



THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Episcopal Church in Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village

The Fifth Sunday in Easter

May 2, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist

PRELUDE

Choral

JOSEPH JONGEN (1873-1953)

The Word of God

ACCLAMATION

Priest Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

HYMN 296

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

ENGELBERG



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. _____
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. _____
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. _____
 4 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. _____
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: _____



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

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

Silence is kept. The Collect is said, after which the congregation responds: 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.

Response after the reading: Thanks be to God.

The psalm is read by all.

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.

THE SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-21

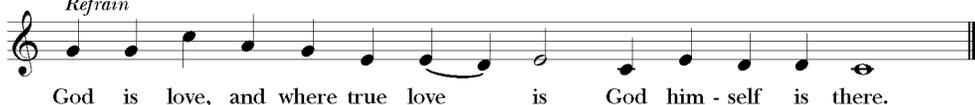
Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, 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.

Response after the reading: **Thanks be to God.**

Refrain



God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.



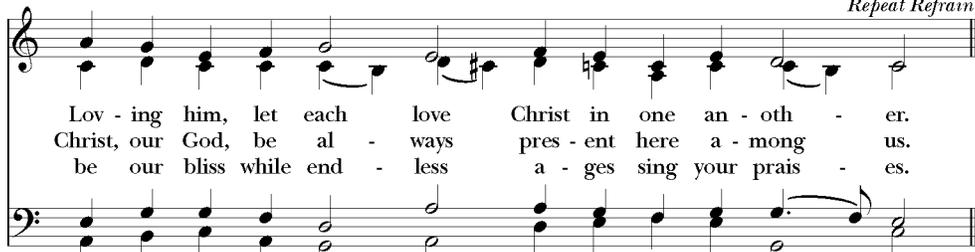
1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
2 When we Chris - tians gath - er, mem - bers of one Bo - dy,
3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,



Christ, our love, is with us, glad - ness be his greet - ing.
let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.
when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.



Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,



Repeat Refrain

Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

✠ THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Response before the reading: 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."

Response after the reading: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Joey Courtney

We observe a time of silence after the homily.

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 sin. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We observe a time of silence between each petition, offering our own intercessions, when the leader says, "Lord hear us," all respond "Lord, graciously hear us."

*The leader adds a concluding sentence, after which all respond: **Amen.***

Let us pray for constancy and purity in the service of God.

Grant that the Church may hold fast to her Lord, so that all her branches may grow together in faith and service...

Cleanse her from all that hinders her mission, and purify her to bring forth the good fruit of the Gospel.

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Purge with your compassionate might the corruption of the world...

Where there is abuse of power, where there is selfish exploitation of the weak, where there is hostility between nations, bring healing and a new spirit so that all may live in harmony, rooted in love.

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray that we may abide in Christ, and his words may abide in us, so that we and all in our community shall be united in him and trust in his strength alone...

Let us in our work and in our recreation use well the gifts we have been given.

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Continued on the next page...

We pray for the outcasts of the world, those who have been cut off from their families, those who have been rejected by society and lost hope of return...

Restore them to the full dignity of their humanity, and let them grow into new life.

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Receive the souls of those who, having borne their fruit in this world, have withered and died...

May their joy be made perfect in the fellowship of all who have drawn their lives from the eternal vine.

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

May our prayers be accepted in the name of Christ, the true vine.

Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS

All **Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever they may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Holy Communion

ANTHEM

Chromatic Prelude

ALEC ROWLEY (1892-1958)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Priest The Lord 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.**

The priest continues with the prayer.

SANCTUS S-130

FRANZ SCHUBERT (1797-1828)
ARR. RICHARD PROULX (1937-2010)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

Continued on the next page..

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Priest ...and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

People **Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Priest Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

People **Blessed are you now and forever. AMEN.**

THE 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.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In this time of social distancing, when we long for the physical Sacrament of Holy Communion but cannot - for safety - partake of it, it can be meaningful to pray for God's presence in our lives, express our desire for Communion, and name our hope of taking part in the Sacrament soon.

Priest If you desire to receive the Eucharist, I invite you to pray with me this prayer of Spiritual Communion.

People **Jesus, my savior and friend, I believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and truly present to us here and now. Since I cannot now receive you in the bread and wine, I remember and trust your words, "This is my body; this is my blood – given for you." I love you and ask you to come spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Keep all of us strong in faith, hope, and love until we can meet at your table again. Amen**

The priest offers

THE BLESSING

HYMN 182

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

TRURO

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev. Copyright ©1975 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmody Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

THE DISMISSAL

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

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**



EPIPHANY CONNECTIONS

Connect with us! Visit us at tcote.org or send us an email at info@tcote.org to receive the latest news.

THIS WEEK: MAY 2- MAY 9

Today Sunday Service, 10 a.m. (Virtual)
Wed. Bible Study, 12 p.m.
Lectio Divina Group, 7p.m. (Virtual)
Sun. Sunday Service, 10 a.m. (Virtual)
In person, TBD (**indoor**)

ABOUT THE REV. JOEY COURTNEY

Born and raised in the shadow of the Great Smoky Mountains in Knoxville, Tennessee, Joey Courtney studied religion at Maryville College. Soon after graduating, he moved to Los Angeles to volunteer with Jubilee Year, a service program through the Episcopal Service Corps. After a few years working with youth experiencing homelessness, Joey went to The Church Divinity School of the Pacific for seminary. Ordained a priest in 2019, Joey now works as the High School Chaplain at Campbell Hall.

IN PERSON SERVICES

Sunday May 9th, May 23rd, & June 13th
In compliance with Diocesan and public health directives, we will carefully resume in-person Sunday worship services with three trial runs beginning on May 9th (Mother's Day), May 23rd (Pentecost), & June 13th. Your health and safety is our utmost priority and all attendees will be required to wear masks and maintain a physical distance of six feet from participants from other households.

Capacity is limited, please RSVP to rsvp@tcote.org by **Wednesday, May 5**. Service time to be determined by the results of the survey that was sent out on Thursday.

Services will also air simultaneously via the regular Sunday service Zoom link.

LECTIO DIVINA GROUP

Have you ever asked yourself the question, "How can God's grace help me to surrender my self-centeredness so that I may receive the mind of Christ / heart of Christ / Christ consciousness?"

If you have, then our lectio divina group, Wednesday evenings, 7 PM, might interest you.

The link to our next meeting For more information, contact Bob Brown, 805-300-2666, oneoutofmany@live.com

LUNCHEES FOR DINNER

Tuesday May 18th 4:00- 4:30 PM
For more information, contact Yvonne Lux at yvonnlux@gmail.com.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Please email info@tcote.com with the name or names, birthday (month & day) or anniversary date or you can complete the prayer request form on our website. If you prefer, you can call the office (818) 991-4797 with the information. We kindly request your submissions be sent in by on Mondays. Thank you!

PRAYER REQUEST

Prayers have been requested for:

- Evette
- Martha
- Betty
- Leigh

Thank you for keeping these names in your prayers.

REFLECTION

"Progress in the spiritual journey is a restructuring of consciousness, not an experience or set of experiences."
-Thomas Keating