

A NEW
COMMANDMENT
I GIVE UNTO YOU,
THAT YE
LOVE
ONE ANOTHER
AS I HAVE
LOVED YOU

JOHN 13:34

<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/91/55/c9/9155c9c971ef1703800900189a5a6c21.jpg>

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

10 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

Text written in bold in this bulletin is to be spoken or sung by all.

A bell is sounded to begin the liturgy followed by a brief period of silence.

Prelude

A brief period of silence

Land Acknowledgement *please stand as you are able*

We acknowledge that the place on which we worship this morning is the unceded land of the Abenaki people. We are grateful for their stewardship of the earth and thankful for their example of creation care. We also acknowledge the tragic history lived out among our peoples and hope that as we share these neighborhoods we may live into greater justice and understanding.

A Collect for Diversity

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord¹. Amen.

Hymn 405 *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

The Hymnal 1982

Opening Acclamation

Presider Alleluia. Christ is Risen.
People **Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Gloria *Glory to God (sung twice)*

Lift Every Voice and Sing II - #243

*

Repeat twice to the *

¹ 1979 Book of Common Prayer. *Collect For the Diversity of Races and Cultures*



The Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider 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 First Reading *Acts 10:44-48*

NRSV

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

A period of silence follows the reading

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

A period of silence follows

The Psalm *Psalm 98*

St. Helena's Breviary

**Sing a new song to God, *
who has done marvelous things.**

**With your right hand, O God, and your holy arm, *
you have won for yourself the victory.**

**You have made known your victory; *
your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of the nations.**

**You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

**Shout with joy to God, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

**Sing to God with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.**

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn, *
shout with joy before God who reigns in majesty.**

**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

**Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before God,
who will come to judge the earth.**

**God shall judge the world in righteousness *
and the peoples with equity.**

The Second Reading

1 John 5:1-6

NRSV

A reading from John's First Letter.

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.

A period of silence follows the reading

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence

Sequence Hymn 416

For the Beauty of the Earth

The Hymnal 1982

Gospel

John 15:9-17

NRSV

remain standing as you are able

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People **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.”

A period of silence follows the reading

Reader The Gospel of Christ.
People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

A period of silence follows

The Homily

The Rev. Scott B. Neal

A period of silence follows

Profession of Faith²

Presider Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare.

**We believe in God the Creator,
infinite in wisdom, power and love,
whose mercy is over all that is,
and whose will is ever directed to creation’s good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and born of a woman,**

² Profession of Faith provided by the Rt. Rev. Stew Wood. Source unknown.

**the gift of the Creator's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin
and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence
in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the
truth of Christ
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself in
the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Savior
to the end that the kingdom of God may come
upon the earth. Amen.**

Prayers of the People³

Let us pray.

Creator God, by the mercies of your son, our Lord, Jesus, compel us to TURN our hearts to his Way of Love. That we might follow Jesus together as your faithful people, we pause, listen, and respond in prayer, saying:
Jesus, guide us in your way.

Jesus, your life, death, resurrection, and ascension inspire the church to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship. Guide your people to LEARN your Word, that we might see God's story unfolding in our midst. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Son of God, you responded to your Father in PRAYER and pleaded that we might all be one. Guide the leaders and faithful citizens of this nation to respond to God and to one another in compassion — in thought and deed, with or without words — that the people of every country might live in unity and peace. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Light of the World, you taught us to WORSHIP in spirit and in truth. Lead us to join with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, that the whole world might be united in the truth of your love. We pray together,
Jesus, guide us in your way.

Lord, you came not to be served but to serve. Empower us to BLESS one another and our neighbors in this town and the entire Upper Valley

³ THE WAY OF LOVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Composed by the Reverend Allison English, Calvary Episcopal Church, Cincinnati, Ohio https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/06/wol_prayers_of_the_people_final.pdf

Community, that your spirit of generosity, compassion, and selfless action transform us and the people in our midst. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Savior, you came into our midst that we might know life. Embolden us to GO among those who are weary, burdened, sick, or imprisoned, _____ that we might live like you, crossing the boundaries that divide rich from poor, sick from well, and sinner from saint. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Lamb of God, in your death you destroyed death and taught us the way to eternal life. Compel us to daily die to self and REST in your grace. May all who have died, _____, rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who gave your life for the life of all, we commit our lives to following you. Continually guide us in your way and draw us into life as your Beloved Community in this age and in age to come; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Peace *We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Music

Offertory Hymn 412 *Earth and All Stars* *The Hymnal 1982*

The people remain standing as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Form B, BCP, p. 367

Presider God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-

where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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 and Benedictus *Holy, Holy, Holy*

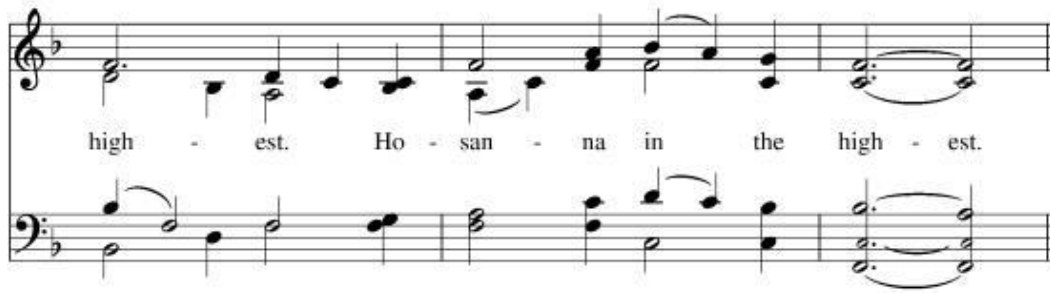
WLP, #858

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'd is the one who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

**“Take, eat:
This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”**

After supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

**“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”**

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

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 juice.

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 the Blessed Mary, Mary Magdalene, Paul, our Patron, and 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 God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

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

People and Presider

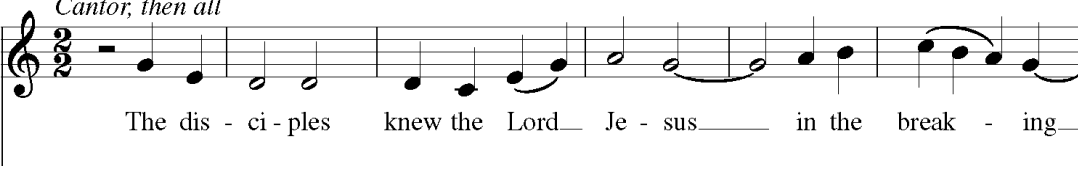
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence follows.

Fraction Anthem *The Disciples Knew the Lord Jesus Wonder, Love and Praise # 876*

Antiphon
Cantor, then all



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing

Fine *Verses*



— of the bread.

1. The bread which we break, Al - le - lu -
2. One bo - dy are we, Al - le - lu -



Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation:

Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts, with thanksgiving.

Holy Food for Holy People.

About Communion: *This is God's Altar - All are welcome.*

- *All who come to this place seeking God are welcome to receive Holy Communion. The bread is gluten-free and we use grape juice in individual cups in a celebration of radical hospitality.*
- *If you are unable to come forward for Communion, please let an usher know, and we will be happy to bring Communion to you in your seat.*
- *Those who do not wish to receive Communion are always welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.*

This is God's altar, it is not the altar of the Episcopal Church or of St. Paul's. This is God's table and all people are welcome to receive communion in this place.

*At this time, we invite all present to come forward to receive communion.
No matter who you are, you are a beloved Child of God and
are invited to receive either a blessing or communion.
The people receive communion first and then ministers at the altar.*

Communion Music

The Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Holy and Eternal God,
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 Blessing

Hymn 400 *All Creatures of our God and King*

The Hymnal 1982

The Dismissal

Deacon/Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude

The Worship is over. Now the Service begins.

Coffee Hour and fellowship follow worship in the Parish Hall

St. Paul's Mission Statement – 2021-2022

Walking in Jesus' way of love we open ourselves to God's transforming work, that with our neighbors we might embody God's care for all, especially the poor, oppressed and marginalized, and thus foster Beloved Community and bring healing to an ailing world.

The Rt. Rev Dr. Shannon MacVean-Brown, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Vermont
The Rev. Scott B. Neal, priest in partnership
Jeanne Chambers, Pianist
Bev Barton, Senior Warden
Jane Carroll, Junior Warden

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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