



SAINT PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Ministry of the Diocese of North Carolina

Serving the Mooresville and Lake Norman area

The Reverend Mark S. Forbes, Rector

The Reverend Dr. Sally M. Brower, Assisting Rector

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2015

The Word of God

Processional Hymn: "This is the Day"

Les Garrett

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made, that the

Lord hath made, we will re-joice, we will re-joice and be

glad in it, and be glad in it; This is the day that the

Lord hath made, we will re-joice and be glad in it;

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made.

Opening Sentences

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!. Amen.***

Celebrant

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.

The Collect of the Day

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.***

The Lessons

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 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.

The Word of the Lord.

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

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Sally Brower

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.

The Prayers of the People

Grant, Almighty God, that all people may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Hear us, O God.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, into the ways of justice and peace; together may we serve the common good.

Hear us, O God.

Give us all a reverence for your creation, that we may steward its resources in a spirit of compassion and justice.

Hear us, O God.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and empower us to love and serve them in the humble way of Jesus.

Hear us, O God.

Send your comforting and healing presence upon all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Naming those closest to our hearts, we pray for:

Are there others?

In your mercy,

Hear us, O God.

We commend to your immeasurable loving-kindness all who have died. May they radiate your glory throughout all eternity. [Especially we pray for:]

In your mercy,

Hear us, O God.

We thank you God for the innumerable blessings and gifts of life; especially giving thanks for the birthdays of:

With grateful hearts,

We praise you, O God.

Are there other special occasions of thanksgiving and joy?

With grateful hearts,
We praise you, O God.

Finally, we pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
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 continues

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.***

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem: "This Little Light of Mine" *Sung by The Shamrocks*
Randall Sprinkle, guitar Matt Kenter, trombone Caleb Sprinkle, tuba Jayne Sprinkle, accordian

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer 2

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 our thanks and praise.***

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation. Your spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

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***

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Patrick and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Post Communion Prayer

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and with one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of the Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: "I the Lord of Sea and Sky"

Daniel Schutte

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my pee-ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in deep-est sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them They turn a-way.
I will set a feast for them My hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone give them hearts for love a- lone.
Fin-est bread I will pre- vide till their hearts be set is- fied.

G C/G G C/G G D
G Em Am G C Am Am⁷ D
G C/G G C/G G D

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

G Em Am⁷ G C Am G C D

Refrain
 D G Gsus⁴ G C G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am⁷ G C D G Gsus⁴ G

call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

C G Am⁷ D G Gsus⁴ G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The Dismissal

| This Week at Saint Patrick's | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| Sunday, May 3 | 1:00 pm | Youth Meeting | Youth Room |
| Monday, May 4 | 10:00 a.m. | ECW Meeting | Library |
| | 6:30 p.m. | EfM | Youth Room |
| Tuesday, May 5 | 6:00 p.m. | Centering Prayer | Sanctuary |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room |
| Wednesday, May 6 | 9:30 a.m. | Midweek Eucharist | Sanctuary |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Centering Prayer | Sanctuary |
| | 11:40 a.m. | Preschool Chapel | Sanctuary |

Welcome Visitors and Newcomers

We are happy to have you with us. This service is part of our ongoing life of worship, learning and service. We are here to deepen our relationship with God and with one another, and to explore how to live our lives more fully and compassionately. Please know that you are invited to participate in all aspects of our worship, most importantly by sharing with us in our common meal at God's Table.

We invite you to continue the journey with us; ask questions, attend our educational offerings, participate in the activities of this community. We invite you to return again next week for Eucharist at **8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.** Please be aware that we offer a nursery for children ages three and under during the 10:30 a.m. service. The nursery is located in Room #1 of the education wing on the right-hand side hallway.

In this community of faith, all persons regardless of their religious affiliation are invited to join our fellowship in the sharing of the Holy Communion. There are three ways to receive the Bread and the Wine: The Bread followed by the Common Cup (Chalice); the Bread only with arms folded over the chest afterwards; or by intinction (dipping of the bread into the Chalice). If you do not want to receive the Bread or Wine, you may also come forward and receive a blessing from the clergy. You are welcome at our Lord's Table.

Those persons serving our community this morning are:

10:30 a.m. – Chalice Bearers: Bob Millikin, Greg Smith; Lector: Mark Fowler; Psalm and Prayers of the People: Laurie Smith; Acolyte Leader: Jon Ramsey; Greeters: Peggy and Bob Smith; Altar Guild: John and Rita Azali, David and Rosemary Bramigk; Ushers: Peggy and Bob Smith, Jan Lamm, John Syme; Lay Minister of Healing: Jane Pope; Nursery: Michela Vernon; Coffee Hour Team: Irene Rhyne, Deborah Blednick; Counters: Jim Sabine, Julie Lynch.



ALTAR FLOWERS GIVEN BY BOB AND PATRICIA BERINI

The flowers on the pedestal are given to the glory of God by Bob and Patricia Berini. They are given in Thanksgiving for the Saint Patrick's family.

Weekly Announcements

SABBATH AT SAINT PATRICK'S: APRIL 22 - AUGUST 4

You are invited to deepen your own experience of spiritual rest while our rector is on sabbatical. The goal is to help re-pattern the rhythm of our lives from one of driven/escape to



ministry/Sabbath. Choosing a Sabbath day and keeping it holy, set apart, allows us time to reconnect with God, ourselves, our loved ones, and creation. Each week we will publish an inspirational quote and spiritual practice for you to try. There will be an ongoing link to a piece of meditative music from our music director and a reminder calendar to help guide your chosen Sabbath

day. Additionally, if you sign up for spiritual guidance through email, you will receive a special email address where you can ask questions of our associate rector and share stories of your weekly experience. You will also receive a once weekly email to provide spiritual guidance based on our community Sabbath keeping experience. You may sign up at any time during the 15 weeks. Sign up via the Weekly Reminders, which goes out every Thursday.

CLERGY CARE DURING MARK'S ABSENCE

Please know that during Mark's absence, Sally Brower will fulfill all the clergy responsibilities of the parish, including pastoral crises and funerals. The church leadership asks that church membership respect the sabbatical principle that allows Mark a complete break from pastoral duties and contact. During Mark's absence, all matters of church life will be handled by Sally, the parish staff and members of the vestry. Thank you!



VESTRY ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBER!



The Vestry is pleased to announce that John Ritter has discerned a call to serve on the Vestry. John will assume the position of Vestry Leader for Financial Stewardship that was vacated by a resignation earlier in the year. You can read John's bio in the Weekly Reminders. He will be a great asset to both the Vestry and Saint Patrick's.

SOLAS LEIGHIS CONCERT SERIES - MAY 17

Jim Hurst is returning to Saint Patrick's on Sunday, May 17th at 7:00 pm. Jim combines savvy guitar picking, broad vocal range and a musical eclecticism that culminates in jaw-dropping performances. The event includes a wine and cheese reception so if you are planning to attend, please bring a finger food to share. Tickets at the door: \$15 adults and \$10 student/seniors. For more details, visit our website at www.saint-patrick.org.



YOUTH SELLING AUTO BELL CARWASH COUPONS



The Youth Pilgrims are selling Auto Bell Car Wash coupons to benefit the Summer 2015 Pilgrimage. Cost of each ticket, good for an interior and exterior cleaning, is \$16.00 (the same as you pay at the carwash), of which we get to keep \$7.99. We will offer the tickets for a few more weeks. Please support this effort and get a clean car to boot! In other youth news, there will be Youth Meeting classes held this Sunday, May 3rd immediately following the Anniversary Sunday picnic. Classes will conclude by 2 pm.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Inspiring and cultivating sacred connections with God and one another
as we embrace diversity of spiritual thought, practice and being.

Inspire-Connect-Embrace-Share

PULSE OF VISION AND MISSION

In a wonderful example of living the teachings of Jesus to take care of the needs of others, as we are called to do, members of our Youth Group worked very hard recently to clean up the property of one of our Church members. She was extremely thankful and described them as a "Band Of Angels."