

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Santa Clarita

The First Sunday of Pentecost — Trinity Sunday

10:30 AM — May 31, 2026

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Cathy Gero and Linda & Joe Merkens in memory of Judy Gero Wachsmuth, loving sister, wife, mother and grandmother - a child of God.

Before the service begins, we encourage you to use the following for meditation.

We live our lives in the middle of seeking God's counsel and doing our best to follow it. That is the most we can ask of ourselves and our fellow human beings. We answer the never-ending problems of our lives with the same answer we have in our Baptismal Covenant: "I will, with God's help."

Br. Jack Crowley, SSJE

-Generally, we stand to give praise, sit to listen (to scripture and sermon), and stand or kneel to pray. These postures help us stay focused on the worship, but there are no strict rules and you should take whatever posture is appropriate to your needs.-

Prelude

Goin' to the Holy City

Joseph M. Martin

-Processions have long been an important part of liturgical worship. At the beginning of the service they signify an intention to move toward the altar and into direct relationship to worship God. Those who wish to may bow in reverence as the cross passes to acknowledge Christ's sacrifice upon it.-

Entrance Hymn #362

"Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty"

Nicaea

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee:
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the sin - ful hu - man eye thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.
 which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

-The liturgy is God's community gathered to actively share the Word and the Eucharist. We invite and encourage your participation in this community. Please join in the spoken responses and hymns shown in the service bulletin.-

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

-The opening acclamation is the greeting of the people by the presider and their response, which begins the service. Its purpose is to bring the congregation corporately into dialogue with the presider and set a tone for the celebration.-

Priest: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Collect for Purity

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 Savior. **Amen.**

Gloria

Baity

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, glo-ry to God! Glo-ry to God in the high-est, glo-ry to God! And peace to His peo-ple on earth, peace to His peo-ple on earth. Glo - ry, glo-ry to God!

Verse 1

Lord God, our heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God the Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks. We praise you Lord, We praise you Lord, We praise you for your glo - ry.

Verse 2

Je - sus Christ, the Son, the Lamb, you take a - way our sin. Lord God have mer - cy up - on us. You have the seat at God's right hand, re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.

Verse 3

You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are Lord, For you a lone
 are the Most High! Lord Je-sus Christ, Lord Je-sus Christ,
 with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the glo-ry of our
 Fa-ther, in the glo-ry of our God the Fa-ther.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, glo-ry to God! Glo-ry to God in the
 high-est, glo-ry to God! And peace to His peo-ple on earth,
 peace to His peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry!
 Glo-ry! Glo-ry! glo-ry to God!

-A Collect is a short prayer with a specific structure. Its purpose is to gather into one the individual prayers of the People. The Collect of the Day is a specific prayer that reflects upon the lectionary readings for the given day of the liturgical year:-

The Collect of the Day

Priest: God be with you.
 People: **And also with you.**
 Priest: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Reader: Marianne Zinkewicz

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

-The Book of Common Prayer has always placed great importance on the Psalms in worship. They are sung or said in every service of the church, and their words make up the petitions and language of our liturgy. —

Canticle 13

Reader: Fred Chavez

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.

The Second Reading 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Reader: Fred Chavez

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

-The Gospel procession moves into the congregation as a liturgical reminder that Jesus walked among us. -

Please stand as you are able.

Gradual Hymn #29

“O Trinity of blessed light

Bromley

1 O Trin - i - ty of bless - ed light, O U - ni -
2 To thee our morn - ing song of praise, to thee our
3 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ re -

ty of prince - ly might, the fier - y sun now
eve - ning prayer we raise; O grant us with thy
vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

goes his way; shed thou with - in our hearts thy ray.
saints on high to praise thee through e - ter - ni - ty.
Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

-The Gospel is comprised primarily of the words Christ himself spoke, and so we stand out of reverence for the good news that has been brought for us and all people.

Those who wish, make the sign of the cross with the right-thumb on the forehead, the lips, and the heart when the Gospel is announced, praying silently, God be in my head and in my thinking. God be in my lips and in my speaking. God be in my heart and my departing.-

The Gospel Reading Matthew 28:16-20

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Savior.
People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

-The Sermon or Homily helps us apply the words of the early prophets and Christ in our lives.-

The Sermon

Catherine Gero
Postulant

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

-The Nicene Creed is the statement of what we believe. It is one of the most ancient and corporate confession of our faith, having been adopted by the first ecumenical council in the year 325. When we recite this creed we are joining a great heritage of the holy universal Church through the centuries.

Some people may choose to bow their heads at the verse, For us and for our salvation...and was made man. This gesture marks the mystery of the Incarnation as the central Christian message of God's love for the world.-

Please stand as you are able.

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.**

-Prayer is offered for the Universal Church, the Nation and all in authority, the welfare of the world, concerns of the local community, for those who suffer or who are in any trouble, and for the departed.-

The Prayers of the People

Reader: Kelsey Raub

Siblings in Christ, live in peace. With gracious hearts appeal to the Lord, saying, "Glory to you, Holy Trinity; we will praise you and highly exalt you forever."

Holy Trinity, you separated the light from the darkness: may your Church ever dwell in your radiance and walk in the light of your love.

Silence

Intercessor: Glory to you, Holy Trinity;

People: We will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Holy Trinity, you placed the same sky above all people: may people all over the world live in peace with one another.

Silence

Intercessor: Glory to you, Holy Trinity;

People: We will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Holy Trinity, you created all things good: give us the will to respect and preserve your creation, that future generations may experience the goodness of all you have made.

Invite the congregation to add thanksgivings, followed by silence

Intercessor: Glory to you, Holy Trinity;

People: We will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Holy Trinity, you created the sun to give us light: shine your light on our city, that the shadow places may be exposed. May your justice and peace reign in our neighborhoods.

Silence

Intercessor: Glory to you, Holy Trinity;

People: We will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Holy Trinity, from your hand comes forth creatures great and small: as you care for even the smallest creature, show your loving-kindness to all who call out to you for help. Grace the lives of your children with healing and strength. We pray for all those on the prayer list, especially Susana, Clarence, Jerri, and Jeff.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence

Intercessor: Glory to you, Holy Trinity;

People: We will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Holy Trinity, you created humankind in your image and you promised to be with us always: may those who have died take comfort in your eternal presence.

Silence

Intercessor: Glory to you, Holy Trinity;

People: We will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Priest:

O Gracious God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, the one, holy and undivided Trinity; God, Son & Spirit now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution

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

-The Peace is an extension of Christian greeting and teaching to love our neighbor as ourselves. It symbolizes our intent to forgive as we are forgiven, to live in peace with all people. Members are encouraged to greet one another with a sign of God's peace with the clasping of hands, a reverential bow, a hug, or a peace sign.-

The Peace

Priest: The peace of Christ be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Members of the congregation who are joining us via livestream are encouraged to post "Peace be with you" in the comments or to use the "like" or "love" reaction button to take part in the virtual exchange of God's peace with the rest of the congregation at this time.

Please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

We are pleased to celebrate the following birthdays: Luke Thompson on June 2nd, Julie Davenport, Keith Thompson and Chantelle Vo on June 5th, and Liliana Torres on June 6th.

Offertory Prayer

The People remain seated and say together:

Loving God, you alone are the source of every good gift. Everything we have, and all that we are, comes from you. Now, help us to be grateful, accountable, and, with praise and thanksgiving, to give of ourselves generously, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory

Hymn to the Holy Spirit
St. Stephen's Parish Choir

Randolph Currie

-A Sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace given unto us, ordained by Christ himself. For Anglicans there are two great sacraments: Eucharist and Baptism.

As continuation of thousands of years of spiritual practice, talent, treasure, and oblations are offered before the altar in our response to God's care and nurture.-

Please stand as you are able.

Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow, Praise God all crea - tures,
here be - low. Praise God, you hosts in heav'n a -
bove; Praise God the Trin - i - ty of Love. A - men.

-The Sursum Corda (Lift up your hearts) is a form of introduction to prayer handed down over the centuries. This dialogue is an invitation for the people joining in the Eucharistic offering, to raise minds and hearts to "things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God."

Priest: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest: Let us give thanks.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

-We praise God for the long arc of salvation history. We do not approach with petition but simply with grateful remembrance of all that God has done.-

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

-The holiness of God is a strong theme in the Old Testament, present here in the Sanctus, which echoes the words of the high angels in the prophet Isaiah's vision of the dwelling place of God (Isaiah 6:1-3).

Our worshipful cry, "Holy, Holy, Holy," is coupled with the acclamation "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest."

and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

-The fraction (breaking of the bread) is a crucial link between what has come before and what comes after it. Christ has offered his life for us, and the breaking of the bread makes it possible for all to share in that life.-

Please remain standing during the Fraction Anthem.

Fraction Hymn WLP #877

“The disciples knew the Lord Jesus”

Sedio

Refrain
Cantor: *ALL:*

The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread. The dis -
 ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread. bread. _____

1.2. to verses | 3.

1. The bread which we break, alleluia,
 is the communion of the Body of Christ. *(Refrain)*
2. One body are we, alleluia,
 though many we share one bread. *(Refrain)*

-The outward and visible sign in the sacrament of the Eucharist is the bread and the wine. We eat and drink the sacramental foods. Through the inward and spiritual grace of this sacramental action we are reconstituted as Christ's body, infused with Christ's life, and empowered to be Christ's presence in the world.-

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.

Please be seated.

All are welcome to receive communion. The table we set belongs to God. Wherever you find yourself on your spiritual journey you are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine made holy.

The church teaches that temporal isolation cannot constrain the sacrament's ineffable power. Calling us to "massive, corporate, spiritual communion,"

The Invitation to Holy Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Priest and People say together:

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.

Please be seated.

Please follow usher instructions for taking communion.

Communion

-In the post communion prayer we give thanks for the sacramental signs of Christ's presence to us and we ask God to empower and accompany us into the world to witness to God's love.-

Please stand as you are able.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

-The blessing is God's promise to be with us as we leave communal worship and return to the world to serve God and God's people.-

Blessing

*-Processions have long been an important part of liturgical worship. At the conclusion of the service the retiring procession represents the carrying of the Gospel message into the world.
Those who wish to may bow in reverence as the cross passes to acknowledge Christ's sacrifice upon it.-*

Closing Hymn #368

“Holy Father, great Creator”

Regent Square

1. Ho - ly Fa - ther, great Cre - a - tor, source of mer - cy,
 2. Ho - ly Je - sus, Lord of glo - ry, whom an - gel - ic
 3. Ho - ly Spi - rit, Sanc - ti - fi - er, come with unc - tion
 4. God the Lord, through ev - ery na - tion let thy won - drous
 love, and peace, look up - on the Me - di - a - tor,
 hosts pro - claim, while we hear thy won - drous sto - ry,
 from a - bove, touch our hearts with sa - cred fi - re,
 mer - cies shine. In the song of thy sal - va - tion
 clothe us with his right - eous - ness; heaven - ly Fa - ther,
 meet and wor - ship in thy Name, dear Re - deem - er,
 fill them with the Sa - vior's love. Source of com - fort,
 ev - ery tongue and race com - bine. Great Je - ho - vah,
 heaven - ly Fa - ther, through the Sa - vior hear and bless.
 dear Re - deem - er, in our hearts thy peace pro - claim.
 Source of com - fort, cheer us with the Sa - vior's love.
 great Je - ho - vah, form our hearts and make them thine.

-The dismissal asserts the relationship between worship and living. It is a call to mission, a call to live the baptismal and Eucharistic life in the world.-

The Dismissal

Priest: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
 People: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People taken from *Praying the Scriptures* by Jeremiah D. Williamson, ©2014 by Jeremiah D. Williamson. All Rights Reserved.
Spiritual Communion Prayer: St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787
 From *The Hymnal 1982* #29 "O Trinity of blessed light", Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866). St. 3, Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. John Chandler (1806-1876) Music: Bromley, Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809). #85-129 Title: The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus* Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). #368 "Holy Father, great Creator" Words: Alexander Viets Griswold (1766-1843), alt. Music: Regent Square, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879); desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971) Copyright: Music: Descant © 1953, Novello & Company Limited. Used by permission. #362 "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt. Music: *Nicaea*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).
 From *Wonder, Love and Praise*: #877 Title: Fraction Anthem: The disciples knew the Lord Jesus Music: Mark Sedio (b. 1954)
Doxology - Music: Old 100th, melody from *Pseumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. After Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)