

## Easter 5 – May 2, 2021

### WELCOME

#### **PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open  
all desires know and from whom no  
secrets are hidden. 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

#### **Psalm 16: 1-2; 7 - end**

<sup>1</sup> Keep me safe, my God,  
for in you I take refuge.  
<sup>2</sup> I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;  
apart from you I have no good thing."  
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<sup>7</sup> I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;  
even at night my heart instructs me.  
<sup>8</sup> I keep my eyes always on the LORD.  
With him at my right hand, I will not  
be shaken.  
<sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad and my  
tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest secure,  
<sup>10</sup> because you will not abandon me to  
the realm of the dead,  
nor will you let your faithful<sup>[b]</sup> one see  
decay.  
<sup>11</sup> You make known to me the path of  
life;  
you will fill me with joy in your  
presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right  
hand.

***Glory to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning  
is now and shall be forever. Amen***

### **SONG**

At the name of Jesus  
every knee shall bow,  
every tongue confess him  
King of Glory now.  
'Tis the Father's pleasure  
we should call him Lord,  
who from the beginning  
was the mighty Word:

Mighty and mysterious  
in the highest height,  
God from everlasting  
very light of light:  
in the Father's bosom  
with the Spirit blessed,  
love, in love eternal,  
rest, in perfect rest.

Humbled for a season,  
to receive a name  
from the lips of sinners  
unto whom he came,  
faithfully he bore it  
spotless to the last,  
brought it back victorious  
when from death he passed.

Bore it up triumphant  
with its human light,  
through all ranks of creatures  
to the central height,  
to the throne of Godhead,  
to the Father's breast;  
filled it with the glory  
of that perfect rest.

In your hearts enthrone him;  
there let him subdue  
all that is not holy,  
all that is not true:  
crown him as your captain  
in temptation's hour;  
let his will enfold you  
in its light and power.

Brothers, this Lord Jesus  
shall return again,  
with his Father's glory,  
with his angel train;  
for all wreaths of empire  
meet upon his brow,  
and our hearts confess him  
King of Glory now.

### **CONFESSION**

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed  
for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away  
all malice and evil and confessing our sins  
with a sincere and true heart.

O Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived in our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy forgive us.  
**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We are lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy forgive us.  
**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy forgive us.  
**Lord hear us and help us.**

*Silence*

**Receive our confession, our penitence, and ourselves as we come before you. Cleanse and restore us through the love of Christ, and strengthen us through the inner power of your Holy Spirit, so we may serve you better and live for your glory. Lord of life, hear us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**ABSOLUTION:**

God who is both power and love, forgive you (us) and free you (us) from your (our) sins. Heal and strengthen you (us) by his Spirit and raise you (us) to new life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen**

**READINGS: Acts 8: 26 – end**

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian<sup>[a]</sup> eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

<sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the

prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

<sup>31</sup> “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

<sup>32</sup> This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,

and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,

so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth.”<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup> As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” <sup>[37]</sup><sup>[c]</sup> <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

*This is the word of the Lord:*

**Thanks be to God.**

**COLLECT:**

**Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

### **SONG:**

As the deer pants for the water,  
so my soul longs after You.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
and I long to worship You.

*You alone are my strength, my shield;  
to You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
and I long to worship You.*

I want You more than gold or silver,  
only You can satisfy.  
You alone are the real joy giver,  
and the apple of my eye.

You're my friend and You are my brother,  
even though You are a King.  
I love You more than any other,  
so much more than anything.

### **GOSPEL: John 15:1 – 8**

*Hear the gospel according to John:  
Glory to you, O Lord*

**15** “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes<sup>(a)</sup> so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

*This is the Gospel of Christ;  
Praise to you O Lord.*

### **SERMON:**

#### **SONG**

I want to walk with Jesus Christ  
all the days I live of this life on earth;  
to give to Him complete control  
of body mind and soul.

*Follow Him, follow Him,  
Yield your life to Him –  
He has conquered death,  
He is King of kings;  
Accept the joy which He gives to those  
Who yield their lives to Him.*

I want to learn to speak to Him,  
to pray to Him, confess my sin  
to open my life and let Him in,  
for joy will then be mine.

I want to learn to speak of Him  
my life must show that He lives in me;  
my deeds, my thoughts, my words must  
speak  
all of His love for me.

I want to learn to read His word,  
for this is how I know the way  
to live my life as pleases Him,  
in holiness and joy.

O Holy Spirit of the Lord,  
enter now into this heart of mine;  
take full control of my selfish will  
and make me wholly Thine!

#### **CREED:**

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of  
our Lord Jesus Christ:

**Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles; this we have received, and this we believe. Amen**

#### **INTERCESSION:**

***Merciful Father accept these prayers for  
the sake of your Son our Saviour, Jesus  
Christ. Amen***

#### **PEACE**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. **Alleluia. Alleluia.**

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you  
**And also with you. Alleluia.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**OFFERING:** *If you prefer to contribute through the bank: Santander Bank account number: **91028603**; sort code: **090155**; St. Saviour's Parochial Church Council*

**Gracious God, for all you have given us, all you will give us and all you give us here and now, we offer you our thanks and praise. Bless this offering of our money and of ourselves to be used in your service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

The Lord is here  
**his Spirit is with us**

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

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:  
**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love

and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**To you be glory and praise for ever.**

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who  
stand before you in earth and heaven, we  
worship you, Father almighty, in songs of  
everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and  
power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Jesus taught us to call God Father, so in  
faith and trust we pray:*

**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. Lead us not into  
temptation but deliver us from evil. For  
the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and for ever. AMEN.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the body  
of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

### **Lamb of God**

Lamb of God you take away the sins of  
the world; **have mercy on us**

Lamb of God you take away the sins of  
the world; **have mercy on us**

Lamb of God you take away the sins of  
the world; **grant us peace.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of  
our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for  
you, and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that Jesus  
died for you, and feed on him in your  
hearts by faith with thanksgiving. **Amen**

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be  
healed. Amen**

### **SONG:**

Jesus stand among us  
At the meeting of our lives;  
Be our sweet agreement  
At the meeting of our eyes.  
O Jesus, we love You, so we gather here;  
Join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.

So to You we're gathering  
Out of each and every land;  
Christ the love between us  
At the joining of our hands.  
O Jesus, we love You,  
so we gather here;  
Join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.

Jesus, stand among us  
At the breaking of the bread;  
Join us as one body  
As we worship You, our Head.  
O Jesus, we love You, so we gather here;  
Join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way,  
the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

### **PRAYER OF THANKS:**

**Almighty God, we thank you for  
feeding us with the body and blood of  
your Son Jesus Christ. Through him  
we offer you our souls and bodies to  
be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the  
power of your Spirit to live and work to  
your praise and glory. Amen**

### **FINAL SONG:**

*Bless the Lord oh my soul  
Oh my soul  
Worship His Holy name  
Sing like never before  
Oh my soul  
I'll worship Your Holy name*

The sun comes up  
It's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass  
And whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing  
When the evening comes

You're rich in love  
And You're slow to anger  
Your name is great  
And Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons  
For my heart to find

And on that day  
When my strength is failing  
The end draws near  
And my time has come  
Still my soul will  
Sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years  
And then for evermore  
For evermore

### **PRAYER AND BLESSING**

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; **Amen**

May the blessing...

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord;  
**In the name of Christ, Amen**

### **NOTICES**

- Remember the Church of England's daily prayer phone line: **0800 804 8044**
- **Two opportunities to support local chef and baker:** a menu of Leah's Pantry available at the back and Bruce Tee spring menu also available.
- **Pray for the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines** now suffering from flood and mudslides.

- **Friday evening (young people) Bible study** (meet every other Friday 7:30)

- **Tuesday evening Bible study 8-9 on zoom.** (NOT DURING HOLY WEEK)

Thy Kingdom Come week of prayer for the conversion of the world – from Ascension to Pentecost. Visit the website

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>



<https://stsaviourse7.org.uk/>

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