



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1676 SOUTH BELCHER ROAD
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33764-6517
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727-531-6020

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024
9:00 am

Announcements

Prelude: Voluntary in D

Arlen Clarke

Processional Hymn: 400 "All creatures of our God and King"
vs 1,4,5,7

Lasst uns erfreuen

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria S280

Robert Powell

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. (*Silence*)

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 Lesson: Acts 10:44-48

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

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

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

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

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

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

The Second Lesson: 1 John 5:1-6

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.

The Word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: 455 - "O Love of God, how strong and true" Dunedin

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (15:9-17)

People: Glory to you, Lord 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Hugh Bell

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 man. 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 worshipped 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.

The Prayers of the People

Deacon: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

Lector: For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael our presiding Bishop, Douglas our Bishop, Hugh and Jim our Priests, Kevin our Deacon, for St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Clearwater and Anne, their Pastor, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Diocese of Southwest Florida, especially, especially, St. James' House of Prayer, Tampa; St. John's, Tampa; St. Mark's, Tampa; St. Mary's, Tampa; St. Catherine's, Temple Terrace; Holy Innocents Church, Valrico; St. Paul's Wesley Chapel, and St. Elizabeth's, Zephyrhills, and for the Anglican Communion throughout the world, in particular the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Joe our President, and Ron our Governor and for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those listed in our bulletin, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are celebrating birthdays this month, especially Kathy Gylfe, Steve Lasky, Carol Lyons, Derek Williams, Rose Marie Walter, Barbara Bowdoin-Kassel and Kevin Mort, and for those who are celebrating wedding anniversaries this month, especially Al and Betty Lelekacs, Steve and Cathy Lasky and Mike and Gina Flanigan, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of Mary, the God-bearer, Blessed John the Evangelist, and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. **To thee, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant: O God of mercy, we have your promise that we are loved. Hear our prayers for all of the world, hungering for your love, the love of your Son without end. **Amen.**

Children's Entrance: **"Jesus Loves Me"**

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory: (The people may sit)

Offertory Anthem: "This is my Father's world"

Franklin Sheppard - Music; Maltbie Babcock - Lyrics

Presentation of Gifts *(Please stand as the gifts are brought forward)*

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A (Stand)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(Here a Proper Preface is said)

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:

S130 - Holy, Holy, Holy

Schubert/Proulx

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

S146



Title: The Holy Eucharist, Amen; Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943); Copyright: © 1984, Theodore Presser Company. Used by permission.

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Celebrant and 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

Celebrant: Alleluia ! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia !**

The Communion

All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion.

Please stand or kneel at the rail.

The priest will place the Sacrament in your outstretched hands.

Communion Hymn: 412 - "Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets"

David N. Johnson

Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors *(as needed)*

Following the communion of the people, the Lay Eucharistic Ministers come forward and are commended for this ministry with the following words:

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

Celebrant: We who are many are one body,

People: Because we all share one bread, one cup.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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.

Blessing

Closing Hymn: 344 - "Lord, dismiss us with thy blessings"

Sicilian Mariners

The Dismissal: Response: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude: "Lead us, heavenly Father"

William H. Monk

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Welcome Visitors!

Please sign the guest book at the welcoming stand where information is available.

Visit our Website: <https://stjohnsclearwater.org/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnsClearwater/>

Join us for coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.

Announcements

Welcoming St. Paul's: Please join us for coffee hour in the parish hall after the service today. We will be making "Welcome" posters to welcome the people of St. Paul's Lutheran Church to St. John's on May 19.

Prayer Chapel: The Chapel is open for anyone wishing individual prayer. Everyone is welcome to go to the Chapel after communion to receive prayer with a member of The Daughters of the King. Prayer requests are held in strict confidence.

Thrift Shop Volunteers Needed! The Thrift Shop is looking for volunteers to work the front desk. There are two shifts - Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm or 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Please contact Caroline Barnett if you are interested. (727) 459-3650.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study - 10 am in the Parish Hall:

Our bible study meetings begin at 10:00am every Wednesday. See Bob Courtway if you have any questions.

Episcopal Migration Ministries: Those who want to financially support these efforts can donate online (link is in the enews).

Deadline for submission of articles for the bulletin is Tuesday, 3pm for the following Sunday bulletin.

Pray for the sick: James Bernard, Gerry Boone, Barbara Bowdoin, Sally Brown, Bruce Cates, The Most. Rev. Michael B. Curry, Ann D'Alessandro, Graham Dunn, Kristy Foltz, John Genevie, Nan Lanham, Mark Lelekacs, Kimberly McMillan, The Rev. George Razez, Eric

Rummler, Nancy Sawyer, The Rt. Rev. Dabney Smith, Deborah Smith, Kitty Smith, Chrissy Stroup, Sandy Walton, and Bonnie Zwigaitis.
Pray for the homebound: Elin Buchanan, Shirley Dunaway, Margarita Lopez, Hortense McGregor and Frank Sahms.

St. Paul's Wednesday Contemplative Services: During the summer, the Contemplative Worship Services will be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in St. John's church sanctuary at 7:15pm.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church: St. Paul's will move their Sunday worship to St. John's beginning Pentecost Sunday, May 19 with combined worship and fellowship together after the service.

To make a donation to St. John's, via Faithstreet, scan the QR code below:



Weekly Schedule

Thrift Shop Hours

Tue., Thu & Sat. 9:30 – 3:30

Retirees

2nd Monday of the month

Hand Bell Choir – Church Sanctuary

Tuesdays 6 pm

Voice Choir - Choir Room

2nd Floor Adm. Bldg

Tuesdays 7pm

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Parish Hall

Wednesday 10 am

Men's Cursillo Grouping

Parish Hall

Thursdays 7:30 am

Fiber Art – Parish Hall

Thursdays 10 am



**Diocese of Southwest Florida
The Rev. Douglas Scharf, Bishop**

St. John's Mission Statement:
To love, to serve, to grow in Christ

Church Staff

Priest	The Rev. Hugh Bell
Deacon	The Rev. Kevin Mort
Office Administrator	Jan Davis
Music Director	Jim May
Sexton	Bob Cates
Children's Ministry	Mary Anders

Vestry

Marlene Eichelberger	Sr. Warden
Marti Moore	Jr. Warden
Bob Courdway	Treasurer
Open	Stewardship
Jessi Griffin	Clerk & Communications
Sallie Devine	Outreach
Bonnie Lovell	Parish Life