

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9-10, 2026
Holy Communion

The Prelude is a signal to *end our conversation* and prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND (u) PASSING OF PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP "SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT"

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spi - rit of_ the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the pre - sence of_ the Lord.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P** Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!
- C** Amen.
- P** Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

- C** You guide us to springs of the water of life.

- P** Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.
- C** You guide us to springs of the water of life.
- P** Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.
- C** You guide us to springs of the water of life.
- P** Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”

**1 Rejoice, the Lord is king! Your Lord and king adore;
rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:**

**Ref. Lift up your heart,
lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**2 Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above:
*(Refrain)***

**3 His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o’er earth and heav’n;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv’n: *(Refrain)***

GREETING

P May peace be to this house and all who enter here. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

**Ref. Kyrie eleison, on our world_ and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord (*Refrain*)**

- 4 For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives
in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord (*Refrain*)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P **Let us pray together.**

C **Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(d)

ANTHEM

LESSON OF THE DAY

Acts 17:22-31

The lesson begins:

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself

gives everyone life and breath and everything else. From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

P **The Word of the Lord.**

C **Thanks be to God.**

(u)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - leluia, al - lelu - ia, al - leluia, alle - luia.

GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

P **The Holy Gospel according to St. John the fourteenth chapter.**

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

"If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

P **The Gospel of the Lord.**

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(d)

SERMON

(u)

SERMON RESPONSE "RESTORE IN US, O GOD"

**Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;
Renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.**

APOSTLES' CREED

- ℟ Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.**
- ℣ I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(d)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- ℟ Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.**

A brief silence.

- ℟ God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,**
- ℣ Hear our prayer**

- P** You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- C** Amen.

OFFERING

(u)

THE OFFERTORY "CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART"

Create in me a clean heart_, O God,
and renew a right spirit within_ me.

Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir-it from_ me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free_ Spir-it.

Create in me a clean heart_, O God,
and renew a right spirit within_ me.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (SUNG)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might.

Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

P Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord

Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith

C **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

P Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** As a community, let us pray in the way our Lord Jesus has taught us: *(SPOKEN)*
- C** 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, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P** Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

(d)

THE COMMUNION is given and received.

(u)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

"For All the Faithful Women"

- 1 For all the faithful_ women
who served in days of old,
to you shall thanks be_ given;
to all, their_ stor - y told.
They served with strength and glad - ness
in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore_ witness,
proclaimed your_ power to save.

- 2 O God, for saints and_ servants,
those named and those unknown,
in whom through all the_ ages
your light of_ glor - y shone,
we offer glad thanksgiv - ing
and fervent prayer we raise
that, faithful in your_ service,
our lives may_ sing_ your praise.

DISMISSAL

- A** Let us go forth in the name of the Lord.
- G** To know Christ, and to make Christ known.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Jesus Paid It All

Words by
Elvina Mabel Hall

Music by
John Thomas Grape

1. I hear the Sav - ior say: "Thy strength in - deed is
2. Lord, now in - deed I find Thy pow'r, and Thine a -
3. For noth - ing good have I where - by Thy grace to
4. And when be - fore the throne I stand in Him com -

small. Child of weak - ness, watch and pray; Find in Me thine all in
lone can change the lep - er's spots and melt the heart of
claim; I'll wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's
plete, "Je - sus died my soul to save," my lips shall still re -

all." Je - sus paid it all; All to Him I owe. Sin had left a crim - son stain; He
stone.
Lamb.
peat.

washed it white as snow.