



# Trinity Episcopal

## “Old Swedes” Church

1208 King’s Highway, Swedesboro, NJ 08085

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

### Service of Holy Eucharist – Rite Two

Prelude - Dr. Ted Kiefer

### Opening Hymn – 529

*Unison or harmony*

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.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*[The Celebrant and People may say*

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.*

## Gloria

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

## Collect

Celebrant      The Lord be with you.  
People          **And also with you.**  
Celebrant      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.*

## 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: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 22:24-30**

- 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.***

## **Epistle 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.

## The Gospel

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

### Gospel Hymn – 440

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
 2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
 3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
 shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
 ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,



now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy  
pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

**Celebrant:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
according to John.

**People:** **Glory to You Lord Christ.**

## John 15:1-8

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."

**Celebrant:** The Gospel of our Lord.

**People:** **Praise to You Lord Christ.**

## Sermon – The Rev. Gregory M. Wilson, Priest-in-Charge

### 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.

#### **Prayers of the People for 5th Sunday of Easter, May 2nd, 2021**

**Deacon:** Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Apart from you, Lord Jesus, we can not bear fruit for the kingdom. Live in us for the sake of your church, and help us be your love-filled disciples. Let us pray for the whole people of God saying, “For kingship belongs to the Lord; **he rules over the nations.**”

**Leader:** For help when we see violence, to see also the sadness of your heart, and seek to be your peacemakers in our everyday lives. For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Leader:** For courage and with spirit-filled voice, may we proclaim your word in our daily lives. May we be inspired by Phillip who shared his love for you with a curious and open-minded stranger. For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Leader:** For help in loving more fervently, to love when love is hard to do, and to remember that when we love, it is only possible because you first loved us. For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Leader:** For the ability to listen to the voice that speaks to us an invitation to reconciliation with those whose lives, words, decisions, or actions have wounded us in our daily lives. Allow us to open our hearts toward healing in all our relationships, with those we love and with our enemies. For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Leader:** For workers in all health care settings who are caring for patients suffering with COVID-19 virus. We also pray for those who are suffering with symptoms in the aftermath of COVID-19, that their care providers look for creative and inspired ways to continue healing. We give thanks for those who have received the vaccine. Healer of bodies and souls, hear the ones of those in need of your touch. We pray for those whose life circumstances put them in danger: the homeless, the hungry, the refugee. We pray to ease the burdens of those who care for the least among us. For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Leader:** For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; William, our diocesan bishop; Greg, our priest; and all who minister in Christ. We pray for the church and all its ministers. Form us into a church that empties itself for others, and for you. For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Leader:** For those who work the land, by whose labors we are all fed. For temperate weather and consistent rain for crops to flourish everywhere on earth. For those whose work brings us the fruits of every harvest: the transportation workers, the farm stand and grocers. For humility where we have surplus and where others have lack. For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Leader:** For our governments, we pray for our President Joseph. We pray for farmers and those who work in the land, knowing that it is by their labors that we are fed. Give us statesmen for these days who are less interested in being powerful and more interested in being caring and doing right. We pray for our own community: For the Borough of Swedesboro and its residents including students, faculty and staff in Swedesboro-area schools. For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Leader:** For those who have died, and for those who mourn. We remember the recent dead of our parish community and loved ones whom we remember either silently or aloud: (*pause here*), For kingship belongs to the Lord;

**People: he rules over the nations.**

**Presider:** Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, Merciful God, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**ALL: Amen**

**Trinity Parish Prayer:**

**Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayer for the Trinity Parish Family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**The Confession and Absolution**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister and 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.**

*The Priest stands and says*

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**

<p><b>Virtual Offering Plate</b></p> <p>Text “Trinityoldswedes”</p> <p>to (202) 858-1233</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard texting rates on your cell plan apply</li> </ul>
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## Offertory Anthem

### Liturgy of the Table - Eucharistic Prayer B

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

**Celebrant** **Lift up your hearts.**

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

**Celebrant** **Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

**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....**

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**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, 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 [\_\_\_\_\_ 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.*

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Then may be sung or said*

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Christ our Passover is  
sacrificed for us!  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast!**  
**Alleluia!**

*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.

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.**

## Blessing

### Hymn 296



We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold;  
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life  
The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God.  
as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. Al - le -  
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. sing:  
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

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

*People* Thanks be to God Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Postlude

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**Today's Participants**

Celebrant: The Rev. Gregory M. Wilson [revgregwilson@gmail.com](mailto:revgregwilson@gmail.com), 267-331-0133

Reader – Craig Lewis

Musicians – Dr. Ted Keifer, Music Director

Blaze Dalio – Virtual Choir tech

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