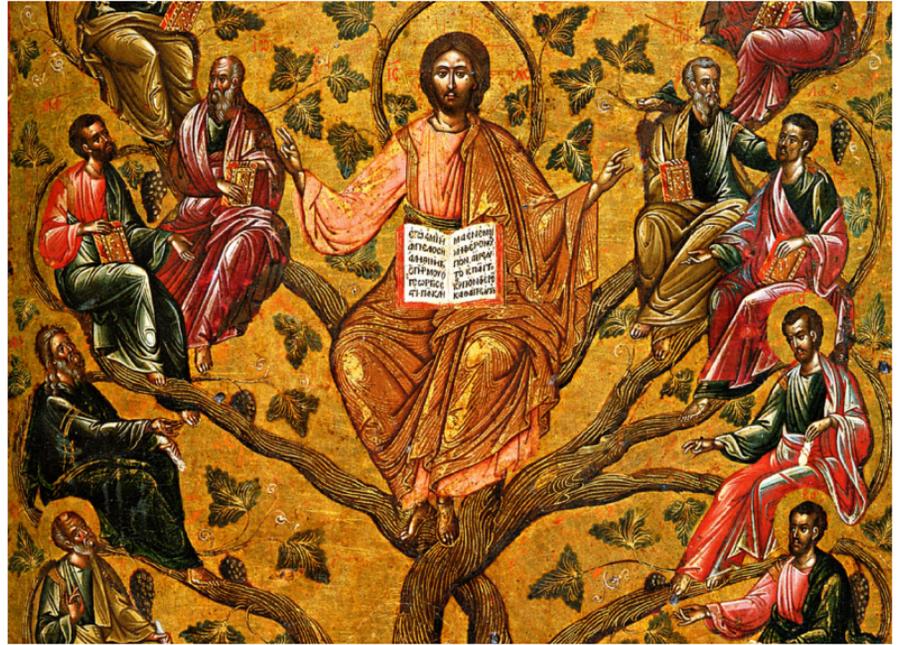


GRACE  
CATHEDRAL



Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine" (John 15:1)  
Image: Anonymous Greek 16th Century icon

*Our vision* **A spiritually alive world**  
*Our mission* **Reimagining church with courage, joy and wonder**

# Service of the Word

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER • 02 MAY 2021 • 8:30 AM

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## Gather

### VOLUNTARY

The musician is spotlighted.

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

The leaflet is shared on screen.  
The officiant and deacon are spotlighted.

Officiant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant 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.**

# Proclaim

## THE FIRST READING

The lector is spotlighted.

Acts 8:26-40

**Reader** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

**A**n 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 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.”

**After the reading** The Word of the Lord.

**All** **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant My praise is of God in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship the LORD.

Lector **The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall give praise: \***  
**“May your heart live for ever!”**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to God, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before the LORD.

**For sovereignty belongs to the LORD; \***  
**who rules over the nations.**

To the LORD alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before the LORD.

**My soul shall live for God; my descendants shall serve the LORD; \***  
**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 God has done.

## THE GOSPEL

The deacon and presider are spotlighted.

John 15:1-8

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

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.”

After the reading The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE HOMILY

The leaflet is taken off screen. The video of the homilist is shared.

The Rev. Kristin Saylor  
Director of Formation

## THE REFLECTION

The congregation is invited to continue the reflection in breakout rooms.

# Pray

## ORGAN MEDITATION

The musician is spotlighted.

## THE PRAYERS

The deacon is spotlighted and offers prayers.

## CONCLUDING COLLECT

The officiant concludes with one of the following collects:

God of deep soil and luxurious growth, you call us from our shallow selves to find our depth in you: may we abide in him alone who can teach us who we are, Jesus Christ, the true vine. **Amen.**

or Life-Giving God, you raised Christ in the glory of divinity and brought his human body to new and transformed life. Fill all creation with Easter joy, that our bodies and souls dance with new life and hope. Through Jesus Christ our risen savior. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The speaker is spotlighted and offers announcements.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

The leaflet is shared on screen. The officiant and deacon are spotlighted.

Officiant To conclude our time of prayer, we now pray:

All **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The officiant and deacon are spotlighted.  
The leaflet is taken off screen.

Officiant The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the great Shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the everlasting covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing of God...

All **Amen.**

Deacon Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## **SERVING THE ASSEMBLY**

- Officiant **The Rev. AnnaMarie Hoos**, Assisting Clergy  
Homilist **The Rev. Kristin Saylor**, Director of Formation  
Deacon **The Rev. Margaret Deeths**, Assisting Clergy  
Musician **Canon Benjamin Bachmann**, The Diana Dollar Knowles Canon Director of Music