mignogno*

Lectors: *Rick DeKalb, Tim Flaherty*

Intercessor: *Matt Moore*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Deborah Way, Kristina Marchuk*

Ushers: *Peter Gottemoller, Mike Reeve, Kelly Sacco, Alex Stevers-Radtke*

Vestry Steward: *Debbie DeKalb*

Counter: *Bill Hower*

Altar Guild: *Karen Sayer*

Welcomer: *Maureen Schaeffer*

Music Director: *Sam Faust*

Bell Ringer: *Bill Bacon*

Tech Team: *Mike Levin, PJ Linke, James Moore*

Vestry

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