

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, May 22, 2022
9:30 am – In Person Only

PRELUDE

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace," arr. Jane Holstein

+ **Gathering** +

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness (ELW 843)



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at-ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil-dren with a strong yet gen-tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf-fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris-'ners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des-ert's burn-ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm-ing storms and feed - ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem-ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

+ Word +

MISSION & VISION PRESENTATION

Christi Wise

READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ “Shout for all you are worth, raise your voice like a trumpet!

Proclaim to the people their faults, tell the house of Leah and Rachel and Jacob their sins!

² They seek me daily, they long to know my ways, like a nation that wants to act with integrity and not ignore the Law of its God.

They ask me for laws that are just, they long for God to draw near.

³ Yet they say, ‘Why should we fast if you never see it? Why do penance

if you never notice?’ Because when you fast, it’s business as usual,

and you oppress all your workers! ⁴ Because when you fast, you quarrel and fight and strike the poor with your fist! Fasting like yours today

will never make your voice heard on high!

⁵ Is that the sort of fast that pleases me—a day when people humiliate themselves, hanging their heads like a reed, lying down on sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call fasting, a day acceptable to Yahweh?

⁶ On the contrary! This is the sort of fast that pleases me:

Remove the chains of injustice! Undo the ropes of the yoke!

Let those who are oppressed go free, and break every yoke you encounter!

⁷ Share your bread with those who are hungry, and shelter homeless poor people! Clothe those who are naked, and don’t hide from the needs of your own flesh and blood!

⁸ Do this, and your light will shine like the dawn—and your healing will break forth like lightning!

Your integrity will go before you,

and the glory of Yahweh will be your rearguard.

⁹ Cry, and Yahweh will answer; call, and God will say, ‘I am here’—

provided you remove from your midst all oppression, finger pointing, and malicious talk!

¹⁰ If you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,

then your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows will become like noon.

¹¹ Yahweh will always guide you, giving relief in desert places. God will give strength to your bones and you will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry.

¹² You will rebuild the ancient ruins, and build upon age-old foundations.

You will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, and Restorer of Ruined Neighborhoods.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 782-783). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

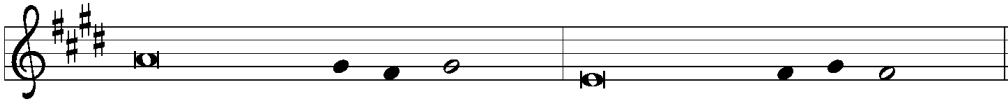
The congregation sings the antiphon and the verses in bold.

Antiphon:



The LORD gives jus-tice, the LORD gives jus-tice to those who are op - pressed.

Psalm Tone:



¹Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

³Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

⁴**When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,**

and in that day | their thoughts perish. Antiphon

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,
whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;**

who keeps promis- | es forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed,

and food to | those who hunger.

The LORD sets the | captive free.

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up**

those who | are bowed down;

the LORD | loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow,

but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

¹⁰**The LORD shall | reign forever,**

your God, O Zion, throughout

all generations. | Hallelujah! Antiphon

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

GOSPEL

Luke 4:16-21

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶ Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. Entering the synagogue on the Sabbath, as was his habit, Jesus stood up to do the reading. ¹⁷ When the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed him, he unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written: ¹⁸ “The Spirit of our God is upon me: because the Most High has anointed me to bring Good News to those who are poor. God has sent me to proclaim liberty to those held captive, recovery of sight to those who are blind, and release to those in prison— ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of our God’s favor.” ²⁰ Rolling up the scroll, Jesus gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he said to them, “Today, in your hearing, this scripture passage is fulfilled.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (p. 2228). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

SERMON & DISCUSSION

Pastor Allison Bengfort

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let Justice Flow Like Streams (ELW 717)



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926
Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776
Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

I invite you to assume a posture of prayer. You may sit, stand, or kneel; fold your hands or turn them upward; close your eyes or lift them to the altar.

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace. Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people. Accomplish your will through their efforts.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

People of God, for what else shall we pray this day? Your prayers are invited now, either silently or aloud. (*Pause for prayers.*)

God, in your mercy, *or* Lord, we praise you,
hear our prayer. **Thanks be to God.**

Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died when we meet together at your river of life.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (wave, handshake, hug, etc.), honoring the personal boundaries of all. Those online may unmute and verbally share the peace.

+ Meal +

INVITATION TO OFFERING

During this season of Easter, we are inspired by the beloved community of the early church, where resources were shared by all. We, too, seek to share our resources so that we can live in harmony, balance, and mutuality with one another. Following the example of the earliest Christians, we offer our gifts now, so that the ministry of this church may continue to participate in God's compassion and renewal.

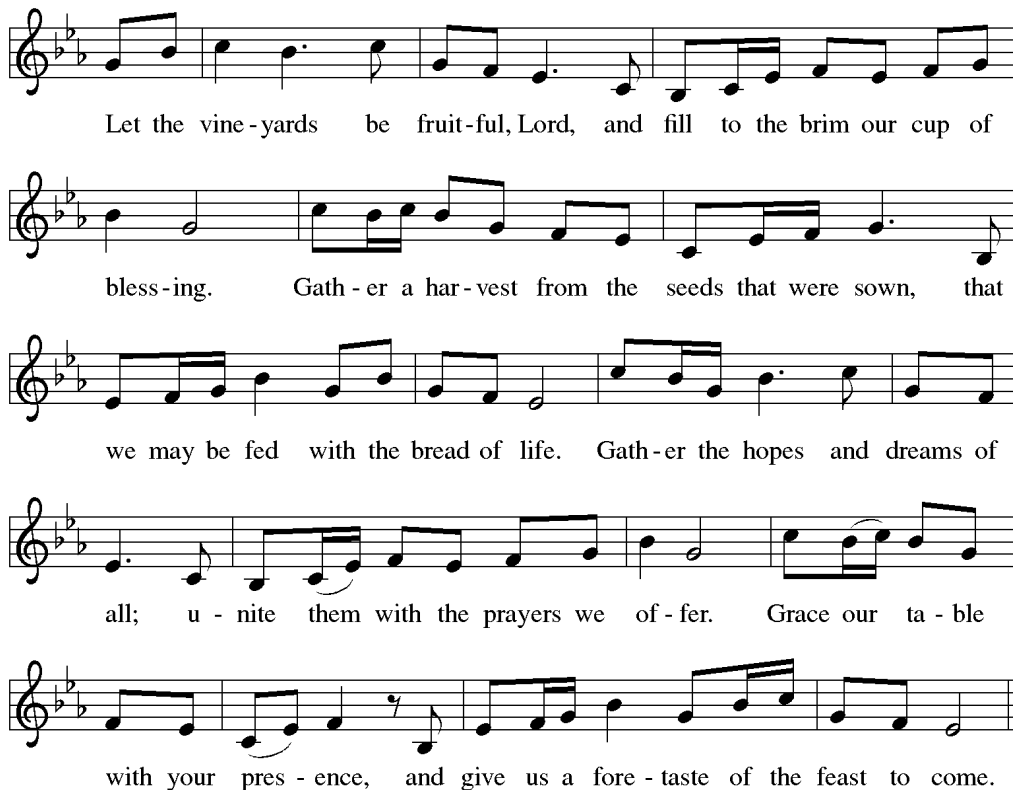
OFFERING

*We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's!
Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, made in the Vanco Mobile app, or given online at stjohnswilmette.org/give. Thank you for your generosity!*

OFFERTORY SOLO

Praise the Almighty! (ELW 877, v. 1 & 3)
Stephanie Chee, soloist

OFFERTORY VERSE



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.
**God of goodness and growth,
all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure.
Word and water, wine and bread:
these are signs of your abundant grace.
Receive the gifts we bring,**

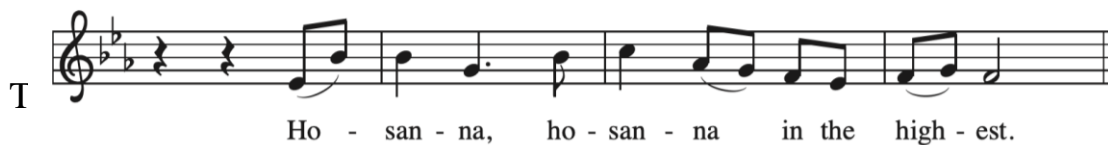
**and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love
in our communities and in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.
Amen.**

DIALOGUE

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

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



LORD'S PRAYER

**God our Mother, God our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

INVITATION

COMMUNION

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your life journey, you are welcome to commune at Christ's table. At the direction of an usher, please proceed to the communion station, maintaining social distancing. You may receive bread or request a gluten-free wafer. Please step forward and then remove your mask to eat. A glass of wine (dark colored) will be placed on the table next to you, or you may request grape juice (light colored). You may drink and then place the empty glass in the basket. Please put your mask back on before returning to your seat. If you would prefer to receive only a blessing, you may cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please inform an usher, and the elements will be brought to you.

COMMUNION SONG



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION HYMN

Come to the Table (ELW 481)



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



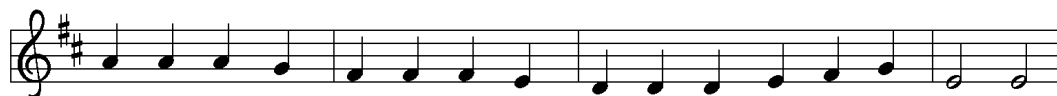
Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



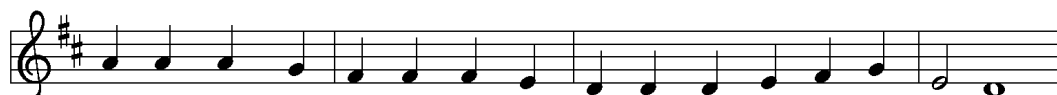
Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

COMMUNION HYMN

In the Singing (ELW 466)



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Refrain
Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926
Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

Living God,

as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord,

we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ.

**Through this meal, may we be strengthened
to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION VERSE



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom-is - es, O God, and lead us forth in



joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948
Text © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

+ Sending +

BENEDICTION

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and your minds in † Christ Jesus.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve (ELW 551)



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
 bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
 joy like seed and, all our days, to
 to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
 share a dream and help the blind to see.
 cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
 pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820
 Text © 1993 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
 Go in peace. Tell everyone what God has done.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"I've Got Peace Like a River with Standin' in the Need of Prayer"
 arr. Mary McDonald

COFFEE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Funds Secured for a St. John's Brick

We are happy to report that we have reached our goal raising of \$250 for a large-sized commemorative brick to be included in Wilmette's new pedestrian alleyway in the Village Center. Thank you so much for your generosity! We look forward to seeing our church's name engraved in this central walkway for years to come.

Thank You, Family Promise Volunteers

Thank you to everyone who volunteered over the past three weeks to help with preparing meals and spending time with the families, as well as providing groceries and other necessities. You are appreciated!

Support Today's Soup Kitchen

Funds are needed to cover the cost of food for the soup kitchen at St. Paul's this afternoon, which St. John's is sponsoring. If you are willing to help, please put your donation in an envelope marked "soup kitchen" and place it in the offering.

Pastor Allison's Ice Show Today at Robert Crown

Pastor Allison will be performing in the Spring Figure Skating Exhibition at Robert Crown Community Center (1801 Main Street, Evanston) this afternoon. The show is free, open to the public, and runs from 4:00-7:00 pm. Spectators are invited to come and go as they wish throughout that time. Pastor Allison is scheduled to perform her solo at approximately 6:30 pm and then perform in a group number to the Star Wars soundtrack at the very end of the show. All are welcome to come cheer her on!

Online Bible Study to Conclude May 24

This Tuesday, May 24th will be our final Bible Study for this program year. Please join us on Tuesday at 11:00 am-12:00 pm via our worship Zoom link.

Sesquicentennial Memorial Day Unity March & Ceremony

As part of Wilmette's Sesquicentennial Celebration, the Sesquicentennial Planning Committee is observing Memorial Day (May 30) by conducting a special Unity March and Ceremony to honor the 110 Wilmette men and women who died while serving their country in time of war. Representatives from Wilmette's civic, service, governmental, religious, business, and other organizations/groups are invited to participate in the march and attend the ceremony. Pastor Allison will be leading a group from St. John's in marching together. If you'd like to march, please meet at the St. Joseph's parking lot at 9:30 am on Monday, May 30. The 0.9-mile march will begin at 10:30 am and conclude at Village Hall for the ceremony.

Visitors for Sarah

Sarah Rink, a regular participant at the Saturday service and now a participant in Sunday morning services, is looking for folks who would be willing to visit her in her home (1900 Wilmette Ave. #2F). She is experiencing chronic pain, and having visitors would be a great blessing in her life. She is open to hosting visitors at 4 pm or 5 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Sarah is fully vaccinated and happy to wear a mask if that is preferred. Please give her a call at 847-251-2758 to let her know when you can stop by!

Mask Update

Masks are now optional for activities at St. John's with the important exceptions of worship and youth programming. Worship leaders, including cantors/song leaders, may now remove masks while leading, but the congregation will remain masked and socially distanced from leaders. If you have any questions or concerns about our current policy, please contact our Re-Entry Team (Pastor Allison, Michel Hauser, Al Swanson, Christi Wise).

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