



Calvary Episcopal Church  
The Fifth Sunday of Easter  
April 28, 2024

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**Prelude** – *Morning Has Broken*

setting by Franklin D. Ashdown

**Opening Hymn** – *Love divine, all loves excelling*

#657 Hymnal 1982

**Collect of the Day:** 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.**

*Lector*            A Reading from the Book of Acts [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.

*Lector* Hear what the spirit is saying to the churches  
*People* **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 22:24-30**

- 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.**

*Lector* A Reading from the First Epistle 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.

*Lector* Hear what the spirit is saying to the churches  
*People* **Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Hymn** - *Like the murmur of the dove's song* #513 Hymnal 1982

*Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to 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."

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**Anthem** - *Break Forth in Joy* Richard Harrison Smith

*He has come forth from death's dark prison, to reign with God the Father above.  
As He foretold, our Lord has risen, and saves us by His infinite love.  
"Where I am going," said he, "You cannot come and follow me.  
But I will see you again, to show I am God's way to man."  
And then they nailed him to the tree, that he might rise to set us free!  
Break forth in joy all Christ's believers, for now death holds no power o'er you.  
Now as the Holy Ghost's receivers, give out God's message ever new.  
Break forth in joy! Break forth in joy! Hallelujah!*

**Communion Hymns**

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life* #487 Hymnal 1982  
*Where charity and love prevail* #581 Hymnal 1982

**Closing Hymn** - *We know that Christ is raised and dies no more* #296 Hymnal 1982

**Postlude** - *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* setting by David Lasky

## Participants in the Service

*Preacher/Presider* The Rev. J. Clarkson

*Deacon* The Rev. Jacqueline Combs

*Lector* 8:00 – Tom Best

10:30 – Bob Robbins

*Chalice* 8:00 – Glenda Davis

10:30 – Jenn Hall and Lee Smith

*Almoner* 8:00 – Ann Wait

10:30 – Jimmie King and Fred Edwards

*Greeters* 8:00 – Todd & Becky Donatelli

10:30 – David Reece and Barry King

*Altar Guild* – Noyes Team

## Birthdays

Alex Burt (5/2)

*If you would like to add your birthday to our list, please email Abby at [asuarez@calvaryfletcher.org](mailto:asuarez@calvaryfletcher.org).*

*The flowers which beautify our reredos and the Sanctuary candle which symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit can be presented in honor or memory of someone. To do so, you may fill out the form [online](#), or email [asuarez@calvaryfletcher.org](mailto:asuarez@calvaryfletcher.org).*

## Announcements

### This Week:

Wed., April 24 – 10:00 a.m. Healing Eucharist

Thu., May 2 – 10:30 a.m. Daughters of the King

### Further Ahead:

Wed., May 8 – 5:00 p.m. Calvary Food Pantry 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

CALVARY FOOD PANTRY

# 15th Anniversary Celebration


WED 8 MAY

BLESSING OF THE GARDENS: 5 PM

CELEBRATION DINNER: 6 PM

A Rogation Day procession will begin at the labyrinth at 5:00, followed by dinner in the Parish Hall. RSVP for dinner via the sign-up sheets (where available) or by emailing:

[welcome@calvaryfletcher.org](mailto:welcome@calvaryfletcher.org)



Live music by  
"Audy and the  
Gang"

Dear Calvary Episcopal Church,

Next month I'll be moving in a safe and secure Habitat Home to call my very own Home-Sweet-Home. It is such a blessing and was made possible by the generous prayers, donations, and volunteers of the congregation.

I wish to thank each and every member for their contribution - donors, volunteers, and leaders. Thank you so much! My house will always remind me of the love of the community of God.



Cheerfully in Christ,  
Erika Leon

## News from the Calvary Food Pantry & The Lord's Acre Garden



**April 20, 2024, Calvary Food Pantry** -- This Saturday was another busy morning in the pantry as we served 132 Households comprising 469 individuals. We welcomed 4 new Households having 12 members. Through 16 weeks we have served 173 more households and 7,027 individuals compared to 2003.

**Exciting news - May 8th. Save the date.**

We will be celebrating two milestones as part of Rogation Day.

- (1) We will be blessing the pantry garden and celebrating its second anniversary

- of operation, andW  
(2) We will also recognize the Fifteenth anniversary of Pantry operation.

The Blessing of the garden will commence at 5PM with a Rogation Day procession starting at the labyrinth. There will be a Celebration Dinner at 6PM in the Parish Hall.

RSVP if you plan to attend the dinner by signing up on the available sheets in the pantry or emailing [welcome@calavryfletcher.org](mailto:welcome@calavryfletcher.org).

On behalf of the Executive Committee, we continue to thank our volunteers and our area churches, civic groups, local merchants, and families for all you do to feed our community by helping to reduce food insecurity. We thank you and appreciate your food and monetary donations.

For The Executive Committee,  
Fred Yopps, [fyoppsCECFP@gmail.com](mailto:fyoppsCECFP@gmail.com)

**April 23, 2024, The Lord's Acre of Fletcher** – *All Hands Needed Thursday, 4:30* Thursday (4/25) we'll plant 100 tomatoes and pick our first spring harvest of collards, a favorite of pantry neighbors they get from no other provider. If you've wondered when you might start work in the Lord's Acre, this is your week! No experience is necessary. All you need is a willingness to get your hands dirty next to other volunteers willing to do the same.

*Family Time in the Lord's Acre* Thanks to the Boberg family for spending weekly time in the garden. They are great workers. If you cannot join us Thursday evenings but would like to work in the garden, let Doug know. He'll give you a task and a time to suit you. (Contact info below.)

*All Earth Sings* Christians are in the Easter season. And gardeners are attending to the beauty and new growth of spring. Christian gardeners are in a "good place" right now. In that spirit, I share this verse from a hymn "Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded", text by Delores Dufner.

*Day of delight and beauty unbounded, tell the new, the gospel spread!  
Day of all wonder, day of all splendor, praise Christ risen from the dead!  
Song of the sun from darkness appearing; sing of seed from barren earth greening;  
sing of creation, alleluia!*

--Doug Kearney, [wdkearney@gmail.com](mailto:wdkearney@gmail.com)

## **Calvary Prayer List**

**Immediate Concerns** – Joyce Barrier, James Lewis, Dab Bowles, Janet Young, Brenda Youngblood, Kathy Ward, Michelle Kilby, Carl Gittings, David Sailer, Anne Rodgers,

Elizabeth Pritchett, Paula Knezha, Diana Walgreen, Sharm and Randy, Wade Austin and Family, Carol Bjorlie, Calvin Bayne, Donna Miller, Tim Nunez, Ethel, Jackie Collison, Jimmy Hall, Scott Breiner, Carol Lancaster

**Ongoing Prayer Requests** - Pam Lyding, Cameron Furlow, Irene Bishop, Peggy Smith, Dale Abeling, Pam Lyding, Cameron Furlow, Irene Bishop, Peggy Smith, Dale Abeling, Kay & Steve Nesbitt, Victoria Loftin, Herb Dawkins, Harold Dawkins, Rusty Wagstaff, Steve Smith, Alice Smith, Phoebe Romine McLeod, Hazel Romine, Brenda Vinson, Sharon Chalmers, Janet Kuykendall, Tanya Burdette, Ken Joyner, Charlie Collier

**Those Who Put Themselves in Harm's Way on Our Behalf** - Brian Hughes, Jonathan Robbins, Phil Williams, John Presley, Jimmy Hall, Lane Thomas, Kameron Buchanan, Jonah Fore, Anabell Motley, Gregory Motley

### **Please Help Keep Us Informed**

If your address, phone number or e-mail address has changed recently please e-mail Abby Suarez at [asuarez@calvaryfletcher.org](mailto:asuarez@calvaryfletcher.org) or call 828-552-8080. Thank you! If you would like a copy of the most updated Parish Directory, please also ask Abby.