



Fifth Day of Easter

April 28, 2024

WELCOME

to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Big Rapids, MI

Seeking every day to love God
with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and
to love our neighbors as ourselves.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Cadillac, MI

We strive to live out the Great
Commandment: To love the Lord with all
our heart, soul, and mind and to love our
neighbors as ourselves.

If you have a faith or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.

If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home,
we'd love to get to know you.

MORNING PRAYER, ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP

Opening Sentence

Officiant If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! *2 Corinthians 5:17*

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us confess our sins to God.

All God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter *All stand as able.*

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People And your glory all the day long.

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Antiphon

All Alleluia. Christ is risen. O come let us worship. Alleluia.

Christ our Passover

All Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
therefore let us keep the feast,
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.
Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.
Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, *
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

The Psalm: Psalm 22:24-30

Bulletin Insert

At the end of the Psalms all say

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

The Lessons *All sit as able. Texts found in the bulletin insert.*

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

After the reading:

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

First Canticle

Canticle H, A Song of Hosea

All Come, let us return to our God, *
who has torn us and will heal us.
God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, *
after two days revive us,
On the third day restore us, *
that in God's presence we may live.
Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, *
whose justice dawns like morning light,
its dawning as sure as the sunrise.
God's justice will come to us like a shower, *
like spring rains that water the earth.

Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

After the reading:

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Second Canticle

Canticle Q, A Song of Christ's Goodness

All Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you; *
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.
Often you weep over our sins and our pride, *
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgment.
You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, *
in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.
Jesus, by your dying, we are born to new life; *
by your anguish and labor we come forth in joy.
Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; *

through your gentleness, we find comfort in fear.
Your warmth gives life to the dead, *
your touch makes sinners righteous.
Lord Jesus, in your mercy, heal us; *
in your love and tenderness, remake us.
In your compassion, bring grace and forgiveness, *
for the beauty of heaven, may your love prepare us.

Third Reading

John 15:1-8

After the reading:

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Reflection *The reflection may be a time of silence, a homily, or reading of a text.*

The Apostles' Creed *Said by all, standing as able.*

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he
descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended
into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will
come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion
of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the
life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The people stand or kneel as able.

Officiant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffrages

Officiant Help us, O God our Savior;

People Deliver us and forgive us our sins.

Officiant Look upon your congregation;

People Give to your people the blessing of peace.

Officiant Declare your glory among the nations;

People And your wonders among all peoples.

Officiant Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

People Never forget the lives of your poor.

Officiant Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

People And your favor to those who are true of heart.

Officiant Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

People So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Collect of the Day

The officiant prays the collect of the day, found in the bulletin insert.

Intercessor Friends, there is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. So let us boldly pray to God, saying, “Loving God, **put your words in our hearts.**”

Great vine-grower, remove anything in your Church that hinders our love. May we abide in your Son Jesus. May he abide in us. We want to bear much fruit; we want to be disciples of your Son. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Skip, our Assisting Bishop; Nurya, our canon; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant. For the staff of our parishes; Church of the Mediator, Harbert – Darlene, Rector; St. John’s, Charlotte – Wendy, Priest-in-Charge. We pray for all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Barrett, Alex, Matt, Anne Marie, Abraham, John, Stephanie, Thon, Jess, Julianne, Rachel, Cathy, Kathryn, Kris, Johnathan, Theresa. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Mary, Deb, Laura, Jennifer, Christi, Paige. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence*

Loving God,

People Put your words in our hearts.

Intercessor Ruler of nations, under your reign the poor shall eat and be satisfied: make known your saving deeds to the ends of the earth. *Silence*
Loving God,

People Put your words in our hearts.

Intercessor We pray for those in positions of authority in our country and in the world, especially Joe, our president; Gretchen our governor; Carla, our mayor. *Silence*
Loving God,

People Put your words in our hearts.

Intercessor Creator God, you nourish our bodies and our spirits with the fruits of the vine. Give us eyes to see your presence in our world; give us words to witness to your goodness. *Silence*
Loving God,

People Put your words in our hearts.

Intercessor Good Teacher, you sent Philip to the Ethiopia so that he would be transformed by understanding: bless our local colleges and universities. Give wisdom and understanding to all those who teach and all those who learn. *Silence*
Loving God,

People Put your words in our hearts.

Intercessor O God, you are love. You love us so much. We pray for our siblings, especially those in great need. Increase our love for them; teach us empathy. Bless them with your healing touch. We pray for those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: Fred, Lynne, Leon, Carolyn, Erin, Larry & Therese, Connie & Mike, Jenn, Luke, DeeDee, Shanna, Sue, Larry, Zack, Pam, J.P., Thom, Jim; For those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Nan, Greg, Lorraine & Bob, Bill, Melissa & Scott, Lisa, Hunter, Bobby Jo & Harold, Beth, Bob & Sandra, Nicole; For our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Richard, Corey, Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Eli, Jess, Owen, Wesley; And for all those we name at this time. *Silence*
Loving God,

People Put your words in our hearts..

Intercessor Almighty God, who truly to know is everlasting life: May your love be an eternal abode for all your saints. *Silence*
Loving God,

People Put your words in our hearts.

Officiant 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.**

The General Thanksgiving

All Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

The Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

For a Birthday

Pew Card

For an Anniversary

BCP 431, first prayer

Travelers

BCP 831, #53

The Dismissal and Concluding Sentence

Officiant Let us bless the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Amen. Amen.

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20,21

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