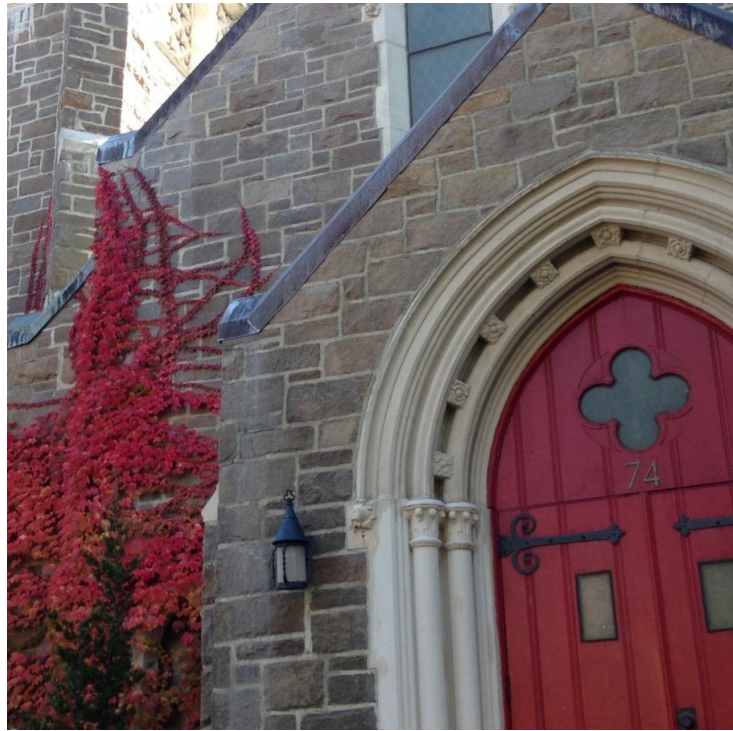


St. John's Episcopal Church

74 Pleasant Street
Arlington, Massachusetts

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14th, 2023



Sunday Worship Service

We welcome you to St. John's Church!

Parish Office: 781-648-4819

Web Site: <http://www.saintjohns-arlington.org>

Office Email: admin@saintjohns-arlington.org

Treasurer Email: treasurer@saintjohns-arlington.org

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsarlington>

Rector: The Reverend Diane Wong

Deacon: The Reverend Dawn Tesorero

Music Director & Organist: Alex Kirstukas

Church School Coordinator: Chirusha de Mel

Parish Administrator: Susan Brooks

Sexton: Erwin Rosales

Nursery Assistant: Anna Bilsky-Endo

VESTRY MEMBERS

Co-Warden: Cate Barr (2024); **Co-Warden:** Christine Carney (2025)

Treasurer: Vern Brown (2024)

Clerks: Dorothy Mallam & David Wilcox (2025)

Kermit Argon & Claire Walker (2025)

David Wilcox & Dorothy Mallam (2026)

DELEGATES

Alewife Deanery – Louie Steptoe (2023); Emelia Blankson (2024)

Alewife Deanery Co-Convener – Anson Stewart (2024)

Diocesan Delegates – Phil Killewald (2023); Frank Foster (2024)

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS
Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 14th, 2023

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Processional Hymn: "God is Love"

#379 in 1982 Hymnal

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

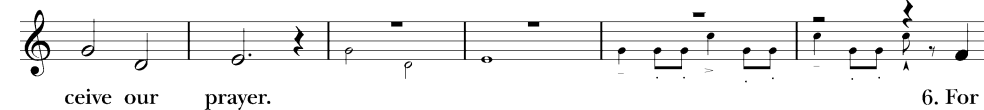
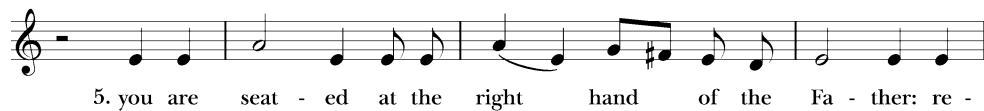
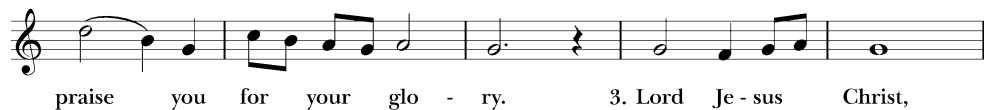
People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Collect for Purity:

All: 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: Gloria in excelsis

S278 in 1982 Hymnal



7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect for Today:

All: 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.*

Readings

The First Lesson: Acts 17: 22-31

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

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who 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 he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

The Epistle: 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.

Gradual Hymn: "When Christ was Lifted from the Earth"

#603 in 1982 Hymnal

(Sing vs. 1-3 before the reading and v. 4 after the reading.)

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: John 14: 15-21

Jesus said, "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."

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Diane Wong

The Nicene Creed

ALL: 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 the People

In our prayers today we remember those on our parish prayer list: Henri & Eva Blaauw; Emelia Blankson; Nancy Brown; Chris Capaldi; Carol; Gene & Donna Downing; Edith; Carol Gallagher; Alex Greenly; Jack; Linda; Connie McKinley; Bruce Oliver; Lucy Pachter; Sanaye (pron Se-NIE); Savannah; Susi Ryan; Philip Tesorero; Tina; Tristan; Vivien; Claire Walker; Ralph Walker; and Don Webb.

We remember also Military Families and Military Chaplaincies.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. James' Church in Amesbury; Christ Church in Andover; All Saints' Church in Chelmsford; St. James' Church in Groveland; and Trinity Church in Haverhill.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for The Church of the Province of West Africa.

Remembrances: In loving memory of Katherine Wall by Barbara Hayes.

Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God who has delivered God's people from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Let us lift our voices and pray,
Risen Lord,

Hear our Prayer.

Let us give thanks to God for the multitude of blessings showered upon us:
For our lives and for those whom we love,
For the beauty of this home God has created for us,
For our families and our friendships,
Let us give thanks to the God of Life.

Risen Lord,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for the Church, that it may carry forward the redemptive works of God:
For our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; our bishops Alan Gates and Carol Gallagher; for our priest Diane; our Deacon Dawn, and all other ministers;
For the many lay people who serve the church,
And serve the world through the church.
For those gather here in worship and prayer.
Risen Lord,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for those to be baptized, that the joy of Easter may ever grow within them, and that the Spirit may guide them in lives of active faith.
Risen Lord,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the world, that the powers that oppress and destroy may decline, And that justice, peace, and prosperity be lifted up.
Risen Lord,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for those who are sick, those who suffer, those who struggle: and who have died:
That the hope born of Easter give them peace, acceptance and renewal, And that through their struggles they may come into closer communion with the God who redeems and restores.
Risen Lord,
Hear our Prayer.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

(These prayers are adapted from a version used by St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Evanston, IL in 2006.)

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Announcements

LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Offertory: "Let All Things Now Living"

by Katherine K. Davis

*** Offertory Anthem sung by the St. John's Choir; with Louie Steptoe on violin ***

Doxology #380, v. 3: (Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.)

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

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.

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

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:

Sanctus:

S130 in 1982 Hymnal

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 in 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, according to his command, O loving God,

All:

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with (_____) and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant and People:

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us,
We are bold to pray:

All:

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.*

Fraction

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

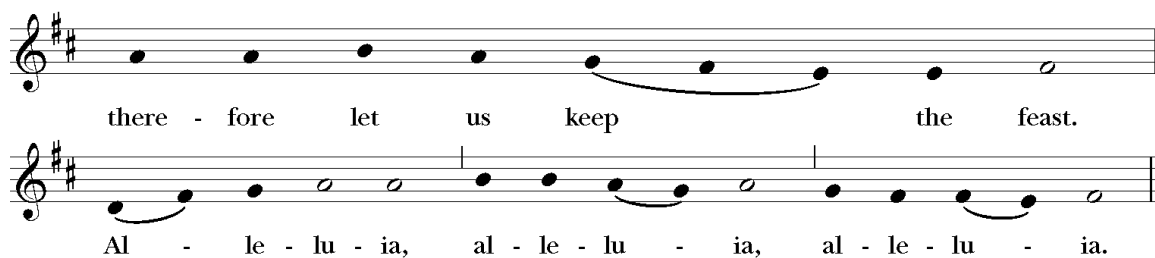
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem:

S154 in 1982 Hymnal

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;



Celebrant: (Communion Invitation) The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion: (All are welcome at God’s Table. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please stand with your arms crossed. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Please let the clergy know if you need them.)

Communion Hymn: “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hand” #217 in LEVAS

Communion Prayer for People on Zoom

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. *Amen.*

Post Communion Prayer (*Please stand.*)

All: 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.*

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: “Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing” #344 in 1982 Hymnal

Dismissal

Postlude

Liturgical Ministers

Lectors: David Wilcox & Frank Foster

Crucifer/LEM: Frank Foster

Choir: St. John’s Choir

Musician: Louis Steptoe, Violin

Altar Guild: Jan Ford

Ushers/Greeters: Mary Jo Larson & David Wilcox

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OUR MISSION: We share the good news of God's love to all who worship with us, through fellowship with our neighbors, and through our service in partnership with the greater community.

OUR VISION: We seek to always grow in our understanding of God's plan for us as individuals, families, and as a Christian community. Together we will deepen our capacity to serve, to respond to God's call, and to grow our collective ability to be stewards of God's gifts.

MUSIC: The music for the day is listed in this booklet. Hymns are found in the 1982 Hymnal and LEVAS (Lift Every Voice and Sing). On the hymn board, blue next to the numbers indicates the 1982 Hymnal; red indicates LEVAS; and green indicates Wonder Love and Praise – usually there is an insert for that.

CHILDREN: Children are welcome in our worship services! Church School is available during the 10 a.m. service in the church school room downstairs.

COMMUNION: Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion. Those not receiving the sacrament may come forward with their arms crossed to receive a blessing. Both communion wine & juice are offered. If you desire to be baptized, or have questions about baptism, please see the clergy following the worship service.

RESTROOMS: To access the restrooms from the Sanctuary, exit through the door to the left of the altar, turn to your right, and go downstairs. There is also a handicap-accessible restroom on the same level as the Sanctuary, in the Library – exit through the door to the left of the altar, go through two sets of doors, and the restroom is straight ahead of you on the left.

WELCOME TO ALL WHO GATHER FOR WORSHIP TODAY: If you are visiting, please sign our guest book. We would love to get to know you a little better. Please join us after the worship service for refreshments and hospitality. If you would like to know more about this congregation please feel free to speak to the clergy, the Greeters/Ushers, or with any parishioners. In addition, there is printed material about the congregation at the rear of the Sanctuary.