

ST NICHOLAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH, HELSINKI

A diverse and inclusive community of Word and Sacrament

Sung Eucharist, 2nd May, Fifth Sunday of Easter

THE GATHERING

Let us proceed in peace. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

HYMN: 241 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing
--

STAND

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life, alleluia! And I will raise them up on the last day, alleluia, alleluia! (*John 6.40*)

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.

Prayers of Penitence

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Silence is kept

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The President declares absolution.

Kyrie  Lord, have mer - cy;



Lord, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy;



Christ, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria  Glo - ry to God in the



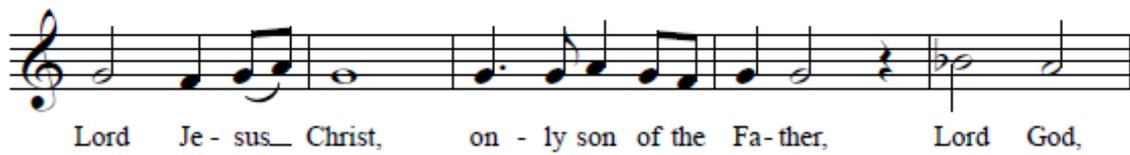
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav'n - ly King, al - migh - ty God. and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



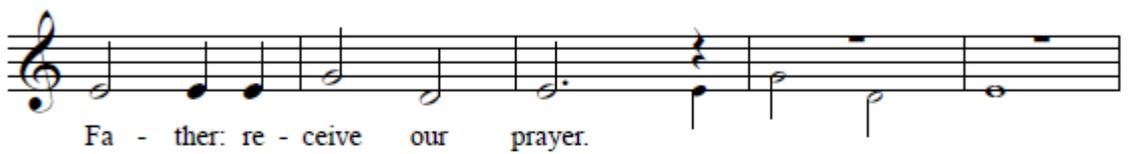
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy



on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



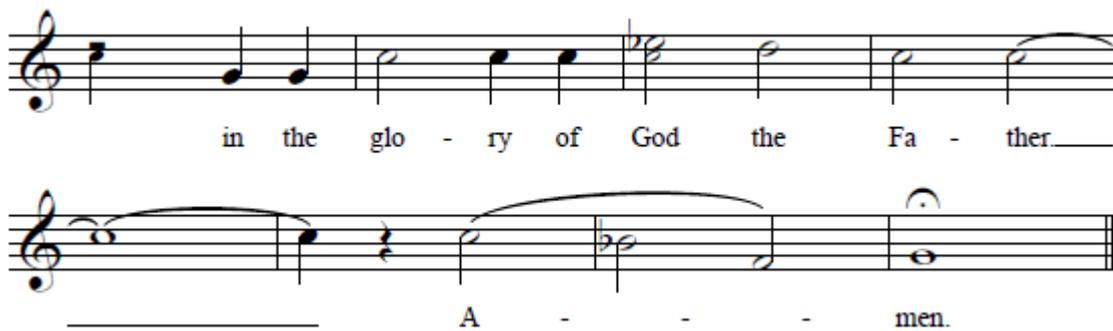
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,



you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus



Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,



The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding. The Collect is said.

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.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD *SIT*

FIRST READING: Acts 8.26-40
Read by Jane Johnson

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 22.25-31

Sung by the Choir

25 My praise is of thee in the great congregation *
my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.

26 The poor shall eat, and be satisfied *
they that seek after the Lord shall praise him; your heart shall live for ever.

27 All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned unto the Lord *
and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before him.

28 For the kingdom is the Lord's *
and he is the Governor among the people.

29 All such as be fat upon earth *
have eaten, and worshipped.

30 All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him *
and no man hath quickened his own soul.

31 My seed shall serve him *
they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation.

EPISTLE:1 John 4.7-21

Read by Lia Edwards

A reading from the first epistle of St John

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 Saviour 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 judgement, 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN: 205 Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

STAND

GOSPEL: John 15.1-8

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

You did not choose me but I chose you, says the Lord, and I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. (*John 15.16*)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

ANTHEM: Uni Caritas by Maurice Duruflé

Choir

The Nicene Creed
STAND

**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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
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.**

Prayers of Intercession

The response to the petition

Lord, in your mercy is
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT **STAND**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

OFFERTORY HYMN: 723 We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died	STAND
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During this hymn, a collection is taken to support the continuing mission of the Chaplaincy. The Chaplaincy does not benefit from 'church tax'.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Gracious God,
you show us your way and give us your divine life:
may everything we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth
we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you



And_ al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts.



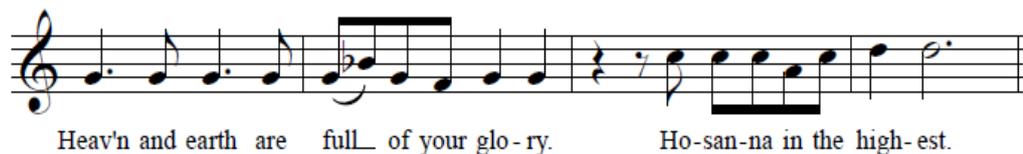
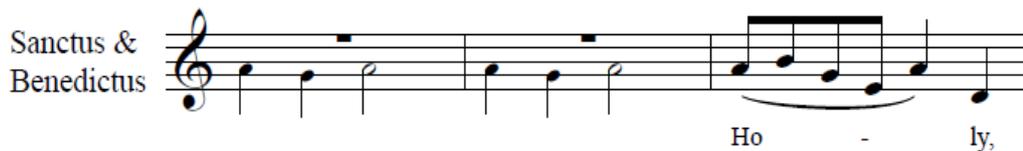
We lift_____ them to_____ the Lord._

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God



It is right_____ to give thanks_ and praise.____

The president praises God for his mighty acts and all respond:



The president recalls the Last Supper, and the following acclamation is used

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology, to which all respond boldly, either:

Amen.

Or:

...in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power

be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

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.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,

because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have
mer - cy on us. Je - sus bear-er of our sins: have
mer - cy on us. Je - sus, re-deem-er of the
world: grant us your peace.

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to communion:

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

**We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us.
Amen.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: 714 Deck thyself, My Soul, with Gladness Choir
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The president and people receive communion. The Church of England invites to Holy Communion all baptised persons who are communicant members of other Churches which subscribe to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, and who are in good standing in their own Church. Those who are prevented by conscience or the rules of their own Churches from receiving the Blessed Sacrament are invited to receive a blessing. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: 714 We Hail Thy Presence Glorious SIT
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I am the way and the truth and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father except through me, alleluia! (*John 14.6*)

Silence is kept.

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 is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

STAND

**Almighty God,
 we thank you for feeding us
 with the body and blood
 of your Son Jesus Christ.
 Through him we offer you
 our souls and bodies
 to be a living sacrifice.
 Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work
 to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**THE DISMISSAL
 Blessing**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal 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.

Some brief announcements may be made by the president

Go in peace Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: 217 God is Love: Let Heaven Adore Him ABBOT'S LEIGH STAND

The ministers and people depart.

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