

# The Fifth Sunday of Easter



St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Glenside, Pennsylvania  
May 18, 2025  
10 a.m.

## Gathering in Joy

**Prelude: God's Time Is The Best - J.S. Bach**

**Processional Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982*, #371 Thou Whose Almighty Word**

**The Opening Acclamation**

**BCP 355**

**Presider:** Alleluia. Christ is risen!

**People:** **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*The Presider says to the people*

**Presider:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Presider:** Let us pray.

**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.**

## Listening for God's Word

**The First Reading - *Acts 11:1-18***

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John

baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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

**Psalm 148** (*Please use the Book of Common Prayer*)

**BCP 805**

**The Epistle** - *Revelation 21:1-6*

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them as their God;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

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

**Gospel Hymn:** *The Hymnal 1982, #516* **Come Down O Love Divine**

**The Gospel Reading** - *John 13:31-35*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

*Response:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have

loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Barbara Ballenger

**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.

## Prayers of the People, Glimpses of Glory

The response to *God of hope* is **fill us with joy and peace in believing.**

*The Presider concludes with this prayer:*

Loving God, we offer you our prayers, some in words, others written in our hearts. Break open our hearts, hear our prayers and continue to give us your light, Christ Jesus, this day and forever. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Please greet other members of the congregation with a sign of peace.*

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

**People: And also with you.**

## Celebrating Holy Communion

*Please remember that intinction, dipping bread into wine, is offered on the left side of the circle as you face the altar, and sipping from the common cup is offered on the right side.*

## Offertory Anthem: Behold The Lamb - Getty, Townend and Getty

**The Presentation Hymn:** *The Hymnal 1982, #304 I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord vs. 1, 3 and 4*

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Enriching Our Worship Prayer 3*

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**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:** *The Hymnal 1982, #S125 Holy, Holy, Holy*

*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...

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### The Breaking of the Bread

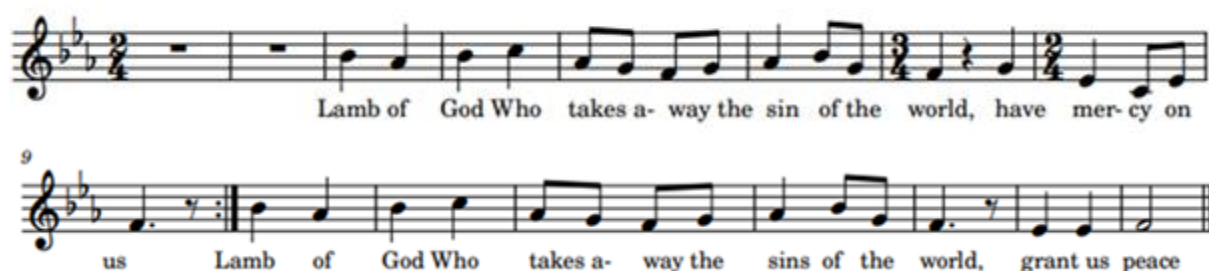
*The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God

Richard Proulx



*The Presider continues*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### The Communion of the People

Communion Music: Prière - Henri Deshayes

### 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

May the Mighty God, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, take you into his protection, enfold you with his love, direct you on your journey; and the blessing God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

### Layette Blessing

#### Eucharistic Visitor Commissioning *(occasional)*

Presider: In the name of the congregation of St Peter's we send you forth, bearing the gift of Holy Communion to...

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

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

#### **Birthdays:**

<i>Stephanie Gill</i>	<i>05/13</i>
<i>Debbie Ryan</i>	<i>05/16</i>
<i>Matt Moore</i>	<i>05/17</i>
<i>Eileen Dooley</i>	<i>05/19</i>
<i>Danielle Hill</i>	<i>05/19</i>
<i>Jeannette Klarman</i>	<i>05/21</i>
<i>Calvin Haas</i>	<i>05/24</i>
<i>Natalie Rodan</i>	<i>05/24</i>

#### **Anniversaries:**

*Ed & Donna Kulp 05/19*

### 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**

- The Welcome Team invites the parish to honor our newcomers during the **welcome luncheon in the parish hall following morning worship.**
- Our last **Youth and Teen Night gathering of the year will be this evening at 6 p.m.**
- **Please submit names of deceased loved ones who served in the military to the church office by Wednesday, May 21,** to be included in the Sunday, May 25 leaflet as we honor their memory on Memorial Day weekend.
- **If you or someone you know is graduating this June, please submit their name to the church office by Wednesday, May 28,** to be celebrated and blessed during our Parish Picnic on Sunday, June 1.
- **Our Parish Picnic at Fort Washington Park is Sunday, June 1. See the newsletter for donations details.**

**Closing Hymn:** *Lift Every Voice and Sing II, #62 In Christ There Is No East or West*

### **The Dismissal**

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Postlude: All Glory Be To God On High - J.S.Bach**

### **Worship Ministers**

**Presider & Preacher:** *The Rev. Barbara Ballenger*

**Deacon:** *The Rev. Bob Smith*

**Acolytes:** *Eamon Ivory, Patrick McMahon, Jaxon Miller*

**Lectors:** *Donna Kulp, Carolyn McGrory*

**Intercessor:** *Bob Hartung*

**Counter:** *Mike Reeve*

**Eucharistic Ministers:** *Charlie Hannum, Debbie Panebianco*

**Ushers:** *Bill Bacon, Rick DeKalb, Anne Gibson, Linda Toia*

**Vestry Steward:** *Terita Reeve*

**Altar Guild:** *Donna Kulp*

**Welcomers:** *Marsha Blake*

**Music Director:** *Carol Cei*

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

### **Vestry**

**Beth Carlin:** *Elizabeth.mcdonald90@gmail.com*

**Debbie DeKalb:** *sojourner\_44@yahoo.com*

**Ernie Dixon:** *marzelldixon@me.com (Accounting Warden)*

**Mark Evans:** MarkCarverEvans@gmail.com  
**Sam Hogg:** samahogg235@gmail.com  
**Amy Huang:** amyh120@yahoo.com  
**Audrey Kipphut:** ajkipphut@verizon.net (*People's Warden*)  
**Dave Mosteller:** davemos2010@gmail.com (*Rector's Warden*)  
**John Olson:** john.olson@villanova.edu  
**Douglas Pneuma:** douglas.pneuma@gmail.com  
**Terita Reeve:** teritar1005@gmail.com  
**Chris Teleha:** chris.teleha@gmail.com  
**Matt Torpey:** mtorpey79@gmail.com

#### **Staff**

**The Rev. Barbara Ballenger** (Rector) stpeter654rector@gmail.com  
**The Rev. Bob Smith** (Deacon) rjsmith3636@gmail.com  
**Charlese Freeman** (Communications Administrator) stpeter654@gmail.com  
**Tim Valera** (Caretaker) timvalera@gmail.com  
**Carol Cei** (Music Director) carol@carolcei.com  
**Kathy Flaherty** (Bell Choir Director) stpeter654music@gmail.com  
**Linda Toia** (Folk Group Director) linda.toia@verizon.net  
**Kristina Marchuk** (Parish Nurse) Kmarchuk923@gmail.com

*The cover image by Fr. Lawrence Lew, OP via Flickr. Used with permission.*

*Reprinted/ Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License # A-719834. All rights reserved. Used with permission.*

*Hymn permissions by Rite Song, a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.*

#### **Weekly Giving Totals (Week of 5.11.25)**

*This amount includes online donations. The pledge amount does not include donations made to the capital improvement fund.*

<b>Pledge Giving</b>	\$2,190
<b>Plate Offering</b>	\$20

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
65 N. Easton Road  
Glenside, PA 19038-4310  
(215) 887-1765  
E-mail: stpeter654@gmail.com  
Website: www.stpetersglenside.org