

Morning Worship Online – 2nd May 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Words of Welcome – Adam

I. The Introduction

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

This is the day that the Lord has made:

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence, to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his word, to bring before him the needs of the world and to seek his grace, that, through his Son, Jesus Christ, we may give ourselves to his service.

Jesus said: 'The first commandment is: "Listen Israel! The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.'

Silence

Let us confess our sins to the Father and seek his pardon and peace.

**Almighty and merciful God,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with all our heart;
and we have not loved others as Christ loves us.**

We are truly sorry.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Help us to amend our lives;

that we may delight in your will

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you and set you free from sin,

strengthen you in goodness and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.
We come because we seek to abide in Christ.

The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.
We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, productive.

If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.
We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.

We gather for worship now to the glory of the One God:
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.
May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.

*~ written by Joanna Harader (2011) and posted on **Spacious Faith.***

2. *The Ministry of the Word*

Hymn – Jesus be the centre (BandLab)

Reading – John 15:1-8 (NIV)

The Vine and the Branches

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes and cleans so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon – Gareth

A Baptismal Creed

**I believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist.**

**I believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again.**

**I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world.**

**This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

3. *Prayers – Adam*

Concluding with...

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us...

**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.**

Collect for Fifth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

4. *Conclusion*

Go now, and love one another,
because love is from God.
Proclaim God's salvation to every generation.
Remain in Jesus Christ,
and like branches of a vine, draw your life from him.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Farewell Words – Adam

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

Final Hymn – All for Jesus (choir of St John's, Maindee in Newport)