



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Music Sunday

May 10, 2026

Thank you for worshiping with us at St. John's. Please fill out your yellow attendance card and place it in the offering plate when we collect the offering later in the service.

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Gathering Music

Prelude: Dreamland – (Ffrench)

STAND

Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth – ELW 879 (Red Book)

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|---|---|
| <p>1 For the beauty of the earth,
 for the beauty of the skies,
 for the love which from our birth
 over and around us lies:</p> <p><i>Refrain</i>
 Christ, our God, to thee we raise
 this our sacrifice of praise.</p> <p>2 For the wonder of each hour
 of the day and of the night,
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
 sun and moon and stars of light:
 <i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>3 For the joy of ear and eye,
 for the heart and mind's delight,
 for the mystic harmony
 linking sense to sound and sight:
 <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>4 For the joy of human love,
 brother, sister, parent, child,
 friends on earth and friends above;
 for all gentle thoughts and mild:
 <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>5 For each perfect gift of thine,
 peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
 for thyself, best gift divine,
 to our world so freely giv'n: <i>Refrain</i></p> |
|---|---|

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

Amen.

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.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

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.

Amen.

Welcome & Greeting

Welcome to St. John's, where we are building a loving, accepting community centered on growing in Christ, and giving people a place to belong at any stage of their journey with God.

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... 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.

SIT

The Readings

Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

STAND

Gospel Acclamation



John 14:15-21

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SIT

Music Sunday Presentation

Monday Night Band

Walk with the Wise – (Chapman)
Left It in the River – (MacDonald)

St. John's Bell Choir

Simple Gifts – (Geshke)
Down by the Riverside = (Stephenson)

St. John's Traditional Choir

Christ Is Risen – (Maher)
Jesus Be the Name – (Mutendji)
Hard Fought Hallelujah – (Lake)
Trust in God – (Lake)
Way Maker – (Kalu)

STAND

The Nicene Creed

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 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. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

SIT

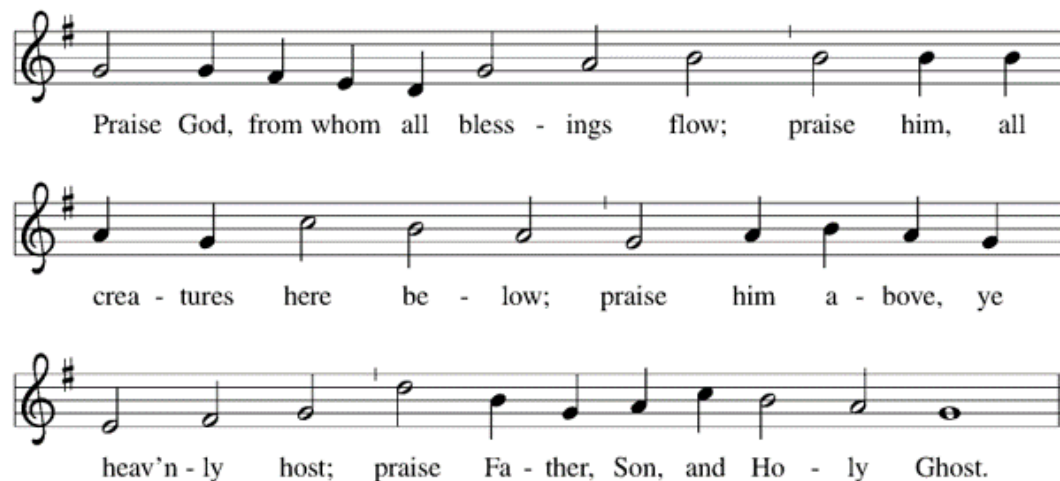
Announcements

Printed copies of our weekly announcements are available at the usher's stand in the Narthex, and monthly newsletters are on the Hospitality Table. Please include your email address on your yellow attendance card to receive announcements electronically.

Offering

STAND

Offertory Hymn: Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow – ELW 885 (Red Book)



The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below each staff.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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 and ever. Amen.

Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee – ELW 836 (Red Book)

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before
thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and
sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround
thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and
mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing
fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.
- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our
brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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