



# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ROCKY HILL

*"THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART"*



## *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

May 2, 2021

10:00 a.m.

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One Park Avenue, P.O. Box 265, Rocky Hill, NJ 08553  
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*THE VICAR: The Rev. Dr. Jacob David*

**PARISH VESTRY**

*Jason Flagg (Senior Warden), Pete Rayner (Junior Warden), Brenda Fallon, Doris Hartmann, Kim Millar, Rob Olson, Hamilton Potter, Barbara Schweitzer, Robert Uhrik*

**STAFF**

*Mr. Edgar M. Newton, Choirmaster & Organist  
Mrs. Cathy Healy, Administrator  
Ms. Heidi Schweitzer, Christian Education Director*

10:00 A.M. (RITE II)

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ORGAN VOLUNTARY: Let Us Break Bread Together  
- Smith

### THE WORD OF GOD

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

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.*

**Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth. Lord God heavenly king, Almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.*

### ACTS 8:26-40

*“Here begins a reading from Acts.”*

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.

*“The Word of the Lord.” “Thanks be to God.”*

### PSALM 22:24-30

*“Psalm 22:24-30 is appointed today. Let’s read it alternatively.”*

<sup>24</sup>My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him. <sup>25</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: “May your heart live for ever!”** <sup>26</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him. <sup>27</sup>**For kingship belongs to the LORD; he rules over the nations.** <sup>28</sup>To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him. <sup>29</sup>**My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the LORD’s for ever.** <sup>30</sup>They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

### 1 JOHN 4:7-21

*“Here begins a reading from 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.

*"The Word of the Lord."* **"Thanks be to God."**

#### JOHN 15:1-8

*"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."**

HYMN: #379 - *God is Love*

SERMON: Fr. Jacob

#### 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 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 forgive-ness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray to our victorious Savior on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people.

*A brief silence*

Lord Jesus, thank you for cutting us from our tree of death and grafting us to yourself, the Living Vine. Give us courage: your Father's pruning shears frighten us at times! Give us faith: he prunes us to bear much fruit in you! Give us love; it is the sweetest fruit of your blessed vine.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that your holy Church may always abide in you, and you in it. Make it fruitful in words of faith and hope, and deeds of love. Through its witness, graft many souls to yourself.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give to your persecuted servants the knowledge that through their faithful endurance, they will bear rich fruit that refreshes and nourishes many hearts – perhaps even their enemies'.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are the vine, and we are the branches. Keep the people of this congregation united to you and to one another. Help our ministries to bear much fruit in the lives of those around us. Give us joy in knowing and serving you, our Savior and Brother.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless and direct everyone learning the way of being your disciple. May their patient friendship, walking

alongside those who do not yet know you well, bear much fruit. Use them to kindle or renew faith in many hearts.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Prune the hearts of our earthly rulers. Cut away the greed, pride, and lust for power that leads to hatred and violence. Build up all that enriches the lives of the poor and humble. Let the desire to do your Father's will abide in all our hearts and minds.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have overcome the world. Be the joy and strength of all those who defend us against violence, sickness, and injustice. Protect and guide them. Prosper all they do that works for peace and health. Bring them home safely and soon.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to all who suffer a double portion of your Spirit, especially: {List}. Fill them with your life. Keep them steadfast in faith. Bless and strengthen all who care for them.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, death shall never have the last word over those who abide in you. Thank you for speaking words of forgiveness and life to all who have died in you. Abide with us. Lead us to that place where we shall dwell with you and with all the redeemed and shall feast at your heavenly Table forever.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to us all that is in accordance with your will, dear Jesus, and accomplish your salvation among us; for you are risen from the dead and dwell in majesty with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*A brief silence*

CONCLUDING PRAYER: *Fr. Jacob*

*Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:*

**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 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; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance,

amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.** (All pass the peace)

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

DOXOLOGY

**We give thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be: All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty Creator 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 true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death and by his rising to life again he 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. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel*

**H**oly and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

**O**n the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had

given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: 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 for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 for 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.**

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

#### AGNUS DEI:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

#### THE COMMUNION - "Gifts of God for people of God."

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with

thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

In Union O Lord, with all the faithful, in our homes and at this and every altar of your Holy Church where your blessed body and blood are being offered, we present to you our souls and bodies. And because we cannot now receive sacramentally, we ask that you come spiritually into our hearts. Let nothing separate us from you, let us live and die in your love. Amen

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. AMEN.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE BLESSING

HYMN: #529 - *In Christ There Is No East or West*

#### DISMISSAL

**OUR WORSHIP IS OVER,  
OUR SERVICE BEGINS**