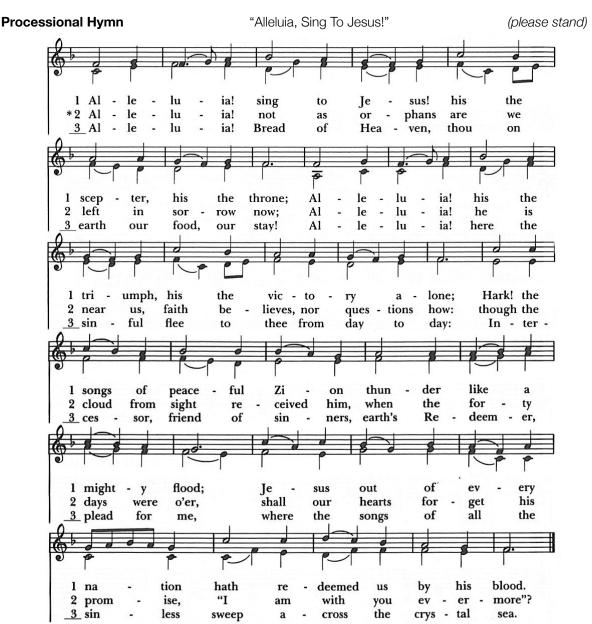


April 28, 2024 9:00 am The Fifth Sunday of Easter Confirmation Sunday



Prelude

Welcome and Preparation for Worship



Call to Worship

The Lord will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. And Your sons and daughters shall prophesy.

Your old men shall dream dreams. And Your young men shall see visions.

You shall know that the Lord is in the midst of His people. That He is the Lord and there is none else.

And it shall come to pass. That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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 glory; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading - Romans 8:31-39

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Second Reading - John 14:15-21

¹⁵"If you love me, you will obey what I command. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-- ¹⁷the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Chris Warner, Bishop of The Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic

The Nicene Creed (please stand)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten 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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 Confirmation (please be seated)

Confirmation Candidates

Margaret Maclay Baker Patricia Hope Bennett Virginia Gretchen Borg Julianne Edwards Dawn Luna Hammond Brenna Lynn Horseman Tobin Miguel Ulloa George Russell Watson

Confirmands' Faith Journey Reflections

The Presentation and Exhortation

Presenters: Reverend Father in God, we present these persons to receive the laying on of hands.

Bishop: Have they been adequately prepared?

Presenters: They have.

Dearly beloved, it is essential that those who wish to be confirmed in this Church publicly confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior; become His disciples; know and affirm the Nicene Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments; and have received instruction in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and the Catechism of the Church. God's grace is imparted in Baptism, through which we are made God's children by adoption and given the Holy Spirit. By the power of the Spirit, manifested in gifts and fruit, we are enabled to be God's people for the sake of the world.

Now, these candidates desire publicly to confess their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and their commitment to follow Him as Lord. They also desire the strengthening of grace through the laying on of hands, that the Holy Spirit may fill them more and more for their ministry in the Church and in the world.

The Examination

Bishop: Do you, here in the presence of God and the Church, renew the solemn promises and vows made at your Baptism and commit to keep them?

Candidates: I do.

Do you renounce the devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God? *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world that corrupt and destroy the creatures of God? *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess Him as your Lord and Savior? I do.

Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments? *I do.*

Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in them all the days of your life? *I will, the Lord being my helper.*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their lives in Christ?

Congregation: We will.

Prayer and the Laying on of Hands

Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, we beseech You to strengthen these Your servants for witness and ministry through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in them Your manifold virtues of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and the spirit of holy fear, now and forever. **Amen**.

Additional prayers may be offered.

Confirmation: Strengthen, O Lord, with Your Holy Spirit, Your servants; empower them for Your service; and sustain them all the days of their life. **Amen.**

Almighty and everliving God, let Your fatherly hand ever be upon these Your servants; let Your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of Your Holy Word, that they may faithfully serve You in this life, and joyfully dwell with You in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(please stand)

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Now let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Announcements (please be seated)

Offertory

Doxology (please stand)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost.

O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, but chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for He is the true Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by His death has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of Your Name:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

(please sit or kneel)

All praise and glory is Yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in Your tender mercy, You gave Your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption. He made there, by His one oblation* of Himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and He instituted, and in His Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of His precious death and sacrifice, until His coming again.

So now, O merciful Father, in Your great goodness, we ask You to bless and sanctify, with Your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, that we, receiving them according to Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of His death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

For on the night that He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of Your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we Your humble servants celebrate and make here before Your divine Majesty, with these holy gifts, the memorial Your Son commanded us to make; remembering His blessed passion** and precious death, His mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and His promise to come again.

And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of Your Son Jesus Christ, be filled with Your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with Him, that He may dwell in us, and we in Him. By Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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, forever and ever. Amen.

*oblation: an offering to God **passion: suffering

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia, Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All who desire prayer for yourself or someone else are welcome to proceed around the back of the altar area to the chapel to pray with a trained prayer team after the service.

Communion Music

"Rock Of Ages"

Verse 1Verse 2Rock of Ages cleft for me,Not the labors of my handsLet me hide myself in Thee;Can fulfill thy law's demands;Let the water and the blood,Could my zeal no respite know,From thy riven side which flowed;Could my tears forever flow,Be of sin the double cure,All for sin could not atone;Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.Thou must save, and thou alone.

Verse 3

Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to thy cross I cling; Naked, come to thee for dress; Helpless, look to thee for grace; Foul, I to the Fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.

Verse 4

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyes shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

"I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light"

Verse 1

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

Chorus

In Him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Verse 2

I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, And show me the way to the Father. **Chorus**

Verse 3

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy of Jesus. **Chorus**

"Shout To The Lord"

Verse

My Jesus, my Savior
Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort, my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath all that I am
Never cease to worship You

Chorus

Shout to the Lord, All the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, Praise to the King
Mountains bow down, And the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name, I sing for joy
At the work of Your hands, Forever I'll love You
Forever I'll stand, Nothing compares to the
promise I have in You

"In Christ Alone"

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all—
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

Verse 2

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—
Here in the death of Christ I live.

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine—
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Verse 4

No guilt in life, no fear in death—
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home—
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

(please stand)

Eternal God, heavenly Father, You have graciously accepted us as living members of Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and You have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve You with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, and fight the good fight of faith, that you may finish your course with joy; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Closing Hymn



Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

All who desire prayer for yourself or someone else are welcome to proceed around the back of the altar area to the chapel to pray with a trained prayer team after the service.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO HAVE PUBLICLY AFFIRMED THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST IN TODAY'S CONFIRMATION:

Margaret Maclay Baker
Patricia Hope Bennett
Virginia Gretchen Borg
Julianne Edwards Dawn
Luna Hammond
Brenna Lynn Horseman
Tobin Miguel Ulloa
George Russell Watson

"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, SO THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GIVE GLORY TO YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN." MATTHEW 5:16