

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

April 28, 2024 at 10 am

Fifth Sunday of Easter



Opening Hymn

Hymn 657

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Opening Acclamation

Priest: Alleluia, Christ is risen.

People: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Collect of the Day

Priest: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: 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.**

The First Reading

Acts 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: Speak God, your servants are listening

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Second Reading

1 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: Speak God, your servants are listening

People: **Thanks be to God**

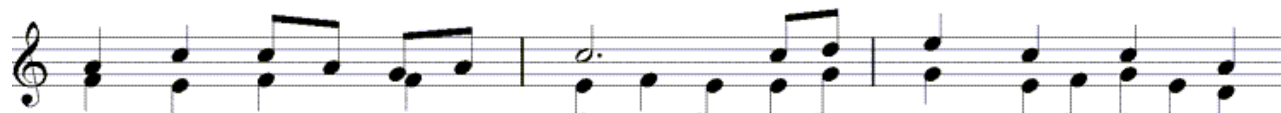
Sequence Hymn (verses 1 and 2 before Gospel, verse 3 after)

Hymn 529

In Christ There Is No East Or West



1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in



him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are



ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

The Gospel

John 15:1-8

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ

People: **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."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord

People: **Praise to you Lord Christ**

Sermon

The Rev. Susan Geissler-O'Neil

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.
(English Language Liturgical Consultation)

Prayers of the People

Today's bidding is God is Love.
The response is **Hear our prayer.**

Clergy Prayer

The Peace

Priest: The Peace of Christ be always with you
People: **And also with you**

Greetings, Milestones and Announcements

Peace lily donated by Leslie Firth in memory of Cathy Morris. This was one of her favorite flowers.

Offertory

Shine on Me, Traditional Spiritual

Arr. by Rollo Dillworth

Offertory Sentence

Great Thanksgiving

Priest: God be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

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

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

Holy God, we praise you for your creation. We praise you for creatures great and small. We delight in the galaxies and grains of sand that come from you. Thank you for being the creator of all.

Jesus, we praise you. All that ever was, or will be, finds its life in you. You came into the chaos of ancient Palestine, and you have entered the chaos of our own day. Help us be the mirror of your grace and life. Thank you for being love embodied.

Holy Spirit, we praise you. You are the life force of creation. You spoke to us through prophet's voices, you filled Mary's child with power, and you are making us a sanctuary of love. At this table we share bread, wine, and dreams. Because of you we are turning from darkness to light. Thank you for being our never-failing breath. For all that you are; all the gifts you given; all the saints' past, present and yet to come, we praise you singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, your endless creation is beyond our imagination. Yet you chose to dwell in Jesus, and your Spirit's breath sustains us today. You are The Creator, The Word and The Spirit and we praise you for the privilege of witnessing your love in every generation.

You are the keeper of promises even as we turn away time and time again. Through Noah and Namaah, Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Zipporah, David and Michael, Jesus and the church - you choose us. You have watched us grow, die, and find new life in you. Therefore, because of your never-failing salvation:

We invite Jesus into our life.

We celebrate his life beyond death.

We look for his coming again.

At this table, we return to Jesus' last night with friends before his death. There, he offered bread as a living symbol of his commitment to dwell in our world. In God, we offer the same, remembering his words: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Likewise, we offer a cup of wine with his words: "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."

Undimmed by time: we praise you for these gifts of creation. This bread and wine is small enough to held by hands, but contains the universe. May your Holy Spirit come down upon these elements and fill us with life. We thank you for the invitation to live into your promised love. We cherish the life you have given us. We rejoice in the earth you have placed into our care. We love the communities you have called us to serve.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

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

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Fraction

Priest: Alleluia Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

Communion Hymn

Many And Great



1. Man-y and great are bear-ers of the Word: the Christ
2. Man-y and great are seeds up-on the field: the hand
3. Man-y and great are voic-es of de-spair: the rain
4. Man-y and great are peb-bles in the sand: the sun



1. speaks; the heart seeks. Gath-ered as one, we
2. sows; the seeds grow. Take now and eat the
3. falls; the voice calls. Take now and drink the
4. glows; the wind blows. Take now and spread the



1. lis-ten to the Word and share the meal of new birth.
2. cov-e-nant ful-filled, the bread of prom-ise and life.
3. wine of hope and care; our cup of bless-ing we share.
4. Word to ev-'ry land, the Word of good-ness and hope.

Refrain



The wheat grows from spring-time to fall; the wine flows; in



Christ we re-call the shar-ing of our lives with one and all.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, 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. 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.

Young People's Time & Blessing

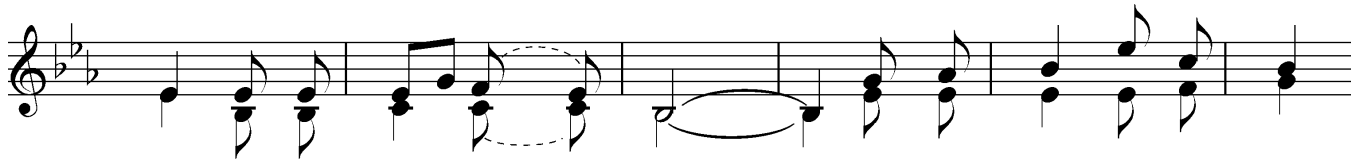
Closing Hymn

Hymn 213

Come Away To The Skies



1 Come a - way to the skies, my be - lov - ed, a - rise and re -
2 Now with sing - ing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our
3 For the glo - ry we were first cre - a - ted to share, both the
4 We with thanks do ap - prove the de - sign of that love which hath

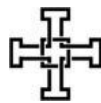


1 joice in the day thou wast born; _____ on this fes - ti - val day,
2 hea - ven - ly Fa - ther be - stowed, _____ while his grace we re - ceive
3 na - ture and king - dom di - vine! _____ Now cre - a - ted a - gain
4 joined us to Je - sus' _____ Name; _____ so u - ni - ted in heart,



1 come ex - ult - ing a - way, and with sing - ing to Zi - on re - turn. _____
2 from his boun - ty, and live to the hon - or and glo - ry of God. _____
3 that our lives may re - main, through - out time and e - ter - ni - ty thine. _____
4 let us nev - er - more part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb. _____

Dismissal



The Rev. Todd Bryant, Rector
The Rev. Susan Geissler-O'Neil, Associate Rector
The Rev. Maurice Turner, Assisting Priest, Emeritus
Music Director: Myles Ellis
One License #400592-A

Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church
www.SaintTimothysDanville.org
1550 Diablo Road Danville, CA 94526
925.837.4993 Email: parish@sainttimothysdanville.org