

EASTER 5 of Eastertide



I am the Vine

You are the branches

The Gathering

In the name of the Father
And of the Son
And of the Holy Spirit

All Amen

Greeting

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
All He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

The minister welcomes the people and introduces the service

Come apart from your busyness.
Leave your stresses at the door.
Come and reconnect with God.
Remain in him and grow.
Grow closer, grow deeper.
Grow and be fruitful.
Come and glorify God!

Prayer of Preparation

All We gather here, O Lord, for you, the vine, to nourish us.
May we, the branches, draw our strength from you,
and grow in harmony, unity and love.
May we find nourishment through our rootedness
in the life, teachings and love of Christ.
Receive the fruits of our worship and be glorified.
Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

The minister introduces the confession.

In baptism we died with Christ,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,
we might walk in newness of life.
Let us receive new life in him
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

We reflect quietly as we prepare to confront our own failings and make our confession

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.
Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.
Christ, have mercy.
All Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.
Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

The minister pronounces God's absolution

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray.

We keep silence

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.
All Amen.

Reading

The New Testament Reading is taken from Acts chapter 8 verses 26-40

Then 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

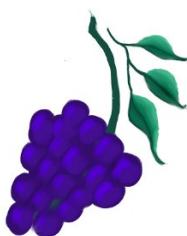
Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All **Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**



At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand

Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 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.

Prayers of Intercession

God of comfort....

God of comfort,

listen to our prayer.

God of justice....

God of justice,

listen to our prayer.

God of truth....

God of truth,

listen to our prayer.

God of community....

God of community,

listen to our prayer.

God of hope....

God of hope,

listen to our prayer.

God of compassion....

God of compassion,

listen to our prayer.

God of love....

God of love,

listen to our prayer. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**



The Dismissal

As we end our worship,
may we abide with God,
grafted and rooted and pruned.
Lord, help us to stay connected to one another and to you,
bearing fruit wherever your love takes us,
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.
Alleluia, Alleluia

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