



St. Francis

ANGLICAN PARISH

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

*Items in **bold** type are spoken or sung in unison. (†) indicates you may make the sign of the cross.*

Processional Hymn*I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord, p. 11*

Acclamation:

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The Collect for Purity

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 Summary of The Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

The Gloria in Excelsis

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 on 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 Collect of The Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Officiant 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, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the

eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:1-11

Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

sing the glory of his name;

give to him glorious praise!

Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

All the earth worships you

and sings praises to you;

they sing praises to your name.”

Come and see what God has done:

he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

He turned the sea into dry land;

they passed through the river on foot.

There did we rejoice in him,

who rules by his might forever,

whose eyes keep watch on the nations—

let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

Bless our God, O peoples;

let the sound of his praise be heard,

who has kept our soul among the living

and has not let our feet slip.

Second Reading

1 John 3:18-24

Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just

as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Refrain **Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**

Leader Now He is living, the Christ. Out of the tomb he has risen;
He has conquered death, opened heaven to all believers.

Refrain **Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**

Gospel

John 14:15-21

Celebrant The Holy Gospel (†) of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Hymn*I Love to Tell the Story, p. 12*

Homily

Fr. Matt Garrison

The Nicene Creed

**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, the life of the world to come. (†) Amen.

The Prayers of The People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, “hear our prayer.”

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.
Lord, in your mercy:

***People* Hear our prayer.**

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Foley, Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America; the person God will choose as the new Archbishop of the ACNA for this next season of the Church; Steven, Alan and Quigg, our Bishops; for all the clergy and people of our diocese, Christ Our Hope, and for our parish family at St. Francis. Lord, in your mercy:

***People* Hear our prayer.**

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others. Lord, in your mercy:

***People* Hear our prayer.**

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith, praying especially for Christians in Sudan. Lord, in your mercy:

***People* Hear our prayer.**

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service [especially _____ (p. 16)]. Lord, in your mercy:

***People* Hear our prayer.**

For all those who are in need of spiritual guidance and those in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially _____(p. 16)]. Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, [especially _____(p. 16)] in thanksgiving let us pray. Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution of Sin (*the people may kneel*)

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

The Bishop or Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon (†) and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with your spirit.**

Announcements (*See also p. 11*)

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Offertory

Celebrant All things come from you, O Lord,
People **And of your own have we given you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues

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:

The Sanctus

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

Prayer Of Consecration

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he

became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace. 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us (†) also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face. 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 forever. **Amen.**

The Fraction

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

The Lord's Prayer

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 Fraction

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

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Holy Communion*The Blessing/Revelation Song, p. 13*

The Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, 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 forever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn.....*Rejoice! The Lord Is King! p. 14*

The Dismissal

Announcements

- **WOULD YOU LIKE PRAYER for yourself or someone else?** Please see a prayer team member (folks at the back of the church with red badges) during communion or fill out a beige card and drop it in a red box after church.
- **NEXT MAN UP!** Saturday, May 11, at 8:00 a.m. in the Emmanuel Room.
- **BOOK FAIR:** Saturday, May 11, at 9:30 a.m. in the Emmanuel Room. Come pick up your next great read—for free! History, biographies, business, novels, devotionals, DIY.
- **MEN'S GROUP:** Monday, May 13, at 6:00 p.m. at Jon Kerley's (427 Hawk Road)

Mark Your Calendars

- **THE CHOSEN, Season 4:** We have purchased the rights to share this exceptional depiction of the life Jesus. We are scheduling both daytime and evening viewings. We will show episode 4 on **May 1, at 10:00 a.m.** with a brief discussion to follow. Then, on **Saturday, May 4,** we will show episodes 3 & 4 starting at **6:00 p.m.** We will provide pizza at that showing, so please sign up to be sure we have enough. If you haven't seen seasons 1-3, you can binge watch them for free on multiple streaming services—or just come! You will know the story!!
- **MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION:** 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday
- **CUOC FOOD PANTRY:** Drop off Wednesday from 5:30-6:00 p.m. in the Emmanuel Room.
- **THE LITTLE MERMAID** starring Emily and Cameron Hanna, directed by Audrey Hanna and written by Leslie Hanna is playing this Wednesday-Friday, May 1-3, at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 4, at 2:00 p.m. at Spiritual Twist Productions, 1250 Aversboro Road, Garner, NC. Make plans to see the delightful “spiritual twist” the Hanna family has given to this familiar tale.

Bible Studies

- **TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: The Gospel and Letters of the Apostle John** will meet May 7 & 21 and June 4 & 18.
- **WEDNESDAY EVENING YOUNG ADULT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Basses' home, 107 Oak Branch Lane.

I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

*I love to tell the story,
'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.*

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;
and that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.

*I love to tell the story,
'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.*

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy word.

*I love to tell the story,
'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.*

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

*I love to tell the story,
'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.*

I love to tell the story, #125 from *Voices Found* — Words: Katherine Hankey (1834-1911). Music: Hankey, William G. Fischer (1835-1910).

The Blessing

*The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make his face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn his
Face toward you
And give you peace*

Amen, Amen, Amen

May his favor be upon you,
And a thousand generations, and your
family and your children, and their
children,
And their children.

May his presence go before you,
And behind you, and beside you,
All around you and within you,
He is with you,
He is with you.

In the morning, in the evening,
In your coming and your going,
In your weeping and rejoicing,
He is for you,
He is for you.

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(Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Writer's Roof Publishing (Admin. by Capitol
CMG Publishing) Music by Elevation Worship Publishing (Admin. by Essential

Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain;
Holy, holy is He.
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat.

Chorus:

***Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.
Who was and is and is to come;
With all creation I sing praise to the King
of kings;
You are my everything and I will adore
You.***

Clothed in rainbows of living color;
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and
power be to You, the only wise King.

Chorus

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, at
the mention of Your name;
Jesus, Your name is power, breath and
living water,
Such a marvelous mystery.

Chorus

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Rejoice, the Lord is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore!
Mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore.

***Lift up your heart! lift up your voice!
Rejoice! again I say, rejoice!***

The Lord the Savior reigns,
the God of truth and love:
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above.

***Lift up your heart! lift up your voice!
Rejoice! again I say, rejoice!***

His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
to Christ the Lord are given.

***Lift up your heart! lift up your voice!
Rejoice! again I say, rejoice!***

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord the Judge shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home.

***Lift up your heart! lift up your voice!
Rejoice! again I say, rejoice!***

Those Serving Today

Intercessory Prayer	Dana Garrett
Greeter	Gary Jackson
Ushers	Dana Garrett & Mark Mahaffey
Crucifer	Isabella Oberkirsch
Book Bearer	Samuel Bonner
Lectors	Ron Hewett & EJ Oberkirsch
Chalice Bearers	Dianna Andrews & Phillip Lloyd
Nursery	Trina Garrison & Clahra Buswell
Coffee Hour	The McKinnises
Godly Play	Pam Kerley & Danielle Bass
Music Director	Audrey Hanna
Organist	Rosemary Parten
Altar Guild	Linda Bruce, Team Coordinator Emily Hewett, Charlene Jeffries, Rhonda Lloyd

Staff

Rector: Fr. Matthew Garrison—matt.garrison44@gmail.com
Pastoral Associate: Rev. Brian Teeter—bateeter@yahoo.com
Director of Student Ministries: Andrew Bass—andrewbass98@gmail.com
Director of Communications: Gordy Reese—greese.sfap@gmail.com
Bookkeeper: EJ Oberkirsch—oberkirsch@hotmail.com

Vestry

Through 2024: Jean Dabbs; Mark Mahaffey, Sr. Warden; Sarah Womack
Through 2025: Alex Bogaski, Amy Davis, Leslie Hanna
Through 2026: Roger Buswell; Jimmy Washburn, *Jr. Warden*; Larry Wicker

Office Hours: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday or by appointment.
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St. Francis Anglican Parish Prayer List

For the concerns weighing on the hearts and minds of members of this congregation:

Barbara Anderson	Dorothy Headen	Harold Moose
Sue Bailey	Charlotte Hill	Sandra Norris
*Bob Bennetts	Holly	Gene Pass
Ian Bristow	Jimmy Holt	Edwin Patterson
Bill Carver	Sam Holt	Barbara Perry
Hailley Chapman	Joey	Greg Poe
The Cosimo Family	Chris Johnson	Bill Ray
Gay Covolito	Kelly Keller	Stephanie Sellars
Cynthia	Scott Keller	Shane Sharpe
*Jean Dabbs	Chuck Kelly	Becky Smith
*Georgette Dempster	Raymond Kerley	Karen Smith
*Paul Dempster	Charline Kugler	*Mackenzie Stinson
*Mary Ann Dusenbury	Jo Lane	Charley Swing
*Helen Frechette	Michelle Leonhardt	Jimmy Tart
Gerald Galloway	The Light Family	*Jayne Taylor
*Joe Hanna	Lois	Judy Thompson
Lee Hawley	*Joyce Lloyd	Cindy White
Joey Hayes	Lucille Mitchell	*Charles Wick
Alex Haynes	Clay Moore	Ariana Williams
*Brian Haynes	Heather Moore	Amy & Gina Wood

***Member of St. Francis**

To add or remove a name from the prayer list, contact Peggy Nelson or Gordy Reese. Names will be removed after three weeks, but you may always contact Peggy or Gordy to extend the time.

Pray for those serving in our military all over the world: Corbin Andrews, Alex Bogaski, Roger Buswell, Fortune Egbulefu, Eliza, Ellis, Evan, Katherine Gladd, Noah Gibson, Dan Hardin, Garrett Hill, Ben Hodsdon, Shane Lawrence, Jim Makepeace, Matthew Pate, William Puckett, Lucas Rees, Devan Siler, Nick Stavlund, Dan Steiner, Mac Swingle, Trevor, Jason Williams

Pray for the departed: John Drescher, Charlie Hann, William Lane, Sara Mawyer

Altar Flowers were given by Bob Granger to the glory of God and in loving memory of Frances Granger.