

Sunday, May 21, 2023, 10:30am

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Sunday after the Ascension



Rejoice!

HAVE YOU NOTICED LITURGICAL CHANGES THESE WEEKS OF EASTER?

Color: Our Lenten purple and holy week red are replaced by Easter white and gold, the colors of joy and resurrection.

Seating: In Lent, our seating was "choir style" or facing one another as we confess our sins and weakness to God and to one another. In Easter, we face forward toward the white, gold, flowers, and signs of "Alleluia!"

Candles: We add the tall Paschal Candle next to the sanctuary in Easter. Paschal means "passover." We believe Jesus "passed over" from death to life. The Paschal Candle is lit and prominently placed next to the altar to convey in sign and symbol a central theme of Easter—the unconquered light of Christ.

Liturgical language: In Lent, we do not use the word "Alleluia" which means "God be praised!" This word returns in Easter. Can you find the places where "Alleluia" is used in the liturgy? How does it change those pieces of the liturgy?

Readings from Sacred Story: Throughout the year, the first reading comes from Hebrew Scriptures. Only during Easter is the first reading from the New Testament: the Book of Acts. Acts shares the story of Jesus' followers in the days, weeks and months after Jesus' death.

Confession: Where did it go? In Lent, we opened our liturgy with the Penitential Rite which includes the Kyrie (Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy) and the confession. For the eight Sundays of Easter, we omit the confession altogether. This liturgical change emphasizes God's grace and love, and Christ's definitive reconciling power for us all.

Eucharistic Prayer: We use the Eucharistic Prayer One from Enriching Our Worship during the Easter season this year. Enriching Our Worship is a liturgical resource from the Episcopal Church that provides additional resources to assist worshiping communities to expand the language, images and metaphors used in worship. As we pray the Eucharistic prayer together, what parts speak particularly well to the themes of the Easter season?

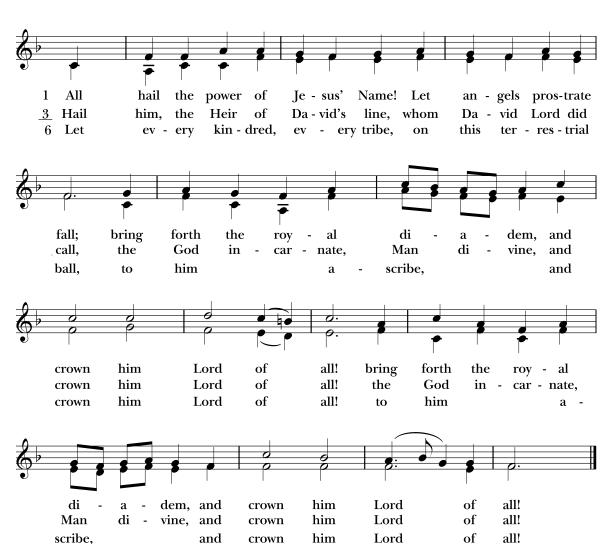
"No mistakes in worship:" At St. Francis, we say, "there are no mistakes in worship." Of course we make mistakes, but this is our way of saying that our focus is praise, thanks and dwelling with God as a community. If we sing off key, stand or sit at the wrong time, or make some other error, God is still praised. That is our priority! So if you make a mistake while you are with us, welcome to the club, and God be praised!

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN Stand.

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

H 450



OPENING ACCLAMATIONS

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

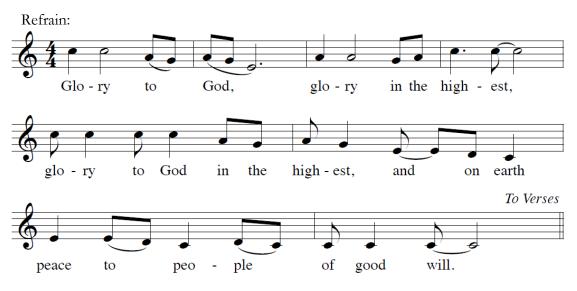
Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are

hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our heart by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may

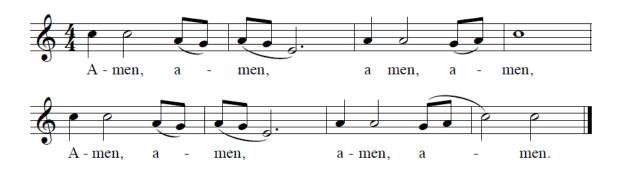
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

GLORIA Cantor sings refrain alone, joined by parish for the remainder of the song.



- We praise you,
 we bless you, we adore you,
 we glorify you,
 we give you thanks for your great glory, your great glory
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 O God, almighty Father. Refrain
- 2. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us;
 you take away the sins of the world,
 receive our prayer;
 you are seated at the right hand, the right hand of the Father,
 have mercy on us. Refrain
- 3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **To Amen below**



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph

to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

People Amen.

THE LESSONS Sit

THE FIRST LESSON

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

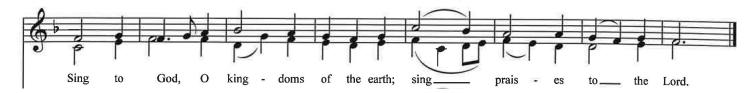
1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful. **ANTIPHON**
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in dry places. ANTIPHON
- O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel. ANTIPHON
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor. **ANTIPHON**
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God! **ANTIPHON**

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

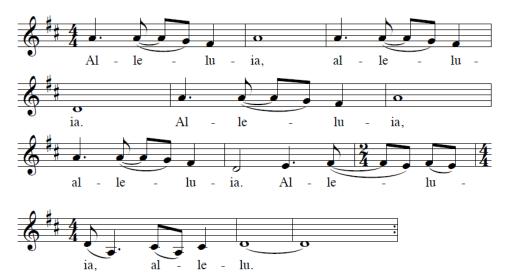
Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ANTIPHON Stand and sing twice.



THE GOSPEL

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

17:1-11

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL ANTIPHON Sing the music on previous page one time through.

SERMON Sit

THE REV. BROOKE MYERS

THE NICENE CREED Stand

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 human.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider My siblings in Christ, peace be with you. Let us pray to our merciful Lord saying, "Our Lord

and our God, have mercy on us.

After each prayer, please respond "have mercy on us."

Presider Holy One, we bring our prayers to you, confident that you hear them; sure that you know

even those prayers for which we do not yet have words. And all of these come to you

through your Child, Jesus Christ, the Risen One.

People Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

We invite you to extend the peace of God to those in the congregation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

We return with thanksgiving the gifts God has given us. This includes bread and wine of the earth and financial offerings from our labor. Representatives of the congregation bring these to the common Eucharistic table.

H 380



The following is sung as ushers present the offerings. Please stand.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above you heavenly host:

praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Stand

Presider The Lord 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

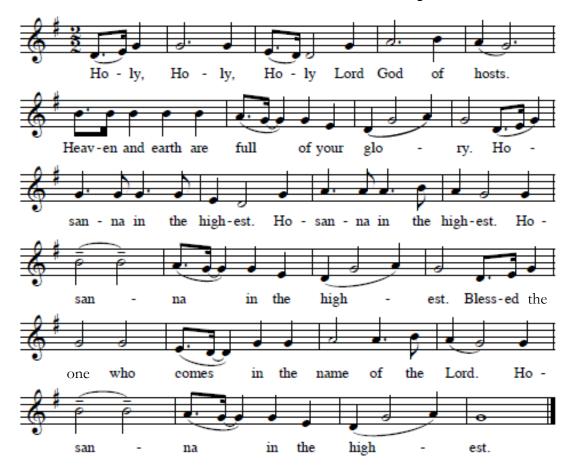
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



Presider

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Presider

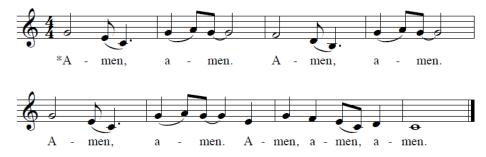
Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled + with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the Blessed Mary, St. Francis, St. Clare, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

AMEN



^{*}Pronounced: Ay-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.

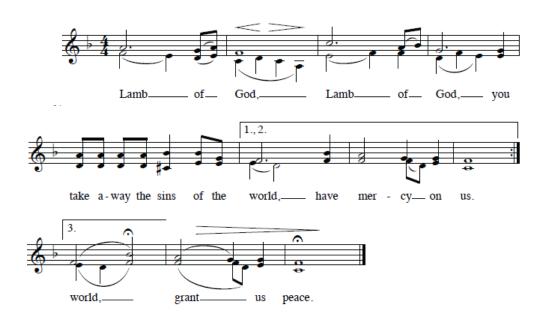
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

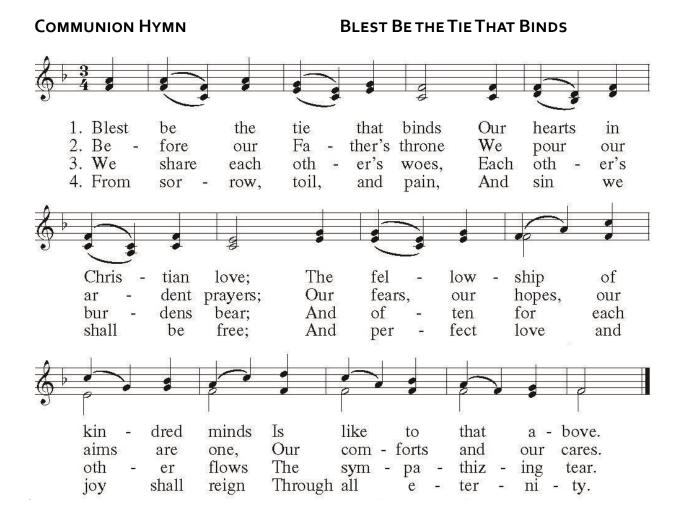
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

FRACTION ANTHEM



Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Our bread is gluten-, dairy- and nut-free. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER Stand

After all have received communion all say

All

Loving God,

we give you thanks

for restoring us in your image

nourishing us with spiritual food

in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Now send us forth

a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;

that we may proclaim your love to the world

and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior.

Amen.

BLESSING

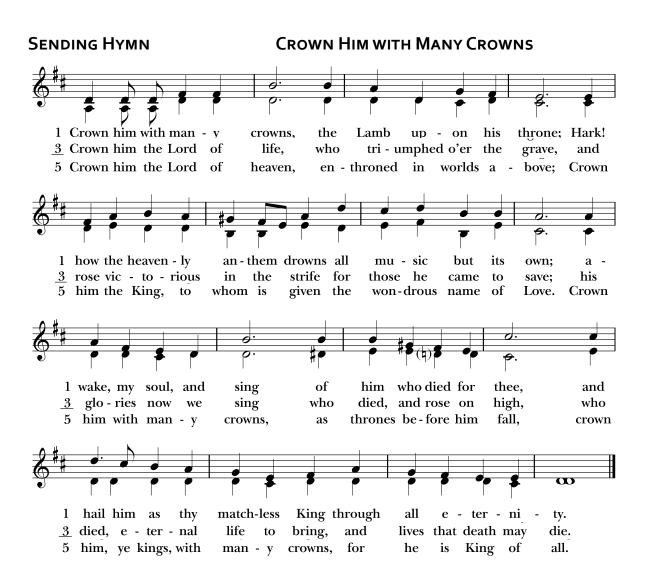
Presider God's blessing be with you,

Christ's peace be with you,

the Spirit's outpouring be with you

now and always.

People Amen.



H 494

DISMISSAL

Presider Share the love of the risen Christ with the world and go in peace to love and serve the

Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People We will share the love of Christ with the world! Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!