



**St. Vincent's Episcopal Church  
Fifth Sunday of Easter - April 28, 2024**

**Prelude Song BB45      “Here I am to Worship”**

*Light of the world,  
you stepped down into darkness,  
opened my eyes, let me see.  
Beauty that made this heart adore you,  
hope of a life spent with you.*

*Here I am to worship,  
here I am to bow down,  
here I am to say that you're my God.  
You're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me.*

*King of all days,  
oh so highly exalted,  
glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly you came to the earth you created,  
all for love's sake became poor.*

*Here I am to worship,  
here I am to bow down,  
here I am to say that you're my God.  
You're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me.*

*And I'll never know how much it cost to see  
my sin upon that cross.  
I'll never know how much it cost to see  
my sin upon that cross.*

*Here I am to worship,  
here I am to bow down,  
here I am to say that you're my God.  
You're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me.*

**Processional Hymn #304      “I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord”**

*I come with joy to meet my Lord,  
forgiven loved, and free,*

*in awe and wonder to recall  
his life laid down for me.*

*I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread.*

*As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,  
each proud division ends.  
That love that made us makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends.*

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

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.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**Gloria - #S-280**

***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.***

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

## 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.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### **A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (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.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord

**People:** *Thanks be to God*

### **Let us read responsively by whole verse, Psalm 22**

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.

***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.***

**A Reading from the First Letter of 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.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord

**People:** *Thanks be to God*

**Gospel Hymn #529**

***"In Christ there is no East or West"***

*In Christ there is no East or West,  
in Him no South or North,  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

*Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
what e'er your race may be!  
Who serves my Father as his child  
is surely kin to me.*

*In Christ now meet both East and West,  
in him meet South and North,  
all Christly souls are one in him,  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO John (15:1-8)**

**All:** *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.”

**Deacon:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**Alleluia - #205, refrain (x3)**

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**The Sermon**

**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.***

**The Prayers of the People**

**Reader:** Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church and the world:  
O God, we give thanks for the goodness of creation, for the victory of resurrection, and for the grace of redemption. We praise you for leading us from darkness into light, and for bringing us through the waters of death into new life in you: Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** ***Where there is darkness, let us sow light.***

**Reader:** That the Church throughout our world, especially in our nation, our diocese, those in our sanctuary and at home, all celebrating the resurrection with joy, may bring the light of Christ into the world: Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** ***Where there is darkness, let us sow light.***

**Reader:** That the newly baptized, buried, and raised with Christ, may grow in trust and hope: Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** ***Where there is darkness, let us sow light.***

Reader: That our community, renewed this day through word and sacrament, may care for one another in love that surpasses understanding: Lord, in your mercy,  
**People:** *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: That the people of the world, remembering the source of creation, may care for the waters of the earth and for all living things and recall that we are all connected to the One who created us all: Lord, in your mercy.  
**People:** *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: That the leaders of nations, knowing their power, may bring peace and justice to the world, praying especially for the President of the United States, the Congress, Supreme Court and all in authority: Lord, in your mercy,  
**People:** *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: That all who have commended themselves to us for any need, especially Hildegard Wackerbauer, the Mata Family, Deacon Chester Trow, Shirley Bonney, Lisa Youla, Nancy Teague-Horner, Ken Von der Heiden, Emily Matthews, and Ray Lamberson, and that all who suffer, recalling the mystery of Christ crucified and risen, may be comforted: Lord, in your mercy,  
**People:** *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: That all who serve in harm's way, especially Trent Polinsky, Skyler Ellis, Danny Taylor, Ryan Cesa, Zack Pierce, Matt Jacoby, Cale Eggart, Joanne Frioli, Caden Watson, Daniel Watson, Courtney Austin, Christopher Austin, James Dunlap, Luke Gibson, and Kelley Fairchild, may serve with compassion, moral strength and a sense of justice: Lord, in your mercy,  
**People:** *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: In thanksgiving for the saints and martyrs, for the witnesses of the resurrection, for Christians who have sacrificed their lives all over the world, and for all who have passed over from the darkness of death into the glorious light of Christ (*especially.....*): Lord, in your mercy,  
**People:** *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: In joy and faith and hope, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy of God, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.  
**All:** *Amen.*

Celebrant: O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**All:** *Amen.*

### The Confession

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Minister & People:** *Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We*

***have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

### **The Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you. **People:** And also with you.

### **Announcements**

#### **Offertory**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
*Ephesians 5:2*

Your generous contributions support the mission and ministry of our parish. *Thank You.*

#### **Offertory Song BB7      “Open the Eyes of My Heart”**

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,  
Open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see you.  
I want to see you.*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,  
Open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see you,  
I want to see you.*

*To see you high and lifted up,  
Shining in the light of your glory,  
Pour out your pow’r and love  
as we sing “Holy, holy, holy”*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,  
Open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see you,  
I want to see you.*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,  
Open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see you,  
I want to see you.*

*To see you high and lifted up,  
Shining in the light of your glory,  
Pour out your pow’r and love  
as we sing “Holy, holy, holy”*

*Holy, holy, holy,  
Holy, holy, holy,  
Holy, holy, holy,  
I want to see you.*

*Holy, holy, holy,  
Holy, holy, holy,  
Holy, holy, holy,  
I want to see you.*

**Doxology (Hymnal #380 v.3)**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Celebrant: All things come from thee, O Lord.

**All: *And of thy own have we given thee.***

**Presentation of the Gifts**

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which the earth has given and human hands have made. For us it becomes the bread of life.

**All: *Blessed be God forever.***

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. For us it becomes the cup of salvation.

**All: *Blessed be God forever.***

**The Liturgy of the Eucharist – Prayer B**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: *We lift them up 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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



**Sanctus - #S-129**

***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.***

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of 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 Savior 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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**Celebrant and People:**  
***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, O 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 may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Vincent, Francis, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of 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 him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:  
***All together Say: 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 Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

## Agnus Dei

Celebrant: Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,

**People:** *Have mercy on us.*

Celebrant: Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,

**People:** *Have mercy on us.*

Celebrant: Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,

**People:** *Grant us your peace.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### **Communion Song BB12**                      **“Hungry”**

*Hungry, I come to you,  
for I know you satisfy.  
I am empty,  
but I know your love does not run dry.  
So I wait for you,  
So I wait for you.*

*I'm falling on my knees,  
offering all of me.  
Jesus, you're all this heart is living for.*

*Broken, I run to you,  
for your arms are open wide,  
I am weary  
but I know your touch restores my life.  
So I wait for you,  
So I wait for you.*

*I'm falling on my knees,  
offering all of me.  
Jesus, you're all this heart is living for.*

*Hungry, we come to you,  
for we know you satisfy.  
We are empty,  
but we know your love does not run dry.  
So we wait for you,  
So we wait for you.*

*I'm falling on my knees,  
offering all of me.  
Jesus, you're all this heart is living for.*

### **Communion Song BB20**                      **“Jesus, Name Above All Names”**

*Jesus, name above all names,  
beautiful Savior,*

glorious Lord,  
Emmanuel, God is with us,  
blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Jesus, loving shepherd  
Vine of the branches,  
Son of God.  
Prince of Peace,  
Wonderful counselor  
Lord of the universe,  
Light of the world.

Jesus, Way of salvation,  
King of kings,  
Lord of Lords,  
the way the truth,  
and the Life,  
Mighty creator,  
my Savior and friend.

### **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

***People: I believe, Lord, that you are truly in Heaven and in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and I very much want to receive you into my soul, but not being able to do so sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And as if I had already received you, I embrace you and I fully join You. Lord, do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen.***

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Celebrant: 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.***

### **The Blessing and Dismissal**

Celebrant: 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 #344**

**“Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing”**

*Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, thy love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace:  
O refresh us, O refresh us,  
traveling through this wilderness.*

*Thanks we give and adoration  
for thy Gospel’s joyful sound:  
may the fruits of thy salvation  
in our hearts and lives abound:  
ever faithful, ever faithful to thy truth  
may we be found;*

*so that when thy love shall call us,  
Savior, from the world away,  
fear of death shall not appall us,  
Glad thy summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever reign with  
thee in endless day.*

**Celebrant:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

**People:** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**