

# STAYING CONNECTED TO CHRIST



The Fifth Week of Easter
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024



# We're so glad you're here.



At Church of the Savior, our vision is to grow in "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life." We hope you sense God's presence and our warm welcome. We'd love to meet you in the foyer after the service.

--Fr. Kevin and Mtr. Karen

About Our Worship: We use an Anglican liturgy. Liturgy simply means that everyone gets to participate, so please join in as you feel comfortable.

Children's Worship: Nursery is available for children 6 months through 4 years. Children's Worship rooms are available for children Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, and 3rd to 5th Grade. You may choose to keep children with your family, and coloring pages will be available to all.

**Assisted Listening or Noise Cancelling Headphones**: Pick up a loop in the livestream booth (the door to the right of the fireplace in the Fireside Room). An usher can guide you there. Noise cancelling headphones are available at the info table for those who might be sensitive to noise.

Today We Enter the Fifth Week of Our Eastertide Celebration. We continue to rejoice over Christ's resurrection from the dead, over his defeat of sin, evil, and death. Even as we live in a world where Christ's victory has not yet been fully realized, our Gospel readings this season remind us that Jesus has given his church many gifts as we live into the reality of God's coming kingdom.

**Want to Stay in Touch?** Let us know how at FriendsOf The Savior.org/visitor

# THE WORD OF GOD

### PRELUDE & WELCOME

You may stand.

# Let the Whole Creation Cry

Let the whole creation cry,
"Glory to the Lord on high!"
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing,
"God is good and therefore King!"
Praise Him, angel hosts above,
ever bright and fair in love;
sun and moon, lift up your voice,
night and stars, in God rejoice!

Warriors fighting for the Lord, prophets burning with His Word, those to whom the arts belong, add their voices to the song. Kings of knowledge and of law, to the glorious circle draw; all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"

Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem manifold, and let children's happy hearts in this worship bear their parts; from the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll: "Holy, holy, holy One, glory be to God alone!"

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Officiant: Let us pray.

All: 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.

### Hosanna

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You; we turn to You. Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You; we long for You.

'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day; In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away. Hosanna! Hosanna! You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises. Hosanna! Hosanna! Come have Your way among us, We welcome You here, Lord Jesus.

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You; we turn to You. In Your kingdom, broken lives are made new; You make us new.

Children from kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the acolyte to Children's Worship during the next song.

### **GLORIA**



### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Officiant: 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 LESSON

**ACTS 8:26-40** 

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means "queen of the Ethiopians"). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

<sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.

<sup>31</sup> "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

<sup>32</sup> This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking

about, himself or someone else?" <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup> As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

## THE PSALM

**PSALM 22:24-30** 

- <sup>24</sup> 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!"
- <sup>26</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \* and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- <sup>27</sup> For kingship belongs to the Lord; \* he rules over the nations.
- <sup>28</sup> To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \* all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- <sup>29</sup> My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; \* they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \* the saving deeds that he has done.

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

<sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

### **ALLELUIA**

You may stand.



THE GOSPEL JOHN 15:1-8

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>1</sup> "I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. <sup>3</sup> You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup> "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. <sup>7</sup> But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! <sup>8</sup> When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### **ALLELUIA**

Please be seated.

### THE SERMON



**Staying Connected to Christ** Karen Miller Associate Rector

We take a few minutes of silence to reflect, pray, and listen for what God may be saying.

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#### THE NICENE CREED

You may stand.

All: 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

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

The celebrant concludes the Prayers of the People.

### THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please sit or kneel for a time of silence.

All: 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.

Officiant: 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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

At this time, parents should pick up their children from the nursery and children's worship.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please be seated.

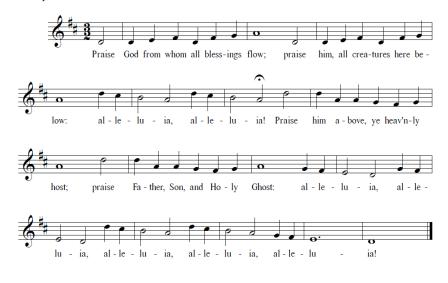
Celebrant: Let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.

# THE OFFERTORY

# I Am the Vine



You may stand.



### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Celebrant: Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

#### Sanctus



Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: ris Christ has died. Christ is en. Christ will\_ gain. le - lu - ia. come

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

> Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body of your Son, the holy food of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

All: 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 for ever. Amen.

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Officiant: Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us:



### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please join us for Communion: all who are baptized and seeking to follow Jesus are welcome. If that doesn't describe you, simply say "Blessing," or cross your arms, and the minister distributing bread will pray a short prayer for God's favor on your life. The first tray contains wine; the second contains grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Ushers will release you row by row, beginning with the Fireside Room.

If you would like to receive prayer, a prayer minister will be available on the pulpit side of the sanctuary

# Sing Allelu

Grace pouring forth like a fountain flowing Our hearts open wide to sing Your praise. And our sound becomes sweet With Your anthems ringing Praise to the name of the Lord.

Sing Allelu, sing Allelu, We rejoice in Your love Most High! Sing Allelu, sing Allelu, In Your light You shine forever, Shine in us, O Lord, forever, We're the light to the world, Allelu!

Let us who are afraid find refuge in Christ And redemption assured in His name. By day and by night we delight in Your love And forever Your Word will remain.

# Holy Is the Lord

We stand and lift up our hands, for the joy of the Lord is our strength. We bow down and worship Him now. How great, how awesome is He.

And together we sing, Ev'ryone sing.

Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The earth is filled with His glory. Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The earth is filled with His glory. The earth is filled with His glory.

It is rising up all around. It's the anthem of the Lord's renown. It's rising up all around. It's the anthem of the Lord's renown.

# **Mighty To Save**

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures. Fill my life again. I give my life to follow, ev'rything I believe in. Now I surrender.

Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save. Forever, Author of salvation. He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave.

Shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing for the glory of the risen King. Jesus.
Shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

# Yesu Azali Awa: Jesus is Here With Us

Yesu azali awa, Yesu azali awa, Yesu azali awa; na biso.

Jesus Christ is with us, Jesus Christ is with us, Jesus Christ is with us; He is here.

Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, na Yesu (he is here). Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, na Yesu (he is here). Officiant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE BLESSING

Officiant: All our problems

All: We send to the cross of Christ.

Officiant: All our difficulties

All: We send to the cross of Christ.

Officiant: All the devil's works

All: We send to the cross of Christ.

Officiant: All our hopes

All: We set on the risen Christ.

Officiant: Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path: and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and

remain with you always.

You may be seated for announcements.

### RECESSIONAL

### **Celtic Benediction**

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,

Wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness,

Protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you,

May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

#### THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go forth in the name of the risen Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **Journey Into Savior:**

If you are new-ish to Savior, or want to learn more about the church and about Anglicanism, mark your calendars for our next "Journey into Savior" class. It will take place Tuesday, April 16, from 6-9pm, at Fr. Kevin and Mr. Karen's home. A pizza dinner will be served. Contact Fr. Kevin if you are interested in attending, or have questions!

# Prayer & Picnic in the Park

Join us Sunday, June 2nd, for breakfast in the great outdoors, along with morning prayer. Blackwell Forest Preserve, East Shelter, 8:30am.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Nursery & Children's Worship:** We provide Nursery for children 6 months through 4 years and two Children's Worship classes. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade may attend Young Children in Worship, and 3rd to 5th Grade may attend Following Jesus.

**Youth Group:** Fun event tonight after the service to celebrate the end of the school year—dinner included—6.30-8.30pm. Summer schedule coming soon!

### **EASTERTIDE SERMON SERIES**

April 6- Linda Richardson, "Antidote for Doubt"

April 13 - Bishop Brian Wallace, Psalm 131, "The Story, the Rest and the Hope of God"

April 20 - Kevin Miller, "Following a God I Can't See"

April 27- Karen Miller, "Staying Connected to Christ"

May 4 - Kevin Miller, "I'm Your Friend"

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Have a question about your donation? Or about something in the budget? Email our bookkeeper, Joy Green: joy@friendsofthesavior.org

This Year's Giving Goal: \$343,250

Financials not available at time of printing.

# **Donations to Church of the Savior:**

☑ Church of the Savior, PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187

friendsofthesavior.org/giving

# MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Altar & Acolytes Sandy Oyler Audio Visual Team Erik Peterson Care Coordination kevin@friendsofthesavior.org College Ministry Sarah Lindsay Intercessory Prayer sheri.l.abel@gmail.com Cara Peterson Meals Ministry Prayer and Communion Mari Mead Prayers of the People Deb Nickerson Scripture Readers Hope Grant Setup Angel Gonzalez Welcome Team Gayle Koehler

To ask about a ministry or volunteer to get involved, please talk with its leader (emails are found at friendsofthesavior.org/serve) or with Pastor Sarah Lindsay (sarah@friendsofthesavior.org).

#### STAFF

Rector: Kevin Miller
Associate Rector: Karen Miller
Pastor of Family Ministries: Mary Gonzalez
Pastor of Music and Worship: John Rakes
Pastor of Adult Formation: Sarah Lindsay
Director of Communications: Caprice Miller
Financial Assistant: Joy Green
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## **ASSISTING CLERGY**

Bill Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired Linda Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired

