



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:
THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY

SUNDAY 16 MAY 2021

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:30 A.M.

Prelude Prelude (from *Suite in A*)

Charles Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn "Crown him with many crowns" (*stanzas 1, 3, and 5 only*)

Diademata

The hymns today will be sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own;
awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of heaven, enthroned in worlds above,
crown him the King, to whom is given the wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns, as thrones before him fall;
crown him, ye kings, with many crowns, for he is King of all.

The Word of God

Easter Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ is risen.

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

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.**

Song of Praise: Canticle 13

John Rutter

Sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; *
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A reading from Acts (1:15-17, 21-26)

Commentary:

The disciples seemed to have a growing realization of the profound privilege and responsibility placed upon them, to tell the world about Jesus. The person chosen to take Judas' place had to be as qualified for this ministry as the other eleven, someone who was taught and trained by Jesus, someone who had shared His life and work. Having been a witness to Jesus' resurrection was especially important. Two men, apparently equally qualified, were nominated and the apostles prayed for God to show them which one He chose. Next they cast lots and the Lord indicated Matthias as His sovereign choice to fulfill the apostolic ministry.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus-- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us-- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

A reading from 1 John (5:9–13)

Commentary:

During Jesus' earthly ministry, God occasionally gave His witness concerning His Son (for two examples, see Matthew 3:17 and Matthew 27:51-53). Additionally, God testifies to the truth regarding Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. If a person does not believe the Spirit's testimony, he is saying God has lied. This is the content of God's testimony: Jesus Christ and eternal life, together, are one gift, given from God. Assurance of salvation rests on God's promise, not on man's works. We can be sure we have eternal life if we have placed our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn "The head that once was crowned with thorns" (stanzas 1–3 only)

St. Magnus

Sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.

The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns the mighty victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords is his, is his by right,
the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heaven's eternal Light;

the joy of all who dwell above, the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love and grants his Name to know.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (17:6–19)

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus prayed for his disciples, “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. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

The Nicene Creed

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 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

The response to each petition:

Risen Lord... **Hear our prayer.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem:

tune: *O Waly Waly*, arr. Mark Schweizer

Sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.

A memory of Eden stirs
and walks within the warmth of spring;
It whispers every hope God has
to Life Eternal, listening.

Stretch past the gloom of winter's grey,
unfurl by faith and not by sight;
to touch the light of lengthening day
that calls thee forth to green delight.

The work thou hast for me begun,
shall by thy grace be fully done;
for ever mercy dwells with thee;
O Lord, my God abide with me.

Beverly Easterling

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **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 him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

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

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

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:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

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. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

The Communion of the People

(Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

Sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.

Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen,
who thy glory hiddest 'neath these shadows mean;
lo, to thee surrendered, my whole heart is bowed,
tranced as it beholds thee, shrined within the cloud.

Taste and touch and vision to discern thee fail;
faith, that comes by hearing, pierces through the veil.
I believe what e'er the Son of God hath told;
what the Truth hath spoken, that for truth I hold.

O memorial wondrous of the Lord's own death;
living Bread that givest all thy creatures breath,
grant my spirit ever by thy life may live,
to my taste thy sweetness never-failing give.

Jesus, whom now hidden, I by faith behold,
what my soul doth long for, that thy word foretold:
face to face thy splendor, I at last shall see,
in the glorious vision, blessed Lord, of thee.

The Postcommunion Prayer

Priest and People

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn "Alleluia! sing to Jesus!" (*stanzas 1-3 only*)

Hyfrydol

The hymns today will be sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.

Alleluia! sing to Jesus! his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone:
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, thou on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude Hymn Prelude on *Hyfrydol*

June Nixon



Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

*The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Dev and Margaret Lippitt, and Dev, and Gabrielle Lippitt.*

Our Message to Visitors

Please know we appreciate so much that you have decided to worship with us today at St. James. Our Mission is to welcome all to grow in love of God and neighbor. So no matter where you come from or where you are going, no matter what you believe or what you doubt, no matter what you feel or don't feel today, you are welcome at St. James to be met by a God who knows you by name, who knows your heart, who knows your mind, and who wants to have a relationship with you.

Please provide your name and contact information on our Visitor Card for more information about St. James Episcopal Church and Mt. Lebanon Chapel.

ST. JAMES PARISH

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