

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 9, 2021 at 11am

Livestreamed worship available at [facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos).

St. Paul's on the Green | 60 East Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851

The People's responses are in bold.

Gathering Music Chorale by Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel (1805-1847)

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.

People

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

setting: *Ambrosian Chant*, adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)
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Opening Collect

O God of love, you are the true sun of the world, evermore risen and never going down: We pray you to shine in our hearts and drive away the darkness of sin and the mist of error. We pray that we may this day and all our lives long, walk without stumbling in the way you have prepared for us, Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

setting: William Mathias (1934-1992)
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The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of all nations, in the gift of your Son you have embraced the world with a love that takes away our sin and bestows perfect joy. Grant to all who have been reborn in baptism fidelity in serving you and generosity in loving one another. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the first-born from the dead, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson *Acts 10:44-48*

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation



setting: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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The Gospel *John 15:9-17*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The People repeat the Gospel Acclamation.

Sermon *The Rev. Daniel Simons*

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Affirmation of Faith

During the season of Eastertide we will be using the Affirmation of Faith (creed) from one of our sister 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

During the silences, please offer your own prayers and petitions aloud, silently, or via a Facebook comment.

The intercessor says

Loving God, in this season of new life, we pray:

For reconciliation between the violated and the violent,
That we may rest in your peace.

For generosity between rich and poor people everywhere,
That we may share the abundance of your creation.

For the growth of love between broken peoples and nations,
That we may shape our common life as your kingdom.

For mutual respect between immigrants and insiders,
That we may welcome your image in all who come to us.

For protection for the weak and humility for the strong,
That we may serve others as you serve us in Christ.

For all the joys and concerns of our hearts,
That we may live with gladness and trust.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers, saying

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 Peace

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

Please share the peace wherever you are: with a comment posted on Facebook, a bow to those nearby, or some other distanced gesture of peace.

Announcements available at stpaulsnorwalk.org/sundaymorning

GIVING TO ST. PAUL'S

Now more than ever, the work and mission of St. Paul's depend on the generous support of its friends and members.

Please consider making an offering to St. Paul's by credit card. Visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or use the QR code to the right.

For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/support.

Thank you for your generous support!



The Offertory

The Altar-Table is prepared with gifts of bread and wine for Communion. During this time, give thanks for all the ways God blesses you, and consider ways you can extend that blessing to others. Learn more ways to give in the "Giving to St. Paul's" box above.

Hymn at the Offertory

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the
 ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give
 Praise to his Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

Repeat Refrain

words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950)

music: *Alleluia No. 1*, Donald Fishel (b. 1950); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928), Charles Mallory (b. 1950)

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The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed our joy to give thanks and praise to you, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, who in dying has destroyed death and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and sky and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus and Benedictus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



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



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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

setting: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx (1937-2010)
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The Celebrant continues

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, you have filled all creation with light and life. In great love you sent to us Jesus your Son, who reached out to heal the suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our brother Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast with your presence and raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

With your holy ones of all times and places, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hall - o - wed 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 disciples knew the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread.

While the Celebrant communicates those in the church, the whole assembly shares in a time of reflection and prayer, contemplating the Presence of Christ in the gifts of bread and wine, along with the larger reality that we ourselves, along with all creation, are the Body of Christ. (Colossians 3:11)

Anthem at the Communion *sung by the St. Paul's choir*

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Remain in my love.
This is my commandment: that ye love one another, as I have loved you.
God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.
If you keep my commandments, and ye love one another, as I have loved you,
then your joy will be complete.

words: adapted from John 15:9-12, 1 John 4:16
music: Simon Lole (b. 1957)

The Prayer after Communion

The People join the Celebrant for 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: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

Hymn



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join
2 Let those re - fuse to sing that nev - er knew our God; but
3 The heirs of grace have found glo - ry be - gun be - low; ce -
4 Then let our song a - bound and let our tears be dry; we're



in a song with sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne.
chil - dren of the heav - en - ly King may speak their joys a - broad.
les - tial fruits on earth - ly ground from faith and hope may grow.
march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground to fair - er worlds on high.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na! Re - joice, give thanks and sing.

words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.
music: *Vineyard Haven*, Richard Wayne Dirksen (1921-2003)
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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 *Postlude: Introduction and Fugue* by Adela Douglas-Pennant (1858-1955)

THE WORSHIP IS OVER. THE SERVICE BEGINS.

[Click here](#) to join in small group conversation and catching up on Zoom!

St. Paul's on the Green
The Rev. Daniel Simons
60 East Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851
stpaulsnorwalk.org | info@stpaulsnorwalk.org