

HOLY EUCHARIST

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | MAY 14, 2023 - 9:00AM & 11:00AM

PRELUDE

Andante Sostenuto from Symphony Gothique - Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Please stand as the bell sounds.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

1 O all ye works of God, now come to thank him
2 O sun and moon and stars of heaven, your end - less
3 O heat and cold, O night and day, O storms and
4 O earth and sea, O all that live in wa - ter
5 O let his peo - ple bless the Lord like right - eous

1 and a - dore; O an - gels, sing and
2 praise out - pour; O chang - ing sea - sons,
3 thun - der's roar, O fields and for - ests,
4 or on shore, O men and wo - men,
5 souls of yore; let those of ho - ly,

1 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.
2 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.
3 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.
4 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.
5 hum - ble heart come praise him ev - er - more.

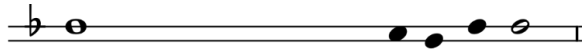
Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev.; para. of A Song of Creation
Music: Irish, melody from Hymns and Sacred Poems, 1749; harm. The English Hymnal, 1906

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

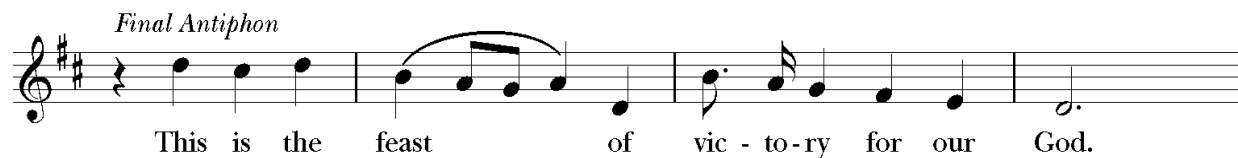
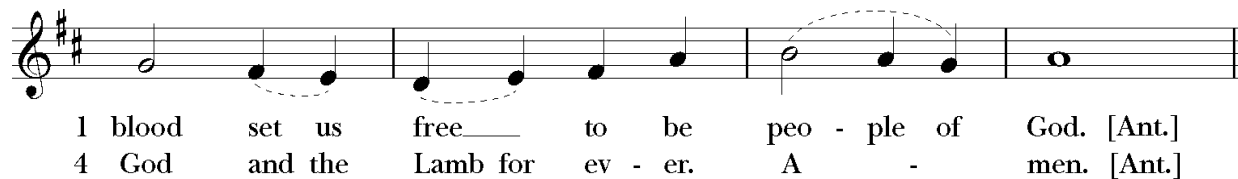
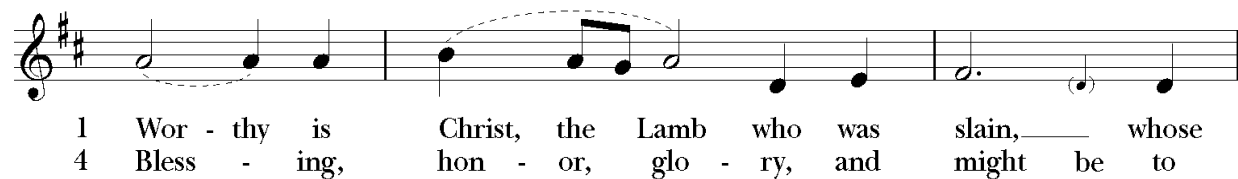
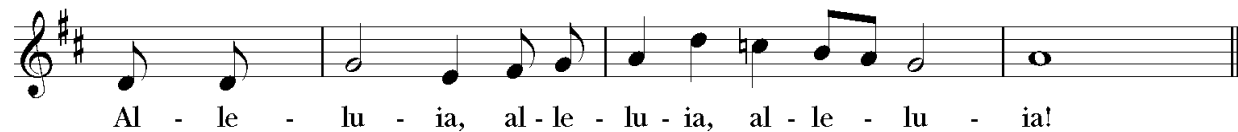
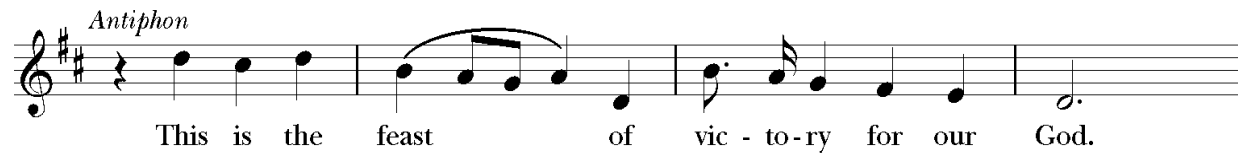
Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

The People respond



The Lord is risen indeed. Al-le-lu-ia.

SONG OF PRAISE



Words: Revelation 5:12-13; adapt. John W. Arthur (1922-1980)
Music: Festival Canticle, Richard Hillert (1923-2010))

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant intones

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Faithful God, who loves us in Christ Jesus, send your Spirit of truth to dwell within us, that we may always reject what is false, live by the commands of Christ, and be true to the love you have shown us. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LESSON *seated*

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.”.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN *standing, all turn toward the Gospel as it is brought among the People*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to
 2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness
 3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

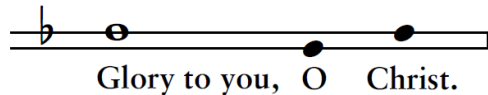
hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred
 shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night
 ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings
 with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to
 help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

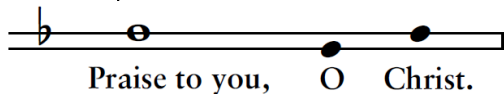
Words: Tobias Clausnitzer (1619–1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829–1878); alt.
 Music: Liebster Jesu, melody Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625–1673); alt. Das grosse Cantional: oder Kirchen-Gesangbuch, 1687;
 harm. George Herbert Palmer (1846–1926)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.



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."

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

Madeleine Harris-Lerew, Seminarian

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

During the season of Eastertide we will use the Affirmation of Faith (Creed) from one of our companion churches in the Anglican Communion, the Church of New Zealand. The prayers of this branch of the church are beloved throughout the Communion for their simple, direct, and creation-centered language in liturgy.

**You O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved your love to us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal.
You overcome death.
You are our God.
We worship you.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of new creation, you promise to hear and answer when we pray to you in faith.

We pray now for the world:

Lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace.

That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.

Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.

Teach us to care creatively for its resources.

We pray for the Church:

Enliven the Church for its mission

that we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.

Breathe fresh life into your people.

Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.

We pray for this community:

Inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others,

that all may act with integrity and courage.

Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours.

May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

We pray for those in need, and especially those who have asked for our prayers...

Please add your own prayers, aloud or silently.

Comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

May they know the power of your healing love.

Make us willing agents of your compassion.

Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.

We remember those who have died and those who mourn: [especially for...]

Please add your own prayers, aloud or silently.

Give comfort, O God, to those who grieve.

Bring them peace in their time of loss.

We give thanks for the faithful in every generation.

May their example inspire our witness in our own day.

The Celebrant concludes

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life; grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *seated*

Giving to St. Paul's

The work and mission of St. Paul's is fully supported by the generous contributions of its members and friends.
You can make a one-time offering or a sustaining gift to St. Paul's by visiting stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or text to give at 855-934-1074
For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/support.

Thank you for your support!



MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY *sung by the Choir at 11:00am*

If ye love me

*Philip Wilby (b. 1949)
Words: from John 14*

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
And I will pray the Father,
And he shall give you another comforter,
That he may abide with you for ever:
Even the spirit of truth.
And ye know him, for he dwelleth with you,
And shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless.
I will come to you.

HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY *standing*



1 O Je - sus, I have prom-ised to serve thee to the end:
2 O let me hear thee speak-ing in ac - cents clear and still,
3 O Je - sus, thou hast prom-ised to all who fol - low thee,



be thou for ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
a - bove the storms of pas-sion, the mur-murs of self - will;
that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be;



I shall not fear the bat - tle, if thou art by my side,
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
and, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way, if thou wilt be my guide.
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard-ian of my soul.
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Words: John Ernest Bode (1816–1874), alt.
Music: Nyland, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874–1948)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, author of all being. Your power sustains, your love restores our broken world. You are unceasingly at work bringing order from chaos and filling emptiness with life.

Christ raised from the dead proclaims the dawn of hope. He lives in us that we may walk in light. Your Spirit is fire within us, your breath is power to purge our sin and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,

of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948)

The Celebrant continues

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all, for by the Cross eternal life is ours and death is swallowed up in victory. In the light of Easter, the disciples found new hope as the truth stirred among them that the one they had loved and lost was with them now in every place forever.

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to the fearful disciples, he renewed the promise of his presence, and of new birth in the Spirit who sets the seal of freedom on your daughters and sons.

On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end. At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat, this is my body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

Alive in him, we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Made one with him, we offer you these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by Christ's life-giving power, they may be the Body and blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work for your praise and glory; that we may grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Paul, the apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters, living and departed.

All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.



Setting: Will Doreza

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hall - owed be your Name, your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
And for - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the po - wer, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

setting: Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908); adapted.

THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

This is the Bread of Heaven.

Broken for the life of the world.

Everyone, without exception, is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request; grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups. Healing prayer is available in the side aisles for those wishing to pray with someone for any need in their lives.

All sing as the distribution of Communion begins:



Loaves are bro-ken, words are spo-ken, as in faith we ga-ther here. Je-sus speaks a-cross the
a - ges: "I am with you, do not fear!" By your bo - dy bro-ken for us, by your wine of life out-
poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Words: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., (1923-2007)
Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION *sung by the choir at 11:00am*

I will trust in the Lord

Negro Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949)

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The People join in the final part of the prayer, in bold.

Ever-living God, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and revealed the way to life in his name. Dying and rising, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope that you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The wonder and wildness of God, who shakes heaven and earth, whom death could not contain, who lives to disturb and heal us, bless you with power to go forth and proclaim the Gospel. And the blessing of God Almighty: Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN IN PROCESSION

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and
 Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward
 Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the
 Christ we bring with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,
 and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,
 work to share, with us re - proach to dare,
 souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.
 re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
 with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
 in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

Words: Samuel Wolcott (1813–1886)

Music: Moscow, melody Felice de Giardini (1716–1796); harm. The New Hymnal, 1916 based on Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792–1892)

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Festive Trumpet Tune - David German

THE WORSHIP IS OVER – THE SERVICE BEGINS

ST PAUL'S ON THE GREEN – 60 EAST AVE., NORWALK, CT 06851

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org

The Rev. Daniel Simons *Rector*

The Rev. Louise Kalemkerian *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Paul Carling *Priest Associate*

Will Doreza *Interim Director of Music*

Josh Ehlebracht *Interim Organist*

Marsha Dunn *Parish Administrator*

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