



# The Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

May 5, 2024 at 9:30 A.M.

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

OPENING VOLUNTARY: Prelude on *Erhalt uns, Herr* (Hymn 297)

Johann Gottfried Walther

## THE ENTRANCE

AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 204 “Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain”

*Noël nouvelet*

*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 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 98** *Cantate Domino*

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.*

All the ends of the earth have seen the vic - to - ry of our God, hal - le - lu - jah.

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. *[Ref.]*

- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD. [Ref.]
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity. [Ref.]

## THE SECOND LESSON

1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 297 "Descend, O Spirit, purging flame"

*Erhalt uns Herr*

*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 15:9-17

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

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Mary Kay Brown

*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: "A New Commandment"**

William Mundy

A new commandment give I unto you, saith the Lord:  
that ye love together as I have loved you, that e'en so ye love one another.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *[The people stand.]*

*Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer, p. 367*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts. *People* 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.

*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,  
 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.

*Celebrant* *People*

A-men.

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.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.*

HEALING PRAYERS

*Anyone wishing for healing prayers—whether for yourself or for another or for our hurting world—is invited to come to the prayer station in the back of the nave after receiving communion. You need only say as much as you wish, and anything said will be held in confidence.*

COMMUNION MUSIC *[Sung by all.]*

HYMN 455 "O Love of God, how strong and true"

HYMN 706 "In your mercy, Lord, you called me"

*Dunedin  
Halton Holgate*

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

*Presider* In the name of God and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

*People* **We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.**

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 392 "Come, we that love the Lord"

*Vineyard Haven*

*Sung by all, standing.*

DISMISSAL IN EASTER SEASON, HYMNAL, S 175

*Deacon*  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia.

*People*

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

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY:** Prelude on *Erhalt uns, Herr* (Hymn 297)

Johann Sebastian Bach