Welcome to

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The Fifth Sunday of Easter Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.



St. Mary's: Serving with JOY!

The mission of St. Mary's Episcopal Church is to bear God's Good News through joyful worship, Christ-centered teaching, compassionate care, and intentional relationships.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter Sunday, May 2, 2021

9:30 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite 2

Welcome to St. Mary's Episcopal Church!

In these extra-ordinary times, St. Mary's offers three Sunday morning worship opportunities of Holy Eucharist. One is an online pre-recorded liturgy of the Rite 2 service (Spiritual Communion), posted to our Facebook and YouTube platforms. The others are in-person public liturgies (Rite 1 at 8am in the Chapel and Rite 2 at 9:30am in the large church, or outdoors on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month), following the parameters outlined in Fr. Tom's Pastoral Letter of October 21 and in accordance with current state Executive Orders and guidelines from the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina.

For worshipers gathering in person, we thank you for taking seriously the measures that are in place that allow us to gather safely, especially wearing face coverings, observing six feet of physical distancing between different households, and refraining from congregational singing. These practices will make our time together safer and are appreciated as signs of love for one another.

You may also wish to bring a copy of the Book of Common Prayer and Bible to incorporate into your worship while at St. Mary's Church and beyond. If you don't have either, please speak with the clergy - we'd love to help!

All page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer.

SERVERS IN THIS LITURGY:

Celebrant & Preacher: Tom Warren

Eucharistic Minister & Seminarian: Greg Smith

Organist: Sharon Veitch Vocal Soloist: Marcus Jones

Recorder: Seraphim Smith

Acolytes: Jane Herring, Ty Wentz, Becca McKinley

Lector: Jo Parrott

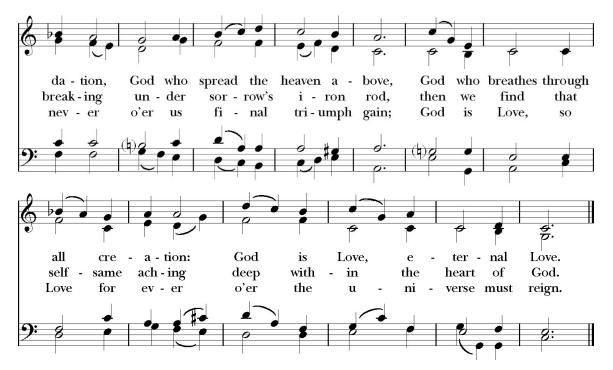
Ushers/Greeters: Liz Hengst, Jude Warren, Jimmy Parrott

Prelude

Greeting & Announcements

The people stand as they are able during the procession while the hymn is sung by the soloist.





Words: Timothy Rees

Tune: Abbot's Leigh

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Then the Celebrant continues

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

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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

All may be seated for the readings.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

[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 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People

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.

A Reading from the First Letter of St. 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

All stand as they are able.

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People 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.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All may be seated.

The Sermon Fr. Tom

All stand as they are able.

The Nicene Creed Page 358

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 - Form IV

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Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Rob, our diocesan bishop; and all bishops, priests, and deacons.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy **People Hear our prayer.**

Leader Guide the people of this land, especially Joe, our President; Roy, our Governor; and Don, our Mayor; and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy People Hear our prayer.

Leader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy People Hear our prayer.

Leader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those named on the parish prayer list; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy People Hear our prayer.

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died, [especially _____], that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy **People Hear our prayer.**

Leader In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Children & Youth of St. Mary's Church. Lord, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; As we pray for them, we also pray for those who minister with them, especially Liz Hengst our Family Ministry Coordinator, and for all ministry partners, especially those at Glory Ridge, Trinity Center, & Camp Trinity.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **People Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Prayers may be lifted aloud or in the silence of our hearts at this time.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you. People And also with you.

The Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

A collection basin is located at the entrance of the church where worshippers may, at their desired time, place offerings for Christ and His church.



Words: John Dryden

Tune: Surrey

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All stand as they are able.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

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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 him thanks and praise.

Then the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, 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 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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, the People stand or kneel

Holy 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.

On 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.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Ministration of Communion

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

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 baptized Christians are welcome to share in the banquet of the Lord's Supper. Please speak to the clergy if you would like to learn more about baptism and following Jesus as a baptized Christian. During this time, communion is shared in one kind (bread only). Anglican eucharistic theology has consistently taught that Christ is truly and fully present in either, the bread or the wine of communion. The full benefits of communion are available to the faithful in extra-ordinary circumstances when sharing both the bread and wine are not possible.

To receive communion, please stand where you are and a Eucharistic Minister will bring communion to you. Please wait until the minister has moved beyond six feet from you before adjusting your face covering to consume the bread.

If you would prefer to receive a prayer of blessing at this time, please continue to stand and as the clergy draws near, cross your arms across your chest to indicate your intention.

Please be seated after you have received communion or a blessing so the clergy can easily tell who still desires to receive communion or a blessing.

For those not wishing to receive communion, you are invited to pray this prayer of Spiritual Communion, adapted from the Armed Forces Prayer Book.

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I can not now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live and die in your love. Amen.

Communion Hymn

#298 "All who believe and are baptized" Es ist das Heil
#529 "In Christ there is no East or West" McKee

Postcommunion Prayer

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Let us pray.

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.

An Easter Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Fri.

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia! People

9am-Noon Fr. Tom's Office Hours

Closing Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule – May 2, 2021

Sun.	10:45am	Adult Christian Formation Series: Sunday Morning Stories
	10:45am	Children Sunday School (preK-5th grade)
	1:00 pm	Glory Ridge Informational Meeting (West Lawn)
	1:30 pm	Lasagnas of Love EYC Event (Kitchen in Moseley Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA meets in Moseley Hall
Tues.	8:30 am	Morning Prayer in the All Saints' Chapel
	9am-noon	Fr. Tom's Office Hours
	4:00 pm	ECW Bible Study: James
		(Moseley Hall or email <u>Pam Mazingo</u> for Zoom)
Wed.	7:00 am	Men's Morning Prayer Group - Email Gerry Fox for the Zoom link
	9am-noon	Fr. Tom's Office Hours
	2:00 pm	Parish Staff Meeting
Thurs	. 8:30 am	Morning Prayer in the All Saints' Chapel
	2-4:30 pm	Fr. Tom's Office Hours
	5:00 pm	Handbells Rehearsal

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SCHEDULE - Beginning this month, we will hold our 9:30am Sunday morning liturgy outdoors on the West Lawn on the 2nd & 4th Sundays. The 8am liturgy will continue to be held in the Chapel. In the event of inclement weather, the 9:30am liturgy will be held indoors. Our established pandemic-related safety measures for indoor and outdoor worship remain the same at this time. Please bring your chair or blanket - we look forward to this time together!

LAST CALL FOR GRADUATE INFORMATION! - Please don't delay in sharing your family's graduate information with Sherry Tanner (<u>stanner@stmaryskinston.com</u>), and plan to attend worship on Pentecost Sunday (May 23) during which we will also celebrate this milestone in our graduates' lives.

GLORY RIDGE INFORMATION - We are excited to share that St. Mary's will return to Glory Ridge this summer July 4th-9th!!! All interested middle & high schoolers with at least one parent, and any interested adult must attend an informational meeting today at 1pm in Moseley Hall. Contact Holly Warren (holly3799@hotmail.com) if this will not be possible for you.

LASAGNAS OF LOVE - The EYC will meet today at 1:30pm in Moseley Hall for its "Lasagnas of Love" event (there will not be a regular afternoon EYC gathering afterward.) If you are in need of a free hot meal at home or know someone who is, please contact Liz Hengst at linengst@stmaryskinston.com. The lasagnas will be available for pick up during church office hours while supplies last. Delivery available upon request. If you would like to support this event, please drop off Food Lion gift card donations to the church office or give them directly to Liz Hengst anytime.

MARY'S KITCHEN is in need of growing its volunteer teams for Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. Generally, this includes arriving at the kitchen by 8:30am, preparing and serving meals to guests, and cleaning up in time to depart by 11:45am. Please pray about whether God is calling you to be a part of this integral ministry in our city and contact Jim Godfrey with any questions or offers to help. Email him at maryskitchen@stmaryskinston.com or call 252-523-6146.

EASTER CHRISTIAN FORMATION SERIES - The resurrection is the most important moment in history, but it is more than an event we remember on Easter Sunday. **Join us each Sunday at 10:45am in person and via Zoom from Moseley Hall** as we take a deeper look at Jesus' life, death, and resurrection in the Gospel of Matthew, revealing ways we might see ourselves in Jesus' story.

FORWARD DAY BY DAY - The May-July edition of Forward Day by Day in small or large print is available now! Pick up your copy in person or call the church office and we will gladly mail one to you.

ECW EASTER SEASON BIBLE STUDY - The ECW study on the Book of James meets on Tuesdays at 4 pm in person in Moseley Hall (please contact Pam Mazingo if you would like to attend via Zoom). This book was written to encourage believers to endure and live bold Christian lives that reflect genuine faith. We look forward to this study and hope you will invite a friend and join us!

PRAYER REQUESTS can be shared with Fr. Tom through a confidential form on our website. Name, phone number, or email address aren't required, but are able to be shared for follow-up pastoral care. Find a link to the form in our Wednesday emails.

ECW FAITH FRIENDS - Consider joining FAITH FRIENDS, a group of ECW women making intentional personal connections by checking in on an assigned church member. Please contact Laury Sargeant (jsarg4@suddenlink.net) or Audra Haddad (5haddad@suddenlink.net).

ALL LITURGY SERVERS: Please be attentive to emails & messages from Ministry Scheduler Pro! If you have any questions about the schedule, please contact Gerry Fox at gfoxjr@gmail.com. The "live" schedule is available at: https://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/stmaryskinston/schedules/575299.

JOIN F3 OR FIA IN KINSTON! F3 (Fitness, Fellowship, Faith) and FiA (Females in Action) offer free, peer-led, outdoor workout groups for all men and women, respectively. Check out <u>f3kinston.com</u> or the <u>FiA Lenoir County Facebook</u> <u>page</u> to learn more. Fr. Tom or Stuart Stroud would be glad to share information about the workouts that are offered daily in and around Kinston.

SUPPORTING THE LIFE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH - We recognize the incredible impact of this pandemic on every facet of our lives and are grateful for the tithes and offerings that have continued to be sent by mail <u>and online</u>.

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: St. Mary's, Gatesville, Pamlico Deanery

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Scott Barwick, Fernando Escabi-Rodriguez, George Haddad, Sharon Veitch, Ana Wentz, Dennis Tracz

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Rekha and John John, Kathy and Sam Gilmore

Tom Warren Rector			
Sharon VeitchOrganist/Choirmaster			
Stuart StroudSenior Warden			
Jimmy BallardJunior Warden			
Jon SargeantTreasurer			
Audra HaddadClerk of the Vestry			
Lori KellyParish Administrator			
Liz HengstYouth/Families Ministry Coordinator			
Sherry TannerCommunications Director			
Jim GodfreyMary's Kitchen Director			
Cyndi RaffertyAltar Guild Chair			
Laury SargeantECW President			
Greg SmithSeminarian			

Vestry
2022
John John
Scott Turik
Dee Warner
Harry Wooten

2023 Skip Greene Audra Haddad Vicki Kennedy Pam Mazingo