

Year B Easter 5 28 April 2024

Collect

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,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

The reading from Acts

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.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silence follows the reading*

Psalm 22. 25-31

From you comes my praise

in the great / congrega/tion :

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 be/fore 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 be/fore him?

He has saved my life for himself;

my des/cendants shall / serve him :

this shall be told of the Lord

for / gene/rations to / come.

They shall come and make known his salvation,

to a people / yet un/born :

declaring that / he, the / Lord, has / done it.



Alleluia, alleluia  
I am the first and the last, says the Lord,  
and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.  
Alleluia

John 15. 1-8

'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.



**The next listening & discernment sessions for the future of the Ministry Area is on:-**

Monday 29 April  
11:00 to 14:00 St John's Troedyrhiw  
(Soup Lunch)

**MEETINGS**

Ministry Area AGM Sunday 28 April  
3pm St Mary's Merthyr Vale.

MAC meeting  
Monday 13th May - 7pm - location TBA

St David's LCC Meeting  
Wednesday 15 May 7pm.  
Please note the change of date

The readings for next Sunday and church news sheets can be seen and downloaded from the St David's and St Tydfil's pages of the Ministry Area website at

<https://www.merthyrtydfilministryarea.co.ukst-davids-church>

<https://www.merthyrtydfilministryarea.co.ukst-tydfils-church>

**SERVICES FOR THE WEEK**

Wednesday 1 May  
10.30am Holy Eucharist St David's

Sunday 5 May  
Easter 6  
9.30am Sung Eucharist, St David's  
11.00am Holy Eucharist, St Tydfil's  
6.00pm Healing Service, St Tydfil's

**NOTICES ABOUT THE NOTICES**

Please send notices for this news sheet to Dorothy Evans at dorothy754@gmail.com  
Please send articles or notices intended for Highway to Ken Lewis at kenlewis.merthyrtydfil.church@gmail.com

**SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS**

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QR Code for the  
Ministry Area Website

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