



Christ Church, Rawdon

Located in the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat people.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

*This service will be live streamed on Sunday, at 10am, on: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/789373873>
You can also hear the audio by telephone at 438 809-7799 (when prompted, enter the meeting ID: 789 373 873).*

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Hymn: O God, Unseen, Yet Ever Near

Sung by Thelma Ranger

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

May his grace and peace be with us. **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Confession and Absolution

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, we might walk in newness of life. Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life. Lord, have mercy upon us. **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins. Christ, have mercy upon us. **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread. Lord, have mercy upon us. **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Priest: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Gloria in Excelsis, paraphrased (Nicolaus Decius, 1485 – 1546; translated by F. Bland Tucker, 1895 – 1984)

**All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth from heaven,
and God's good will unfailingly be to all people given.**

**We bless, we worship you, we raise for your great glory thanks and praise,
O God, Almighty Father.**

**O Lamb of God, Lord Jesus Christ, whom God the Father gave us,
who for the world was sacrificed upon the cross to save us;
and, as you sit at God's right hand and we for judgement there must stand,
have mercy, Lord, upon us.**

**You only are the Holy One, who came for our salvation,
and only you are God's true Son, who was before creation.
You, only, Christ, as Lord we own, and with the Spirit, you alone
share in the Father's glory.**

The Collect of the Day for Easter V

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 First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Read by Elizabeth Nunn

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. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalms 22:24-30

Refrain: All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord.

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. **R**

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. **R**

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. **R**

The Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Read by Sue Ellen Jones-Millar

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 Saviour 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 judgement, 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God!**

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.

I am the vine, you are the branches, says the Lord. Those who abide in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.

The Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. 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.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Reverend Nick Brotherwood

Let us confess our faith as we say,

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. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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.

Hymn: **You are the Vine, we are the branches, keep us abiding in You.**

Then we'll grow in Your love and we'll go in Your Name,

that the world will surely know that You have power to heal and to save.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings (Please feel free to silently add your own prayers and thanksgivings.)

In joy and hope let us pray, saying after “we pray to the Father,” the response, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

We pray for the church throughout the world. We pray for all who are in positions of authority and leadership in the church, for Mary, our Bishop, for Ronald, our Metropolitan, and Linda, our Primate. In our diocese, we pray today for Parish Secretaries, Wardens, and Treasurers, for our own Wardens, Ann and Marion, for Dave and Cheryl, our Deputy Wardens, and for Brenda, our Treasurer. We pray for The Rev’d Nick Brotherhood, our preacher today, and for his ministry. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, and for the dioceses of Central Buganda, West Buganda, Bukedi (Uganda), Buhiga, Bujumbura (Burundi), and Bukavu (Congo). We pray for the Pope of Alexandria, His Beatitude Theodore II, and all who come under his jurisdiction. We give thanks for the religious witness in all its forms in the Church, and today we pray especially for the Community of the Servants of the Will of God in the UK. We pray for our companions in the Territory of the People (Central BC), for the Diocese of Masasi, and for the Diocese of Jerusalem. We pray for our Parish, for our Incumbent, Fr Michael J. Robson, and all the members of this parish especially, this week, for Wendy Bott. That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in positions of authority in the nations of the earth; in our own country we pray for Elizabeth, our Queen, Chief Justice Richard Wagner, Administrator of Canada, Justin Trudeau, our Prime Minister, J. Michel Doyon, our Lieutenant Governor, François Legault, our Premier, Bruno Guilbault, our Mayor, and for all MPs, MNAs, and Councillors. We pray that they may govern wisely and for the good of all. That by his power, war and famine may cease through all the world, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need, distress or trouble, especially Shea Kerin, Gerry Bologna, Danny Fogarty, Krista Fleming, Eileen Hale, Glenn Cartwright, Viola Wilde, Muriel Fleming, Debbie Sweeney, Carolyn Maguire, Pam, Bob Ranger, Johnny Purcell, Gilbert Gauthier, Zina Herbert, Kim McClelland, David Morris, David Hart, Bp James Almasi, Archdeacon Maurice Bate, Pearl Rourke, and for their families. We continue to pray for those who suffer due to the Covid-19 pandemic; we pray for the nurses, doctors and other medical workers and for all who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy. We pray for those affected by unrest throughout the world. Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying, to find strength in the companionship of Jesus, and in his passion to know their salvation; this we pray to the Father.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the people of Israel at this time and especially for those who were injured and the families of those who were killed in the massive crowd that gathered at a religious event on Friday.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died, especially, from our Book of Remembrance, for Pauline Finlayson (née St Maurice), Carol Ann Orr (née Romanado), and all those whose years' mind falls at this time, that, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Remembering the Blessed Virgin Mary, St John the Evangelist, St Julian of Norwich, and all the Saints and Holy Men and Women of God, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole lives to Christ our God. **To you, O Lord.**

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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.**

Announcements

Hymn: Come and Journey with a Saviour

Sung by Thelma Ranger

Final Blessing

Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Please join us after the service, for a “virtual coffee time” on Zoom, online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/789373873> or by phone at 438 809-7799, meeting ID: 789 373 873. The Zoom connection will also be open, by 9:30 am, for conversation until shortly before the service begins.

Conference Synod 2021: *This year’s diocesan Synod will consist of two parts – a session on **Friday, May 14th** (9-4 with breaks), **open to everyone**, and then a business meeting on the Saturday for delegates and other voting members. Both will be on Zoom due to the pandemic. The Friday meeting will feature The Rev’d Canon Dr. Judy Paulsen, Professor of Evangelism and Director of the Institute of Evangelism at Wycliffe College, as keynote speaker on **“The Challenges of Evangelism: How Do We Invite People?”** You must register in advance and can do so online at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqdu2pqzwpEtX_281JyGr8SKHTX04DhbFA. If you do not have online access, please contact Fr Michael at 450 834-4457 and I can register for you.*

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday *Easter Feria*
Tuesday *Easter Feria*
Wednesday *Easter Feria*
Thursday **St John the Evangelist** (*alternative date*)
Friday *Easter Feria*
Saturday Julian of Norwich, *Spiritual Teacher, 1417*
Sunday **The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

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Requests for Flower/Altar Lamp Memorials: Ann Allen, 450 834-2492

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