



Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

410-666-2180

sherwoodcockeysville.org

Fifth Sunday in Easter
10 am

May 2, 2021
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Watch live on our Facebook page and our website at 10 am, and on our YouTube channel after the service.

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Air From *Water Music* Suite No 1
G.F. Handel

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

Please stand as you are able.

THE OPENING SENTENCES

BCP pg. 355

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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.**

GLORIA

The Tisbury Service - Richard Shephard



Glo - ry be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we
wor- ship thee, we glo- ri- fy thee, we give thanks to thee for
thy great glo- ry, O Lord God heav'n - ly King,
God the Fath- er Al- migh - ty. O Lord, the on - ly-be-
got-ten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Fath-er, that tak- est a way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. Thou that tak- est a way the sins of the world, re-
ceive our prayer. Thou that sit - test at the right hand of God the



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 22:24-30

Read responsively by whole verse

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.**

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE – 205, v. 3

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

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.**

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

THE NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 358

Said by all, standing as you are able.

**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 III

BCP pg. 387

Father, we pray for your holy catholic church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.
That they may be delivered from their distress.

We especially pray for those impacted by COVID-19 as well as those on our
parish prayer list: Sally, Debbie, Shannon, Jeff & Kim, Norma, Margaret, Ed,
Laura, Joyce, Christine, Mike and his family, Kendall, Marge, Sarah, Joe, Gail,
Steve W., Michelle, Joe G., Jay, Rick, Ella Mae, Steve & Debbie, Jeanetta,
Christina, Khalil, Charles, Samantha, Courtney, Debbie H., Danny, Allison,
Sandy & Jack, Jen, the Lawry family, Virginia, Susie H., the Alexander family,
Kiernan & Colleen, Walter S., Linda P., the Cromwell family, and the Serio
family.

We give you thanks for the blessings of this life, especially for those celebrating birthdays including Robin, Jack, and Kaitlyn.

Give to the departed eternal rest. We especially remember and give thanks for the life of Bonita Serio.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

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

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**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.**

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

THE PEACE

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

The people greet one another virtually with a sign of God's peace.

We continue to do God's work and your contributions of any size make a huge difference. You may now contribute online via our website. Go [here](http://sherwoodcokeysville.org/give) to check it out. (sherwoodcokeysville.org/give) Or if you would prefer, mail in your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cokeysville, 21030. We are checking the mail regularly and depositing any checks. Thank you!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY - 513

Like the murmur of the dove's song

1 Like the murmur of the dove's song,
like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush,
like the new flame's eager might:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

2 To the members of Christ's Body,
to the branches of the Vine,
to the Church in faith assembled,
to her midst as gift and sign:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

3 With the healing of division,
with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness,
with the peace beyond compare:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A – BCP pg. 361

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant offers thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available in Christ, and in response the people sing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

The Tisbury Service – Richard Shephard

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:

Heav'n and earth are full of thy Glo - ry. Glo - ry be to

If no Benedictus

thee, O Lord Most High. A - men.



The Celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prayers over the bread and wine.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic prayer and at the conclusion says

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 LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

The Celebrant says

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

AGNUS DEI

The Tisbury Service – Richard Shephard



O Lamb of God, that tak-est a way the
sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of
God, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, have
mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of God, that
tak-est a way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988)

Celebrant:

Let us say together the prayer for spiritual communion.

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Celebrant pronounces a blessing over the People, and the People respond, Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN - 296

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Alleluia!

2 We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ.
Alleluia!

3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God, the Three in One.
Alleluia!

4 A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing:
Alleluia!

THE DISMISSAL

As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our commitment to our mission as a congregation:

God commands us to enthusiastically cast open our doors to embrace all, impacting lives through bold service, no exceptions.

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude

The Wedding March – Felix Mendelssohn

For those with us in person today, communion will be offered following the service. Your usher will dismiss you from your pew.

Worship Participants from Studio Sherwood

Officiant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Music Director & Organist: Greg Sese

Cantor: Christa Beveridge

Lector: Loretta Cunninghame

Acolyte: Kevin Hennessey

Broadcast Engineer: Anne Wismer

Usher: Kevin Hennessey

Lay Participants for Sunday, May 9

Lector: Sheila Fitzgerald

Acolyte: Anne Wismer

Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts

Ushers: Bill & Karyn Galetto

Thank you for joining us for worship. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates and also remember to subscribe to our YouTube channel. If you are interested in receiving our e-newsletter, please contact Carey Mednick at sherwoodparish@gmail.com.

This Week at Sherwood & Upcoming Events

Monday

Office Closed

Wednesday

Mother Nancy in Office 10-3:30 Parker

Sunday

Graveside Service for Mary Cromwell @ 4 pm

Good Stewards of the Earth Needed:

The three churches on Sherwood Hill—Sherwood, Faith Lutheran and Basil AME—are forming a Green Team to combine our people power and commitment to being good stewards of our earth. This group is just forming so the opportunities are unlimited. If you have a love of nature, enjoy working in the garden, and are committed to maintaining the beauty of our environment, please join! We will be partnering with Interfaith Partnership for the Chesapeake. <https://www.interfaithchesapeake.org/> Interested? Contact Mother Nancy @ sherwoodrector@gmail.com or 301-606-8447 or Carey Mednick @ sherwoodparish@gmail.com or 410-666-2180.

Last Day to Drop Off Magazines is May 6:

The Baltimore International Seafarers Center addresses the needs of the 25 ship crews that arrive in Baltimore each week. Most of these men and women are still without shore leave--now over a year into the pandemic--so free magazines really make a difference to ease the downtime at sea. The seafarers also use magazines to practice their English. The Center is asking for donations of *Time*, *Sports Illustrated*, and *People* magazines that are no more than a few months old. Other magazines of interest include *Baltimore*, *Reader's Digest*, and car magazines--all of which may be a few years old. Copies of *National Geographic* are welcome and may even be older if they are in excellent condition. You may leave magazines in the blue bin on the parish office porch and we will arrange delivery. The deadline for this round of donations is May 6.

Do You Have Questions About Your Faith?

Most people do, and most find it challenging to get answers. Education for Ministry (EFM) was developed by the School of Theology in Sewanee, Tennessee, to provide a mechanism for people to work through those questions. This four-year course of study is led by mentors who provide the framework for the group to connect faith to their daily lives through reading and discussion.

Meeting once a week in a small group, you will begin to think theologically, reflect faithfully, and speak civilly when confronted by beliefs and principles in opposition to your own. By being an EfM participant, you will learn how to articulate your faith. You will learn how to shape your faith into action. You will become involved in ministries in your community, and you will make a difference.

Since the inception of this program in 1976, more than 95,000 people have participated in it. EfM groups meet regionally in nearly every diocese of The Episcopal Church, in six provinces of the Anglican Communion, and in virtual classrooms with participants from across the globe. We would love to have you join us.

An EfM group will convene online via Zoom beginning in September of 2021. We will meet weekly for approximately two hours via Zoom and we may meet in person quarterly. The program cost is \$380 dollars per year and includes program texts. If you are interested in joining a group, please contact Stephanie Hull at stephaniehull@comcast.net or Patricia Leach at sewingbee1956@gmail.com. For complete details, visit efm.sewanee.edu