

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn 405 All things bright and beautiful

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

1 Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colors,
he made their tiny wings. [Refrain]

2 The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky. [Refrain]

3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one. [Refrain]

4 He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well. [Refrain]

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.*

The Gloria

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.*

*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. Amen*

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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 Lessons

A Reading from Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 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. 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, 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. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. 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.’ 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. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 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.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:7-18 *Jubilate Deo*

7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of praise to be heard;

8 God holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

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

12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

15 I called out to God with my mouth, *
and high praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
God would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; *
and has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld steadfast love from me.

A Reading from 1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 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, 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; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

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, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 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 persons, were saved through water.

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, 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.
People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 291 We plow the fields and scatter

1. We plow the fields, and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand;
he sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain:
All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord
for all his love.

2. He only is the Maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star;
the wind and waves obey him,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread. [Refrain]

3. We thank thee, then, O Father,
for all things bright and good,
the seedtime and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food:
the gifts we have to offer
are what thy love imparts,

but chiefly thou desirest
our humble, thankful hearts. [Refrain]

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 14:15-21

”If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 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.” I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon The Reverend Nancy L. Threadgill

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.*

The Prayers of the People

Form V

Deacon or other leader

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy".

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Ketlen, our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust especially Joe, our President, and Josh, our Governor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who live and work in this community, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer;
For refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that
they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation for those who are present, and for
those who are absent, that we may be delivered from
hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that
we do, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all
whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for
our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from
anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to
you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For _____, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and
those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the
saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain
or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary,
and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another,
and all our life to Christ our God.
To you, O Lord our God.
Silence

Collect for Rogation Sunday

I. For fruitful seasons

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray
that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our
use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper
all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly
receiving good things from your hand, may always give you
thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

II. For Commerce and Industry

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly
Life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present
with your people where they work; make those who carry
on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to
your will; and give to us all a pride in what we do, and a
just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

III. For stewardship of creation

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy
The needs of every living creature: Make us always
thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we,
remembering the account that we must one day give,
may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through
Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy
Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Collect for Mother's Day

O Lord Jesus Christ, who came to live among us as the
child of a human mother: Bless us, we pray, as we gather
in this church to worship you and to thank you for our
mothers and all who have been mothers to us. Fill our
hearts with their love and yours, and help us always to
remember their love and their many gifts to us, not only
now but at all times. This we ask in your name's sake.
Amen.

Confession of Sin

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."
Mark 12:29-31

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

*Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

The Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another
in the name of the Lord.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15, 16*

Anthem

Choir and Organist

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

In this prayer, the lines in italics are spoken by the People.

The Celebrant says

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 him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy
Of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast

expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through Prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with All those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ

our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.
Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

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

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*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.*

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.*

*praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection.
I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your
Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse
and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let
me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and
you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

Hymn 513 Like the murmur of the dove's song

1 Like the murmur of the dove's song,
like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush,
like the new flame's eager might:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

2 To the members of Christ's Body,
to the branches of the Vine,
to the Church in faith assembled,
to her midst as gift and sign:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

3 With the healing of division,
with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness,
with the peace beyond compare:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

Let us pray.

Celebrant 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,*

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following
invitation.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and
feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

For those unable to receive the physical Communion at
this time please pray the following with me:

*My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the
Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you*

*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.*

Blessing

May the peace of God which passes all understanding
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God
and of God's son Jesus Christ, our Lord, and the
blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with
you now and always. Amen.

Hymn 392 Come, we that love the Lord

1 Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne.

Refrain:
Hosanna, hosanna!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing.

2 Let those refuse to sing
that never knew our God;
but children of the heavenly King
may speak their joys abroad. [Refrain]

3 The heirs of grace have found
glory begun below;
celestial fruits on earthly ground
from faith and hope may grow. [Refrain]

4 Then let our song abound
and let our tears be dry;

we're marching through Emmanuel's ground
to fairer worlds on high. [Refrain]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

From *The Book of Common Prayer 1979*

Hymns from *The Hymnal 1982*

Psalm from *The Saint Helena Psalter 2004*

Collect for Mother's Day by the Rev. Michael Stonhouse,
Anglican Church of Canada (<https://www.fathersonand.com/>,
2021)

If you would like to support the ministries of St. Mark's,
please go to the "Donate" page of our website
(<https://saintmarksjohnstown.com/give-to-support-st-marks-and-its-ministries/>) to see the many ways that you can contribute and
make your donation by Paypal or credit card. Pledge payments also
can be made online through the "Donate" page.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Brackenridge,
and the Rev. Dr. Frank Yesko

Altar Flowers Given to the Greater Glory of God

In Honor and Thanksgiving for all our
Mothers and Grandmothers,
living and deceased

Next Week's Readings

Acts 1:1-6
Psalm 68:1-10,33-36
1 Peter 4:12-14,5:6-11
John 17:1-11

*Sharing Christ's love unconditionally through
transformational worship and service*