

Fifth Sunday of Easter

INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN— **299**

Hymns Old & New

In the name of the Father,
and of ✠ the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All respond: Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.

You are the High Priest of the new Covenant.
Lord, have mercy.
℟. **Lord, have mercy.**

You build us as living stones in the temple of
God.
Christ, have mercy.
℟. **Christ, have mercy.**

You make us fellow-citizens with your saints.
Lord, have mercy.
℟. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us ✠ our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is sung.

**Glorify 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.**

All remain standing for the COLLECT.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year A

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55–60

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But the council cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

R/. Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

(All repeat)

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
Deliver me in your righteousness;
hear me and make haste to help me. R/.

Be a rock of refuge for me,
a mighty stronghold to save me,
for you are my rock, my stronghold;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me. R/.

Release me from the snares they have hidden,
for you are my tower of strength.
Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of
truth. R/.

Rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving kindness save me. R/.

SECOND READING

1 Pet 2.2–10

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone”, and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his

own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN—371

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14.6

Alleluia.

I am the way, the truth and the life, says the
Lord:
no-one comes to the Father except through me.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Jn 14.1–14

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:—

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that

I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

A SERMON *may follow.*

All *stand* to recite the NICENE CREED.

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,

(all bow) **was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

(all rise) **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 worshipped 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, and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

The INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all kneel. One of these responses may be used:

℣. Lord, hear us. ℞. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
or ℣. Lord, in your mercy, ℞. **Hear our prayer.**

At the Commemoration of the Departed:

℣. Rest eternal ✠ grant unto them, O Lord;
℞. **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The Intercessions may end:

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

All *stand* as the priest introduces the PEACE.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN— **423**

The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

O God, through the wonderful exchange of this sacrifice you have made us sharers in your own divine nature; grant that our daily lives may faithfully reflect the knowledge of your truth; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 PREFACE follows.

All respond with the **SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.**
**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.**

All kneel. After the Consecration, all acclaim:
Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying, you destroyed our death;
rising, you restored our life.**
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:
... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

RITE OF COMMUNION

The priest introduces 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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.
**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**
**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**
**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

The priest gives the **COMMUNION INVITATION.**
Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Holy Communion is distributed.

COMMUNION HYMN— **501**

The priest says the **POST-COMMUNION prayer.**
Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the
way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk
in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share
his risen life; who lives and reigns, now and
for ever. **Amen.**

CONCLUSION

The priest gives the **BLESSING and DISMISSAL.**
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

... The blessing of God almighty, the Father,
the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among
you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

RECESSIONAL HYMN— **69**

The service may be followed by **REGINA CÆLI.**
**Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia:
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia,
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia.**
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia.

∇. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia:
℣. **For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.**

Let us pray. O God, who by the resurrection
of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, brought
joy to the whole world: grant, we pray, that
through the intercession of his mother the
Virgin Mary, we may lay hold of the joys of
eternal life; through the same Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

3.5.26