

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

2 May 2021

## HYMNS

Ps Sharon at Anglesea

Fr Irwin at Torquay No projector  
books can be used

Taize 6 pm Torquay

## SENTENCE

In this is love, not that we loved God  
but that God loved us. Beloved,  
since God loved us so much, we also  
ought to love one another.

## COLLECT

O God, form the minds of your faithful people,  
that we may love what you command and desire what you promise,  
so that, amid the many changes of this world,  
our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## READINGS

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Then 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.

Acts8:26-40

We say the verses from Psalm 22 alternately:

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; I will perform my vows in the presence of those that fear you.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord shall praise him; their hearts shall live for ever.**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

**For the kingdom is the Lord’s and he rules over the nations.**

How can those who sleep in the earth bow down in worship, or those who go down to the dust kneel before him?

**He has saved my life for himself; my descendants shall serve him; this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.**

They shall come and make known his salvation, to a people yet unborn, declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

*Psalm 22.26-32*

A reading from John’s first letter:

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. And this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming; and now it is already in the world. Little children, you are from God, and have conquered them; for the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore what they say is from the world, and the world listens to them.

We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us, and whoever is not from God does not listen to us. From this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

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 sisters or brothers, are liars; for those who do not love a sister or brother 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 sisters and brothers also.

*1 John 4.1-21*

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

**Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus said: '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.'

*John 15.1-8*

This is the Gospel of the Lord,      **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## PRAYERS

**Anglican Church:** The Nippon Sei Ko Kai; Theological Colleges, Church Schools & Church Kindergartens; Ministries to Youth; Parish of Oakleigh - Holy Trinity & Emmanuel (Colleen Arnold-Moore);      St Luke's Frankston - Pastoral Service (Bp Paul Barker); RAFT Anglican Church Rowville - Confirmation Service (Bp Paul Barker); St John's East Malvern - Pastoral Service (Bp Genieve Blackwell).

**Parish:** Give thanks for those who support our parish life: the Op Shop team, Maintenance committee, the Parish Treasurer and office support, and those who contribute through rostered help at each centre; and pray that they do this all in the name of Jesus, who called people to serve others.

**For the sick & in need, and those who have ongoing need for strength, courage and peace of heart, mind and soul in their journey:** Keiran & Paul, Gail L, Fiona T, Sally N, Joan B, John & Barbara B, Alec & Deirdre B, Wendy B, Jenny S, Jane M, Boris Z, Judy B, Pauline R, Elizabeth N, Norma M, Tina M, Rosalind B, Terry M, Lorraine D, Ian B, Ray W and those known to us in need of our prayers.

### Year's Mind

1st Dorothy Luke (1997)

6th Fred Tarn (2012)

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

6th Helen Drury

7th Brian & Judy Moore