

"Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!"

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2020

The Holy Eucharist
The Word of God

Prelude | Piano Voluntaries

Sherri Hansen

Voluntary on "Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring"

Voluntary on "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

Processional Hymn (*Please stand as able*)

Please see page 8

#390 | *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*

Children's Chat - *Robert Freeman*

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Celebrant 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.**

Canticle of Praise: *This Is the Feast*

Celebrant



This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1. Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow- er and rich- es and wis- dom and

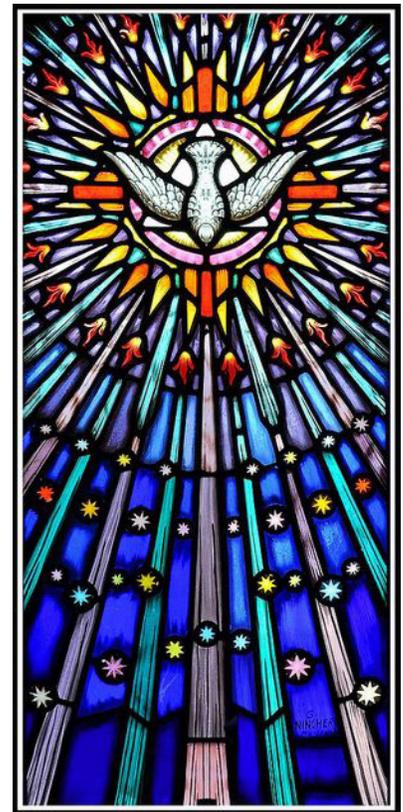


strength, and hon- or and bless- ing and glo- ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2. Sing with all the people of God and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glor - ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - tory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People ***Amen.***

First Reading *(Please be seated)*

Reader A Reading from The Acts of The Apostles:

Introduction to the First Reading

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the Good News of Christ to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian belief. Paul uses their altar dedicated to an unknown god as the opportunity to tell them of the one true God, the Lord over heaven and earth.

Acts 17:22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

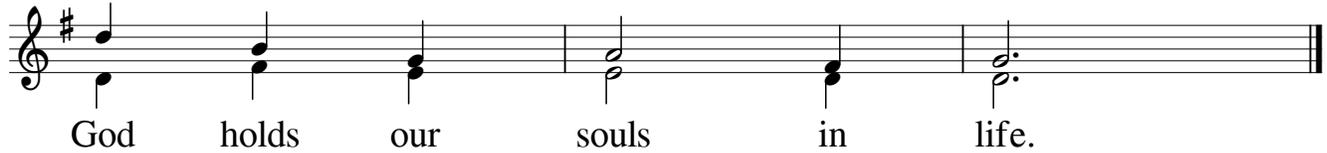
'For we too are his offspring.'

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 66: 7-18



Bless our God, you peoples;
 make the voice of his praise to be heard;
 Who holds our souls in life,
 and will not allow our feet to slip. [ANT.]

For you, O God, have proved us;
 you have tried us just as silver is tried.
 You brought us into the snare;
 you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
 You let enemies ride over our heads;
 we went through fire and water;
 but you brought us out into a place of refreshment. [ANT.]

I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
 and will pay you my vows,
 which I promised with my lips
 and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
 with the smoke of rams;
 I will give you oxen and goats. [ANT.]

Come and listen, all you who fear God,
 and I will tell you what he has done for me.
 I called out to him with my mouth,
 and praise was on my tongue. [ANT.]

If I had found evil in my heart,
 The LORD, would not have heard me;
 But in truth God has heard me;
 he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
 nor withheld his love from me. [ANT.]

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Second Reading

Reader A Reading from the First Letter of Peter:

Introduction to the Second Reading

In this reading all Christian disciples are urged to live together in love and humility, seeking to remain faithful, and, if they suffer, to remember how Christ, the just one, died for the unjust.

1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (*Please stand as able*) – Please see page 9

#292 | "O Jesus, Crowned with All Renown"

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Holy Gospel (*The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.*)

John 14:15-21

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

THE SERMON

The Nicene Creed (*Please stand as able*)

*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 *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

We offer our prayers and thanksgivings to God, who in the midst of our trials and adversities gives us the faith to endure.

In thanksgiving for the holy commandments of the Lord's truth, and Jesus' eternal gift of love, that we may follow them as pathways to sanctification; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That we may be a community of joyous believers, bearing one another's burdens, forgiving each other's sins, responding to the needs of all, so that the world may see and know that all things are being made new through the Risen One; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for this Eucharistic Meal, where Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for the faith of Abraham and Sarah, and of all the faithful departed whose every breath was lived in response to God's promises; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That we may give honor to those considered least in our society, knowing that Jesus reveals the divine will through their lives and in the course of their abiding faithfulness; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That children may receive a full measure of food, education, parental love, and a religious upbringing; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for those who volunteer their time for the ministry of Christ in this church, in our diocese, and throughout the world; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

As adopted children of Jesus, through our passage in the waters of baptism, let us continue our prayers and thanksgiving. Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)

(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.)

The Confession of Sin *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

Reader Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

People ***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.***

The Absolution

Celebrant 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 *(Please stand as able)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

The Holy Communion

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.

Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR

Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>

Offertory Sentence & Interlude

Doxology *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung. Please stand as able)*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;
Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

Offertory Hymn

Please see page 10

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

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 and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink 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.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.*

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

People *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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

Distribution Anthem -

“One Bread, One Body” by John Foley

Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge

Post Communion Prayer *(Please kneel or be seated)*

Celebrant Let us pray.

People *Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made.*

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your presence, that as we lament our separation from one another during this time of disease, we may continually show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Benediction

Recessional Hymn *(Please stand as able)*

Please see page 11

#182 | *“Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing”*

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Postlude *“Andante” Georg Philipp Telemann*

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The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector

J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte

Scott Kresge, Organist/Videographer

Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist

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Praise to God

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - - - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - - - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665;

harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

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Holy Days and Various Occasions



1 O Je - sus, crowned with all re - nown, since thou the earth hast
 2 Lord, in their change, let frost and heat, and winds and dews be
 3 that we may feed the poor a - right, and, gath - ering round thy



trod, thou reign - est and by thee come down hence -
 given; all fos - tering power, all in - fluence sweet, breathe
 throne, here, in the ho - ly an - gel's sight, re -



forth the gifts of God. Thine is the health and
 from the boun - teous heaven. At - tem - per fair with
 pay thee of thine own: That we may praise thee



thine the wealth that in our halls a - bound, and
 gen - tle air the sun - shine and the rain, that
 all our days, and with the Fa - ther's Name, and



thine the beau - ty and the joy with which the years are crowned.
 kind - ly earth with time - ly birth may yield her fruits a - gain:
 with the Ho - ly Spi - rit's gifts, the Sa - vior's love pro - claim.

Rogation Days.

Words: Edward White Benson (1829-1896), alt.

Music: *Kingsfold*, English melody; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

CMD

Offertory Hymn

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

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The Holy Spirit

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt.
 Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

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Easter

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
 4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
 5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
 3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
 4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
 5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
 3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
 4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev.

Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

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