



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
TROY, AL



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B
MAY 2, 2021



The Rt. Rev. J. Russell Kendrick –
Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
Dr. John Jinright – Organist
Dr. Catherine Allard – Choir Director
Visiting Priest – The Rev. Sandra Mayer

*We prepare for the service in silence.
Please wear your mask, even if singing.*

Prelude

Handel

“Thanks Be to Thee”

*Processional Hymn (stand) Hymn 492, v1 & 3
“Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness”*

Opening Sentences

BCP, p. 355

Gloria

S-277

“Glory to god in the highest”

The Collect

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*

First Lesson Acts 8:26-40 (sit)

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.

Psalm 22:24-30 (*stand, said in unison*)

- 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 Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21 (*sit*)

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.

Sequence Hymn *(stand)* *Hymn # 297*
“Descend, O Spirit, purging flame”

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
John 15:1-8**

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 Sermon *(sit)*

The Nicene Creed *(stand)* BCP, p. 358

Prayers of the People - Form III BCP, p. 387

Confession of Sin *(kneel)* BCP, p. 360

Peace *(stand)* *Hymn #380, v3*
“Praise God from whom all blessings flow”

THE HOLY COMMUNION *(stand)* BCP, p. 361

Sanctus *S-130*
“Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might”

Consecration

BCP, p. 362

Fraction Anthem

S-154

“Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us”

Communion Hymn

LEVAS, 151

“One Bread, One Body” (see next pages)

Post Communion Prayer

(kneel)

BCP, p. 366

Closing Hymn

(stand)

Hymn #292

“O Jesus, crowned with all renown”

The Dismissal

Postlude

Concerto #2

Bach

Flowers on the altar are given in thanksgiving for their anniversary,
Chase and Joanna Taylor

Serving Today

Celebrant	The Rev. Sandra Mayer
LEM	Caleb Dawson
Crucifer	Josephine Dawson
First Reading	Caleb Dawson
Second Reading	Catherine Allard
Prayers	Bob Whitson
Ushers	Judy Dye, Bob Whitson
Altar Guild	Judy Dye, Kathy Omasta
Nursery	Katie Flotemerson, Jordan Medeiros

One bread, one bod-y.

one Lord of all, one cup of

bless - ing which we bless. And we, though

man - y, through-out the earth, We are one

Last time ⊕

bod - y in this one *Last time* ⊕ Lord.

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or
 2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the
 3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and

1. free, wom - an or man, _____
 2. works, one in the Lord _____
 3. grown, gath - ered to one. _____

1. — no more. _____ One
 2. — of all. _____ One
 3. — for all. _____ One

D.S.

♩ CODA

Lord. _____

St. Mark's Episcopal Church welcomes all. It is our pleasure to have you join us today. We joyfully gather to pray, worship, learn, and serve as we seek to follow Jesus. We welcome seekers and doubters and invite all people on a journey of hope and transformation. Embracing the example of Jesus, our welcome knows no boundaries.

Join us for worship on Sundays at 9:30 am and on Facebook

First time worshipping at St. Mark's?

Please make yourself known by signing the guest registry at the back of the church near the door and by filling out a visitor card and give it to one of the ushers. We'd like to hear from you!

Nursery

- Infants through age 4.
- Available during church service hours.

It's time to say Good Bye to Katie

Dear St. Mark's Family and Friends,
Katie Flotemerson is moving to Montgomery to complete an internship. She has provided dependable and loving care for our little ones in the Nursery since the summer of 2019. We are collecting a 'love offering' to express our appreciation for her faithful service. If you wish to donate, you may do so by check with a notation that the money is for our gift to Katie.

Restroom is located through the door next to the piano at the front of the church.

Outreach

Food Pantry

St. Mark's provides supplemental food to the community from three locations:

- Seabury House, Monday-Thursday, 9:00–12:00
- The Boys & Girls Club at 1318 N Three Notch Street
- The Charles Henderson Child Health Clinic, at 1300 US-231

Canterbury Club: The Troy University Canterbury Club is the Episcopal Campus Ministry at Troy University. We invite students of all identities to join us. We meet via Zoom every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in learning more about St. Mark's Canterbury Club, please contact Wren Cobb at wrencobb99@gmail.com

Jail Ministry: We continue serving the inmates and staff by sending cards each month to let them know that we are thinking about them, and that they remain in our prayers.

Church Office

Open Monday and Thursday, 9-2

Contact Us

405 West College
Troy, AL 36081
334-566-2619

stmarksofficetroy@gmail.com
www.saintmarktroy.org

Sunday School for our young children, led by Robert Pullen, meets via Zoom every Sunday at 11:00. They are studying various parables over the coming weeks. This week they will be studying Walking on Water.

Our church leaders feel that it is important to give the children a chance to be together and to hear the stories of our faith. Joyce Cooper creates and delivers an activity packet for each Sunday to the children so that they have something hands-on to do each week. If you have a child who isn't participating yet, please call the church office to get them added to the list.

The most important part of Sunday School is the chance to be with each other and to hear from each other. The children enjoy bringing their stuffed animals and toys to share. They tell their stories too.



Lord, Save Me, by Gary Kapp. © Gary Kapp