



# The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia  
The Holy Eucharist Rite II

May 14, 2023 at 9:30 A.M.

*The liturgy follows the Book of Common Prayer, beginning at page 355.*

OPENING VOLUNTARY: Ricercare in C Major

Johann Pachelbel

## THE ENTRANCE

AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 405 “All things bright and beautiful”

Royal Oak

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

*The Presider says the Collect for Purity*

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMNAL, S 278

William Mathias

*Sung by all.*

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his 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.

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

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.

**Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON *[The people are 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."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 66:7-18 *Jubilate Deo*

David Kelley

*The cantor sings the refrain, which is then repeated by all. Thereafter, the cantor sings the verses, and all join on the refrain, as indicated.*



Bless our God, who holds our souls in life, hal - le - lu - jah.

7 Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
 make the voice of his praise to be heard;

- 8 Who holds our souls in life, \*  
and will not allow our feet to slip. *[Ref.]*
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; \*  
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and water; \*  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment. *[Ref.]*
- 12 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.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
with the smoke of rams; \*  
I will give you oxen and goats. *[Ref.]*
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
and his praise was on my tongue. *[Ref.]*
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; \*  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
nor withheld his love from me. *[Ref.]*

## THE SECOND LESSON

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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 400 (stanzas 1, 4-5, 7) "All creatures of our God and King"

*Lasst uns erfreuen*

*Sung by all, standing. During the singing of the Sequence Hymn, children through second grade may follow the Dove Cross to Children's Chapel.*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE SERMON** The Rev. Jon C. Strand

*A brief period of silence is observed for reflection on the sermon. The people stand for the Creed.*

**THE NICENE CREED** *[Said by all.]*

**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** *[All remain standing.]*

*The leader of the Prayers will begin with prayers for the church and the world. Throughout you are invited to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son.

We pray for the Church: Father, enliven the church for its mission;

*People* **That we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.**

*Intercessor* Breathe fresh life into your people;

*People* **Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.**

*Intercessor* We pray for the world: Creator of all, lead us and all people into the ways of justice and peace;

*People* **That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.**

*Intercessor* Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it;

*People* **Teach us to care creatively for its resources.**

*Intercessor* We pray for every city, community, and nation:

God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others;

*People* **That all may act with integrity and courage.**

*Intercessor* Give grace to all whose lives are closely linked with ours.

We pray especially for the sick, the hungry, and those in any kind of need;

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

*Intercessor* We pray for all those whom we love but see no longer;

*People* **Grant them eternal rest and a place in your everlasting kingdom.**

*Particular prayers may be offered at this time, adding*

*Intercessor* Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

**THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.** *[The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.]*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the*

offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM: "If ye love me"

Thomas Tallis

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING [The people stand.]

Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer, p. 367

*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 him thanks and praise.

The Presider proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [The Presider continues.]

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS, HYMNAL, S 128

William Mathias

Sung by all.

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven 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. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

*Presider* Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*People* **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.



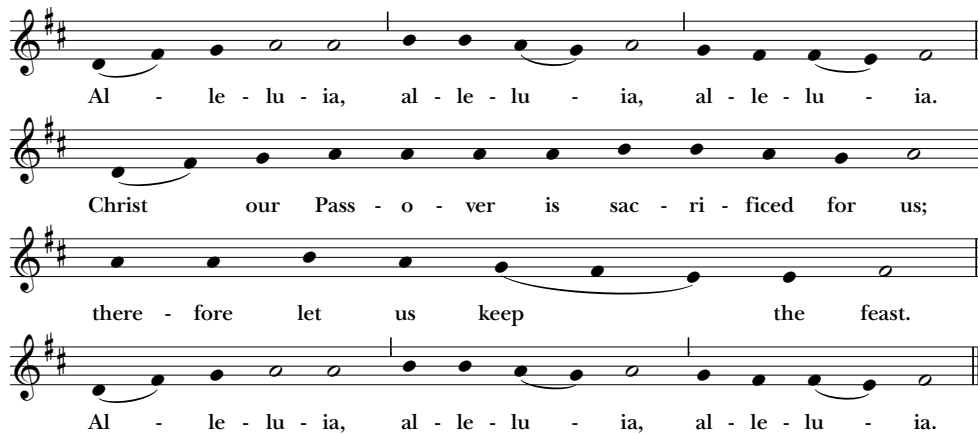
**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Presider* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*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, HYMNAL, S 154**

David Hurd

*Sung by all.*



**INVITATION** [*The People are seated.*]

*As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Communion. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God’s presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread and unfermented grape juice as alternatives—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ’s ministry of love and reconciliation.*

**COMMUNION MUSIC** [*Sung by all.*]

HYMN 746 [*green hymnal*] “God the sculptor of the mountains”  
 HYMN 455 “O Love of God, how strong and true”

Sandria  
 Dunedin

**THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER** [*Said by all.*]

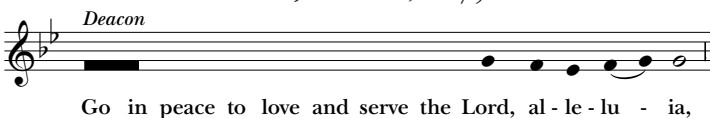
**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE EASTER BLESSING**

**AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 492** “Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness”  
*Sung by all, standing.*

Finnian

**DISMISSAL IN EASTER SEASON, HYMNAL, S 175**





al - le - lu - ia.



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Toccata in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel