



ST. JOHN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024 10:30 AM
St. John's, Jamaica Plain

Ministers: The People of St. John's

Today's Worship Team

Godly Play Storyteller: The Rev. Dorie Goehring

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Ted Cole, Jr.

Sub-Deacon: Andrew Schieffelin

Music Director: Harrison Lee

Organist: Carol Buller

Greeter: Ann Collins

Reader: Terry Boutelle

Altar Guild: Andrew Schieffelin & Shannon McCarthy

A/V Volunteer: Rachel Veto

Fellowship Hour: Theo, Zachary and Ted Cole

Flower Ministry: Iris Grant

Prelude

Welcome

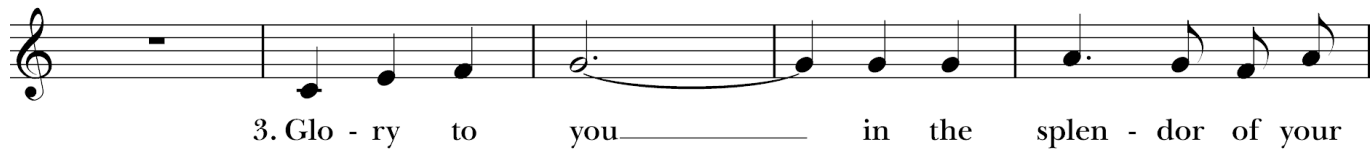
Opening Hymn: 1982 Hymnal #191 *Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise*

Opening Acclamation

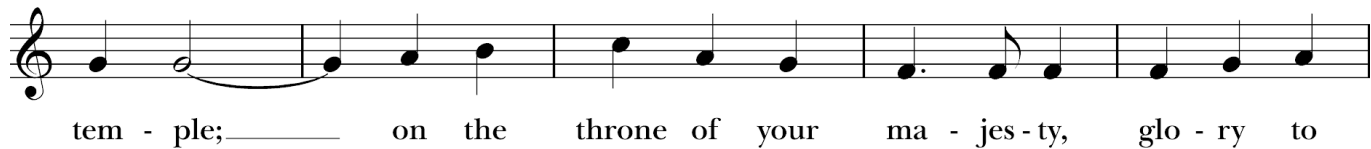
Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Song of Praise - 1982 Hymnal #S-236 (Rutter)

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord
God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____
_ for the ra - di-ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____



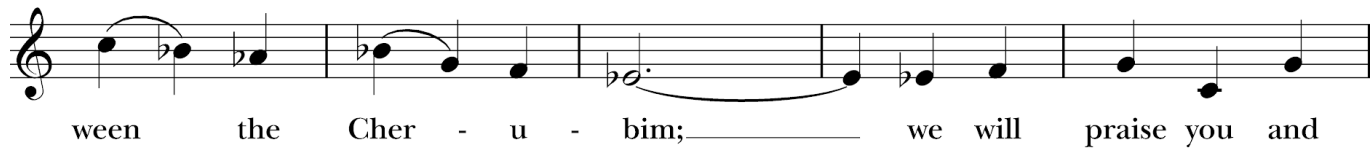
3. Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your



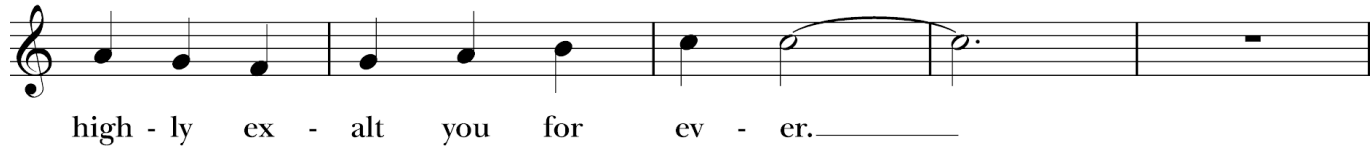
tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to



you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -

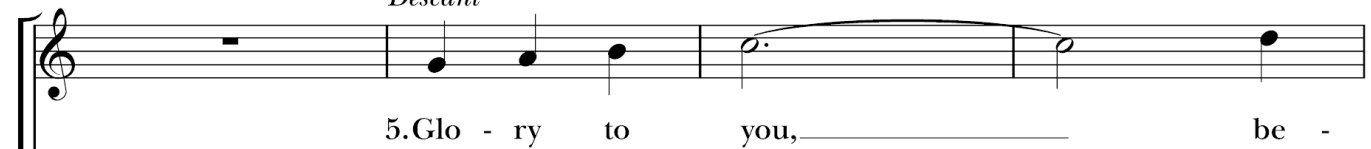


ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and



high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

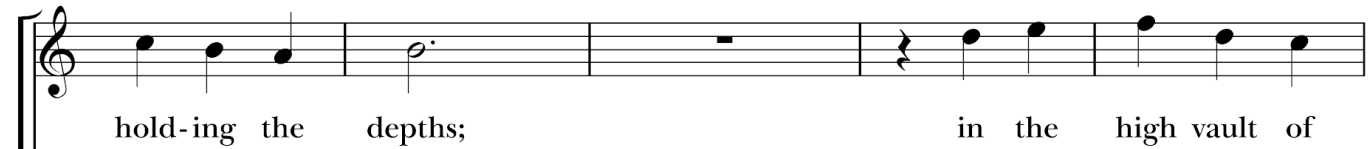
Descant



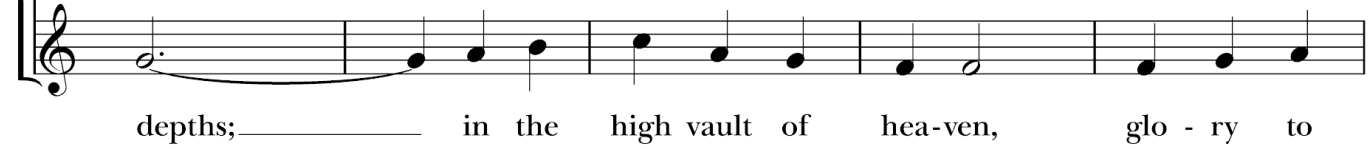
5. Glo - ry to you, be -



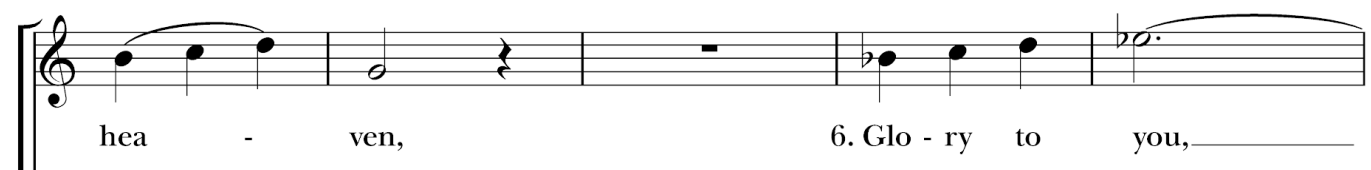
5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the



hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of



depths; in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to



hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you,



you. _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____ Fa - ther,
 _____ Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will
 Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; _____ we will praise you and
 high-ly ex - alt you Glo - ry to you! _____
 high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

Music: John Rutter (b. 1945). Copyright © 1985 Oxford University Press, Inc.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant May God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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 Sovereign, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant invites the people to sit for the lessons.

Psalm 98

*The text of the psalm is from the Book of Common Prayer,
and adapted for expansive language.*

1 Sing to the Holy One a new song, *
who has done marvelous things.

2 With the right hand and a holy arm *
has God won the victory for God's own glory.

3 The Holy One has made known this victory; *
God's righteousness has God openly shown in the sight of the nations.

4 God remembers the promise of mercy and faithfulness to God's people, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

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

6 Sing to the Holy One 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 Sovereign, the Holy One.

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 Holy One,
when God comes to judge the earth.

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

*The Bible texts are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989
by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA,
and used by permission. Texts are adapted for inclusive language.*

In the Easter season, we hear two lessons from the New Testament and a Gospel reading.

The First Reading

Reader A Reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

[Acts 10:44-48]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Godly Play Story and A Time of Wondering

The People stand for the reading of the Gospel. As the Gospel Procession walks to the Chancel Crossing, the choir and people sing the Sequence Hymn.

Sequence Hymn: Wonder, Love and Praise #297 *Descend, O Spirit, purging flame*

The Gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, O 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.”

[John 15:9-17]

The Gospel of our Savior.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

After the Celebrant proclaims the Gospel, the people remain standing and the Sub-Deacon invites the congregation to recite the Children’s Creed.

The Children’s Creed

**We believe in God, who loves us and wants us to love each other.
This is our God.**

**We believe in Jesus, who cared for children and held them in his arms.
He wanted a world where everyone could live together in peace.
This is Jesus Christ.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who keeps working with us until
everything is good and true. This is the Holy Spirit.**

**We can be the church, which reminds people of God because we love
each other. This we believe. Amen.**

[From the World Council of Church, 1999]

The Intercessor comes forward and leads the People in the Prayers.

The Prayers of the People - Book of Common Prayer Form IV

Intercessor Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

O God, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

O God, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Intercessor O God, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

O God, in your mercy
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

O God, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

O God, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

The Intercessor invites the People to offer aloud or in their hearts their concerns, thanksgivings and memorials this day. Prayer concerns from the LiveChat on YouTube may be shared aloud in the sanctuary. After the time of sharing is complete, the Intercessor offers the following prayer:

O God, we lift up to you these prayers spoken with our lips, and those prayers we speak to you in our hearts, and those prayers which we have no words to express in any way, knowing that, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, you hear our prayers before we even ask them. And further, we pray in the hope and in the confidence that in Christ Jesus, you are working blessings in our midst beyond our asking and imagining. In Christ's holy name, we pray. **Amen.**

In keeping with long standing Christian tradition, during the joy of the Easter season, we omit the Confession and proceed to the Peace.

The Peace

Celebrant

May the peace of Christ be always with you!

People

And also with you!

The Celebrant invites the People to share signs of Christ's peace .

The Offertory

We welcome your financial offerings to support the ministry of the St. John's community. You may give at our website through our online donation platform at the "Donate page" of our website:

www.stjohns-jp.org. You may also give via text message by sending the dollar amount of your donation to: (844) 935-2967. GivePlus Text will then walk you through a simple donation process. Thank you!

Offertory Anthem: Alleluia by William Boyce

The Celebrant invites the People to gather around the altar. As the Offering of bread, wine and financial gifts are elevated at the altar, the people, led by the choir, sing the Doxology.

The Doxology: 1982 Hymnal, #380, verse 3

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

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

adapted for expansive language

Celebrant May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to our God.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Holy Trinity our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus: 1982 Hymnal, H-S 125 (Proulx)

(Next page)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Creator: 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 Creator 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 Sovereign 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 God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 domain.

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

The Celebrant continues.

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

The Lord's Prayer (Contemporary Version)

Book of Common Prayer, Rite II:

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.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread and says

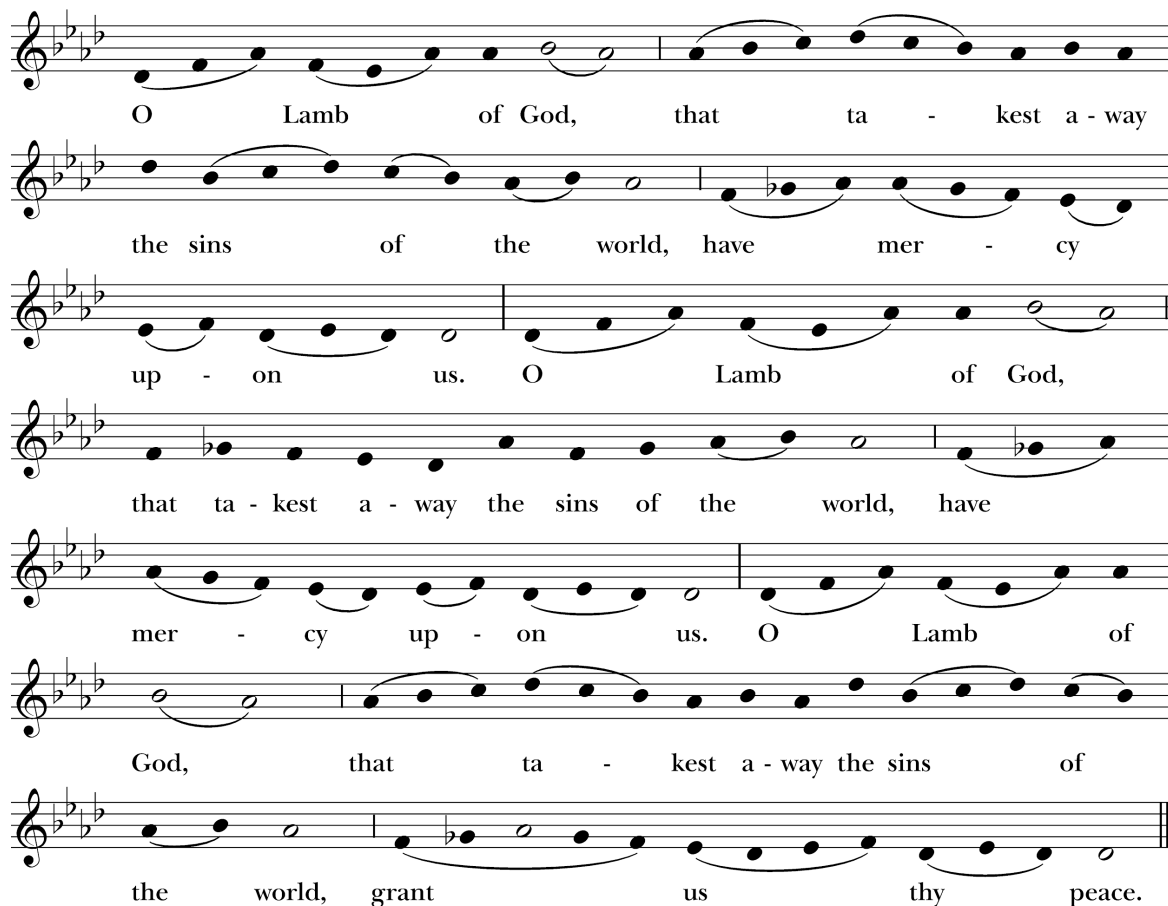
Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

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

Then the congregation offers the Fraction Anthem:

Fraction Anthem: 1982 Hymnal, S-159 (Douglas)

(Next page)



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way
the sins of the world, have mer - cy
up - on us. O Lamb of God,
that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of
the world, grant us thy peace.

Music: From *Missa Marialis*; Plainsong, Mode 5; Mass 9; adapt. and acc. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Celebrant offers the 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.

*While the altar ministers serve the Congregation,
the Music Director offers a musical meditation.*

Musical Improvisation during Communion

Post-Communion Prayer

*The Celebrant invites the People to stand and join
in the Post Communion Prayer.*

Celebrant Let us pray

Celebrant and People

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

Blessings Prayers for Birthdays & Baptism Anniversaries, Relationship Anniversaries and Life Transitions

Birthdays and Baptism Anniversaries:

O God, watch over your children _____ and _____ as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be, Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Relationship Anniversaries:

Gracious God, we lift your servants _____ and _____ to you in thanks for their love. Guide them as they grow, and surround them with your grace, that they may walk close to you and to one another always; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Life Transitions:

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us into your never-failing care and love, especially _____ and _____, and all those moving through life transitions at this time. We pray for them to you for this life and for the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or imagine, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

Celebrant May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Savior Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Eternal Majesty, the Incarnate Word, and the Everabiding Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: 1982 Hymnal #344 *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing*

The Dismissal

Sub-Deacon Go forth in the peace and power of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

During the Postlude, we invite you to a time of individual healing prayer with a member of our lay pastoral care team by the baptismal font, either for yourself or a loved one you hold in your heart.

Join Us after Service for Our Fellowship Hour

We gather for a time of food and fellowship in the back of the church after worship. Come join us!

New to the parish and want to connect with us? In the sanctuary, please fill out a white visitor card in your pew and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of the clergy. Participating on YouTube? Email our Parish Administrator Carmen at parish.admin@stjohns-jp.org to get signed up for our weekly email and ask to meet with one of our clergy for a friendly conversation.

Parish Prayer List

Concerns

Delva Bent
Winnie Lyons and Richard
Pettengill
The Lewis and Minick Families
Rev. Dr. Jim Speer
Laurie Speer
Mary Ellen Cahill
Andy and Sally Thomas
Kathryn O'Leary
Megan D.
Pere and Paquette Puigserver
Jim Grant
Carolyn Whitman
Scott, Penny, and Wolfgang
Wilhelm
Lori Reed
Juan Carlos

Christina Hopkins
Jefferson Lyons
Kierin Kerbawy
Thomas Groeneman
Mayra Escutia
Wendy Dodd
Jim and Nancy Lake

Memorials

Geraldine (Gerri) Romanos
Maria Minick
Ira Katz
Kate Brodeur
Johnny Collins
Perea Hopkins
William Jack Hamilton
Trudy Simpson

If you would like to add a concern, thanksgiving or memorial to our Parish Prayer List, please email the church office at parish.admin@stjohns-jp.org and we will be honored to add them.

St. John's News and Notes

The Community Meal Fundraising Success, and Not Too Late Take Part!

Thanks to our co-leaders, Abby Francis and Pat Race and all our volunteers, we had an excellent Community Meal last Sunday and generous participants gave over \$1000 towards the life and ministry of St. John's! Help us end the spring financially strong by adding your generous donation to our Community Meal fundraiser using the QR Code here!



Prepared Communion - Holy Communion Preparation for Children aged 7-9 We are very excited to form our next Prepared Communion class this spring for a four-week series of classes to get ready for a special Sunday worship where the children will receive Holy Communion. Contact Ted to learn more, reserve your spot and help us set our calendar (ted@stjohns-jp.org or call/text 617-942-0611).

St. John's and You - Becoming a Member - St. John's, Jamaica Plain is an exciting local parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. Taking part in worship and activities and offering financial support makes you a part of us! If you want more, you can formally become a member by participating in a New Member Rite on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. Speak with Dorie (dorie@stjohns-jp.org) or Ted (ted@stjohns-jp.org or call/text 617-942-0611) to express your interest and learn more!

St. John's and You - Becoming Episcopalian - Being a member of St. John's is open to anyone who participates in our worship life, supports the community financially and signs the church register. If you feel moved by our worship and values to become Episcopalian, we would be honored to go on that journey with you! Bishop Carol Gallagher is coming to St. John's on September 29 and at that service, after a time of preparation, she can confirm you as an Episcopalian or receive you into the Episcopal Church if you have been confirmed in another denomination. Speak with Ted to learn more and formally begin your journey to become Episcopalian! (ted@stjohns-jp.org or call/text 617-942-0611)

Upcoming Concerts at St. John's

**Apollo Ensemble - Open Rehearsal, Friday, May 17, 7:30 PM,
Performance Saturday, May 18, 7:30 PM**

Program:

Brahms - Variations on a Theme by Haydn

Vaughan Williams - The Lark Ascending

(Aidan Ip, Violin; Reuben Stern, Conductor)

Mendelssohn - Symphony No. 3 (Scottish)

Ways to Stay Connected with the St. John's Community

We send a **Weekly Email Newsletter** which is one of the best ways to get up to date information about what is happening at St. John's. Sign up on our website with this link or email our Parish Administrator Carmen at parish.admin@stjohns-jp.org.

Our blog, **The Red Door**, offers regular posts on music, social justice reflections and more. Find The Red Door here or type <https://www.stjohns-jp.org/news> in your browser.

St. John's is also on **Facebook** and **Instagram**

Our Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsJP/>

Our Instagram Page - <https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsjp/>

St. John's Vestry

Co-Warden: Ann Collins

Treasurer: Andrew Schieffelin

Member: Abigail Francis

Member: Shannon McCarthy

Co-Warden: Deb Whitman

Clerk: Ginnie Smith

Member: Alison Hodge

Member: Charlie Wibiralske

St. John's Clergy

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Ted Cole, Jr.

Curate: The Rev. Dorie Goehring

St. John's Staff

Music Director: Harrison Lee

Parish Administrator: Carmen Powell

Godly Play Teacher: Jess Easter

**MAY 5, 2024
SIXTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



Disciples lovingly accept the hospitality of others.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 15:9-17	Love one another
Monday	Acts 10:44-48	Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit
Tuesday	1 John 5:1-6	Faith conquers the world
Wednesday	Romans 12:14-21	Marks of the true Christian
Thursday	Luke 24:44-53	The ascension of Jesus
Friday	Leviticus 19:32-37	Living a holy life
Saturday	Psalm 98	Make a joyful noise
Sunday	John 17:6-19	Christ's prayer for his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

So he [Peter] ordered them [Cornelius and his household] to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.
Acts 10:48 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, being a guest in another person's home is not always easy to do. Give us love and courage to graciously accept the hospitality of others for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, you are the host at every meal. Help me to receive your hospitality and to be open to the hospitality of others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's steadfast love and faithfulness give you joy. (Psalm 98:3-4)



MAY 5, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Give Thanks for Saints



WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Tell or think about a memorable time when you have been a guest in someone else's home.
- In what ways do you show God's love when visiting others in their home?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Acts 10:44-48.

While Peter is speaking, he witnesses the work of the Holy Spirit that leads him to baptize Cornelius and his household. Then Peter accepts the hospitality of Cornelius, a Roman soldier (Acts 10:1-2). What would it have been like for Peter to receive food and lodging in the home of a Roman and a Gentile? It was most likely a dramatic change for Peter. It is one thing to be the host and invite someone to receive the hospitality, food, family and faith traditions of your own culture. It is quite another to be open to the cultural life of someone else. It can easily be disorienting. Will you like the food? Will you know or make adjustments to the appropriate manners expected? Will you pick up the right utensil? Will you embarrass your host or yourself? Being a guest is not easy and requires attentiveness, acceptance, and grace. That is what the church is asked to do, to be vulnerable and not in control. That is what Jesus and the Holy Spirit expect of us, too.

Discuss: How does your openness to someone else's hospitality show the love of God to that person?

Pray: **Gracious God, your kindness knows no end. Give us faith to be open to the lives and ways of others that together we may give praise to you through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you be open to the hospitality and cultural traditions of others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Throughout the Bible and the history of the church, singing has been a faithful way of worshipping God and expressing one's faith in God (Psalm 98). Sing or read the words of a favorite hymn. Begin your singing and reading by praying the words of Psalm 98:4: **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org