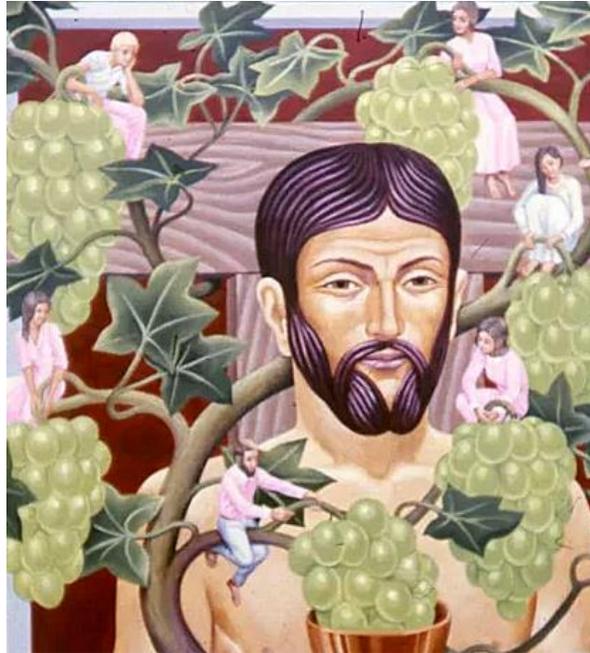


THE PARISH OF MISSISSIPPI LAKE
May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter– 9:00 AM
www.facebook.com/ParishofMississippiLake



Christ the Vine

Presider: The Reverend Canon Christine Piper

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Mary Ellen Berry

Reader: Cora Nolan

Live Producer: Ian Parker

Musician: Michael Costello

Thank you for joining us in worship today! Please have your Candles already lit and Prayer Spaces ready before we begin.

We gather today on the traditional territory of the Algonquin people. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace. For those who maybe be watching this from beyond our parish, we invite you to acknowledge the traditional territory you are on today.

The Gathering of the Community

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

Hymn 702. Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;**

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

The Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.
Give us grace to love one another
and walk in the way of his commandments,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

A reading from the book of Acts.

Then 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.

ACTS 8: 26-40

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

My praise is of him in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:
"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord;
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done.

PSALM 22: 24-30

**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.**

Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "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.

JOHN 15: 1-8

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Prayers of the People

Transformed by the life-giving power of the empty tomb, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need saying, “Your mercy is great.”

Nourished by the body and blood of the resurrected Christ, let us pray that the church may reach out in love and service to all who are hungry and thirsty. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the peace of Jerusalem; In the Canadian Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Bishop and The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Assisting Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Missionary Area of Moosonee; In our Diocese, we pray for Shane⁺, our Bishop; St. John the Evangelist, Ottawa. The Reverend Gary van der Meer, Deacon Caroline Ducros. Hear us, O God...

Your mercy is great.

Nourished by the abundance of creation, let us pray for plentiful rains, fertile soil, and safety for all who plant and harvest our food. Hear us, O God...

Your mercy is great.

Nourished by the freedoms of voice and vote, let us pray for just leaders and governments to administer fairly and equitably for all. Hear us, O God...

Your mercy is great.

Nourished by a kind word and gentle touch, let us pray for all who are suffering in body or spirit, especially remembering Isabel,

Wayne, Julie, Marion, Margaret, Cyndi, Ed, Marg, Martina, Al and any others we pray for, silently or aloud, this morning....(brief silence).... Hear us, O God...

Your mercy is great.

Nourished by a love that bears fruit in action and service, let us pray for the right use of gifts in this congregation to welcome the stranger, to feed the hungry, and to care for the earth. Hear us, O God...

Your mercy is great.

Nourished by the fruitful lives of the saints, especially St James and St John, let us pray that our lives may reflect their glory. Hear us, O God...

Your mercy is great.

Hear our prayers, gracious God, and grant all that we need to live as your Spirit filled people, in the name of the risen Christ.

Amen

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Hymn 232. Jesus Is Risen From the Grave

Jesus is risen from the grave,
Jesus is risen from the grave,
Jesus is risen from the grave,
 alleluia.

Jesus was seen by Mary...

Peter will soon be smiling...

Thomas will stop his doubting...

Jesus will meet his people...

Jesus is here in bread and wine...

Jesus will live forever...

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Gracious God,
you show us your way
and give us your divine life.
May everything we do
be directed by the knowledge of your truth.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
for the glorious resurrection of your Son
Jesus Christ our Lord;
for he is the true paschal lamb
who has taken away the sin of the world.
By his death he destroyed death,
and by his rising to life again
he has won for us eternal life.

Therefore, joining our voices
with the whole company of heaven,
we sing our joyful hymn of praise
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**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.**

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh,
Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.

In him, you have brought us
out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ 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.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament
of the body of Christ
and his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray,
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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.
We were buried in your tomb.
Now we share in your resurrection.
Live in us, that we may live in you.

The Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

Dear friends, wherever you may be, receive Christ; in communion with the saints and the gathering of God's people, unseen yet present with us now.

**Lord Jesus Christ,
you have put your life into our hearts;
now we put our lives into your hands.
Take us, renew us and remake us.
What we have been is past;
what we shall be, through you,
still awaits us.
Lead us on. Take us with you.
In your name we pray. Amen.**

Following a time of silence, the people physically present receive communion in one kind, receiving the bread while the chalice remains upon the Altar. Finally, the celebrant should reverently consume the wine.

Prayer after Communion

**Glory to God,
whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Dismissal

The peace of God which passes all understanding
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be among you
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Acknowledgements: Koenig, Peter. Christ the Vine, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58500> [retrieved April 26, 2021]. Original source: <https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/>.