



## **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**May 7, 2023**

**WELCOME**

to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

### **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

Big Rapids, MI

Seeking every day to love God  
with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and  
to love our neighbors as ourselves.

### **St. Mary's Episcopal Church**

Cadillac, MI

We strive to live out the Great  
Commandment: To love the Lord with all  
our heart, soul, and mind and to love our  
neighbors as ourselves.

If you have a faith or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.

If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home,  
we'd love to get to know you.

## MORNING PRAYER, ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP

### Opening Sentence

Officiant If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! *2 Corinthians 5:17*

### Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us confess our sins to God.

**All God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

**The Invitatory and Psalter** *All stand as able.*

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

**People And your glory all the day long.**

**All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

### Antiphon

**All Alleluia. Christ is risen. O come let us worship. Alleluia.**

## Christ our Passover

All Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
therefore let us keep the feast,  
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.  
Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.  
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.  
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.  
Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
For since by a man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.  
For as in Adam all die, \*  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

**The Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**

**Bulletin Insert**

*At the end of the Psalms all say*

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**The Lessons**      *All sit as able. Texts found in the bulletin insert.*

**First Reading**

**Acts 7:55-60**

*After the reading:*

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

All    The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, \*  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
It shall blossom abundantly, \*  
and rejoice with joy and singing.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord, \*  
the majesty of our God.  
Strengthen the weary hands, \*  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! \*  
Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."  
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, \*  
and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.  
Then shall the lame leap like a deer, \*  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness \*  
and streams in the desert;  
The burning sand shall become a pool \*  
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.  
The ransomed of God shall return with singing, \*  
with everlasting joy upon their heads.  
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, \*  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

*After the reading:*

Reader        Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People        Thanks be to God.

All Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, \*  
for you have blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.  
Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, \*  
that we should be holy and blameless before you.  
You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ,\*  
according to the good pleasure of your will,  
To the praise of your glorious grace, \*  
that you have freely given us in the Beloved.  
In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ,  
the forgiveness of our sins,  
According to the riches of your grace \*  
which you have lavished upon us.  
You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, \*  
the mystery of your will,  
According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, \*  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
To gather together all things in Christ, \*  
things in heaven and things on earth.

**Third Reading**

**John 14:1-14**

*After the reading:*

**Reader** Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People** Thanks be to God.

**Reflection**

*The reflection may be a time of silence, a homily, or reading of a text.*

**The Apostles' Creed**      *Said in unison, all standing as able.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Prayers**      *The people stand or kneel as able.*

**Officiant**      God be with you.

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

**Officiant**      Let us pray.

**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.**

### **Suffrages**

**Officiant** Help us, O God our Savior;

**People** **Deliver us and forgive us our sins.**

**Officiant** Look upon your congregation;

**People** **Give to your people the blessing of peace.**

**Officiant** Declare your glory among the nations;

**People** **And your wonders among all peoples.**

**Officiant** Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

**People** **Never forget the lives of your poor.**

**Officiant** Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

**People** **And your favor to those who are true of heart.**

**Officiant** Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

**People** **So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

*The officiant prays the collect of the day, found in the bulletin insert.*

## The Prayers of the People

## *Praying the Scriptures*

Intercessor Brothers and Sisters, once we were not a people, but now we are God's people. Let us pray to our good God, saying, "Make your face to shine upon us, **and in your loving-kindness save us.**"

In you, O Lord, does your Church take refuge. Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit to do great works in Jesus' name. May your Church glorify you in all our doings. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Prince, our Bishop Provisional; Anne, our Canon Missioner; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant. St. Mark's, Atlanta - Scott, Sr. Warden, St. John's Church, Sturgis – James, Rector, St. Mary's Church, Cadillac – Radha, Rector We pray for all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Joe, Barrett, Alex, Matt, and Anne Marie. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Abraham, John, Stephanie, Thon, Jennifer, Justin, Jessica, Julianne, Beckett, Rachel, John, Linda, Cathy, Dell, Theresa. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence*  
Make your face to shine upon us.

**People** **And in your loving-kindness save us.**

Intercessor Ancient of Days, rescue the innocent from the hands of those who persecute them. Hold in strong hands the oppressed and the abused.  
*Silence*  
Make your face to shine upon us.

**People** **And in your loving-kindness save us.**



Intercessor God, our strong rock, give us eyes to see your hand at work in our world. Lead us and guide us that we may be good stewards of your creation. We pray for those in positions of authority in our country and in the world, especially Joe, our president; Gretchen our governor; Carla, our mayor. *Silence*

Make your face to shine upon us.

**People And in your loving-kindness save us.**

Intercessor Tower of Strength, assure those who are unemployed or living in poverty that they are precious in your sight. *Silence*

Make your face to shine upon us.

**People And in your loving-kindness save us.**

Intercessor Merciful God, incline your ear to those in need of deliverance. Calm the troubled hearts of the suffering and the sorrowful, of the sick and the anxiety-plagued. We pray for those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: Erin, Zack, Colleen, Eli, Fanny, Hannah & Elijah, Julie, Patty, Lee Jr., Candy, Norm, Carol, Pat, Madi, Lorie, Derek; For St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Paula, Sally, Julane, Sharon, Richard, Susan, Carlson Family, Jessica, Leigh, Steve, Melissa & Family, Sharyn, John, Brenda, Beth, Keller/Cole family, Ian, Melissa & Scott, Nan, Kris, Doug, Marty & Rachel, Marcinkiewz family, Marga & Barbara; For our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Richard, Corey, Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Eli, Jess; And for all those we name at this time. *Silence*

Make your face to shine upon us.

**People And in your loving-kindness save us.**

Intercessor God of truth, we commend the dying and the dead, especially Bill, John & Jennifer, into your hands. We rejoice in Jesus' promise that he has prepared for us a place in your eternal home. *Silence*

Make your face to shine upon us.

**People And in your loving-kindness save us.**

Officiant Sun of Righteousness, so gloriously risen, shine in our hearts as we celebrate our redemption, that we may see your way to our eternal home, where you reign, one holy and undivided Trinity, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The General Thanksgiving

**All Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

## The Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

For a Birthday

Pew Card

For an Anniversary

BCP 431, first prayer

Travelers

BCP 831, #53

## The Dismissal and Concluding Sentence

Officiant Let us bless the Lord

**People Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Amen. Amen.**

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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