



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
BURNET, TEXAS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 2, 2021

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn 512 *Mendon*

1 Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove, with light and comfort from above;
be thou our guardian, thou our guide o'er every thought and step preside.

2 The light of truth to us display, and make us know and choose thy way;
plant holy fear in every heart, that we from thee may ne'er depart.

3 Lead us to Christ, the living way, nor let us from his precepts stray;
lead us to holiness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.

4 Lead us to heaven, that we may share fullness of joy for ever there;
lead us to God, our final rest, to be with him for ever blest.

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Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Celebrant says

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 following is sung by all (setting is S280 in the hymnal)

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.

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.*

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm 22.24-30 *Deus, Deus, meus*

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 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 379 *Abbot's Leigh*

1 God is Love, let heav'n adore him; God is Love: let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him, and exalt him with one voice.
God who laid the earth's foundation, God who spread the heav'ns above,
God who breathes through all creation, God is Love, eternal Love.

2 God is Love; and Love enfolds us, all the world in one embrace:
with unfailing grasp God holds us, every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow's iron rod,
then we find that selfsame aching, deep within the heart of God.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John. (15.1-8)

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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

3 God is Love; and though with blindness sin afflicts all human life,
God's eternal loving-kindness guides us through our earthly strife.
Sin and death and hell shall never o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever o'er the universe must reign.

The Sermon

The Right Reverend C. Andrew Doyle

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:
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.

Prayers of the People, Form II

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Michael; for our Bishops Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai; for our priest Michael; for our missionary Jeannie; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Barbara Caster; Philip, Duke of Edinburgh; Thomas Addison Buckner; Connor Lyle; Michael Montague and all who have died from the coronavirus, and for all who mourn their passing.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for

John	Allan	Kenyon	Ann	Charles	Brooks
Nancy	James	Sarah	Ginny	Patty	Ed
Morgan	Victoria	Lynne	Lindsey	Alice	Degeyter family

David	Christian	Carol	Ellie	Glenda	William
Judy	Patrick	Tyler	Tom	Leah	Bailey family
Bob	Dale	Merle	Shelly	Greg	Sid and his family
Karen	Donna	Shereese	Carol	Jackie	Betty
Leslie	June	Miranda	Gayle	Donald	Bonnie & Ed
Sherrill	Molly	Katelyn	Rashunda	RG	Sherry
Bobbie	George	Dianne	Carolyn	Robyn	Norman
Marianne	Jo	Jill	Virginia	Joe	Winifred
Cecile	Melissa	Dallas	Mary	Maureen	Ryan
Jim	Linda	Oscar	Roberta	Easton	
Susan	John	Kiran	Women in the Hutto facility		

I ask your prayers for all who serve in the military, especially

Brian	James	Kevin	Jarrold	Bryan	All in harm's way
Eric	Trever	Jonathan	Chris	John Wesley	

I ask your prayers for all who are traveling this week.

I ask your thanksgiving for Mark Milanovich (5/2), Joe Rose (5/5), and César Arreaza (5/8) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

I invite your prayers or thanksgivings at this time.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant concludes with following collect

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Blessing

The Reverend Michael Long

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.

Hymn 529 McKee

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in him no South or North,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

2 Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as his child is surely kin to me.

3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in him meet South and North,
all Christly souls are one in him, throughout the whole wide earth.

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

- **Lay Readers this morning** are Rachel Bryson and RG Guthrie.
- **LA Care and the Community Kitchen** have ongoing needs. Epiphany maintains the Community Kitchen the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month.
- **Bulletin and E-Star deadlines**—Tuesday, 9 am. Contact Dianne Williams in the parish office with news or updates.

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Our mission: To be part of God's family, growing through worship and ministry by sharing Christ's love with our community and beyond. Vision: to be a place where people find God's purpose for their lives and become empowered by the Holy Spirit to make a difference in God's world.

Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Michael Long
Senior Warden	Linda Myers (Term ends 2023)
Junior Warden	JJ Gonzales (2022)
Vestry Member	Sandy Arrington (2022)
Vestry Member	Otis Maclay (2022)
Vestry Member	Diane Langley (2023)
Vestry Member	Margaret Thomas (2023)
Vestry Member	Rachel Bryson (2024)
Vestry Member	Ryan (RG) Guthrie (2024)
Vestry Member	Sherry Musgrove (2024)
Treasurer	Diane Hays
Missionary	Jeannie Loving
Acolyte Co-Directors	Bill Drake, Kathleen Broad
Music Directors	Otis Maclay, Mike Kelley
Saint Anne's Guild	Carol Weathers
Altar Guild	Carol Weathers, Diane Hays
Daughters of the King	Sandy Arrington
Sunday School Director	Nancy Heuss
Editor of the E-Star, weekly newsletter	Dianne Williams
Parish Secretary/Office Manager	Dianne Williams