



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
SAINTS JAMES AND ANDREW

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

10:00 am

Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion
In-Person and Live-streamed

Followed by Coffee & Conversation
Cloisters & Whiteman Room

Welcome to the Season of Easter

Welcome to Worship! We are blessed by your presence with us today. In celebrating the resurrection and Christ's presence with the disciples, throughout this Easter we open ourselves to the new life which God offers us.

Our liturgy is drawn primarily from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer and Enriching Our Worship 1 & 2. We also frequently make use of other approved worship resources from elsewhere within the Anglican Communion, such as the Church of England, Scottish Episcopal Church, Anglican Church of Canada, and the Anglican Church in New Zealand, as well as Eucharistic Prayers and Prayers of the People which correlate to the Revised Common Lectionary. We believe that the use of fresh language provides us the opportunity to broaden and deepen our relationship with God. Our music is drawn primarily from the Hymnal 1982, Wonder, Love, and Praise, and Lift Every Voice and Sing II, and other approved hymnals. All materials are printed with permission using RiteSeries.

Please note that our worship is live-streamed to Facebook.

Our Mission

We believe God is calling us to cultivate a community of love, joy, hope, and healing. Jesus is our model for a life of faith, compassion, hospitality and service. We strive to be affirming and accessible, welcoming and inclusive; we seek to promote reconciliation, exercise responsible stewardship, and embrace ancient traditions for modern lives.

Prelude

A Voluntarie for my ladye nevell [1591] William Byrd (ca. 1540-1623)

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Molly Scherm

The Hymnal 1982 - #455

O Love of God, how strong, how true

Dunedin



1 O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal
 2 O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous Love, we read thee
 3 We read thee best in him who came to bear for
 4 We read thy power to bless and save e'en in the



and yet ev - er new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -
 in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -
 us the cross of shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on
 dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion



bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all thought.
 low, in seas that swell and streams that flow.
 high, our life to live, our death to die.
 light we read the full - ness of thy might.

Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

Music: *Dunedin*, Vernon Griffiths (b. 1894)

LM

The Gathering of the People

In the name of God: Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life.

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Grace to you and peace
 from God our Creator,
 the love at our beginning
 and without end,
 in our midst and with us.

**God is with us,
 here we find new life.**

(Source: The New Zealand Prayer Book)

Song of Praise

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.

Collects

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

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.**

First Reading

Acts 10:44-48

Diane Kurkulonis

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98



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- 1 Sing a new song to **God**, *
who has done marvel-**ous things**.
- 2 With your right hand, O God, and your holy **arm**, *
you have won for yourself **the victory**.
- =
- 3 You have made known your **victory**; *
your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of **the nations**.
- 4 You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of **Israel**, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of **our God**.
- =
- 5 Shout with joy to God, all you **lands**; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, **and sing**.
- 6 Sing to God with the **harp**, *
with the harp and the voice **of song**.
- =
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the **horn**, *
shout with joy before our God who reigns **in majesty**.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is **in it**, *
the lands and those who dwell **there-in**.
- =
- 9 Let the rivers clap their **hands**, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before God, /
who will come to judge **the earth**;
- 10 God shall judge the world in **righteousness** *
and the peoples **with equity**.

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Second Reading

1 John 5:1-6

Sheila Heffernon

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

John 15:9-17

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

Glory to you, Lord 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Silence for Reflection

The Nicene Creed

Bill Hattendorf

**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
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.

The Prayers of the People

Julie Carew

God of love, your Spirit extends beyond all boundaries to encompass the whole world.
Unite all who share your name as members of the same family of faith.
May your Church be one as you are one.
Risen Lord,
Fill our hearts with Easter joy.

God of love, your Spirit breaks restrictions of nationality, race, and language.
Unite all people as members of the same human family.
Strengthen all who foster and seek peace.
Risen Lord,
Fill our hearts with Easter joy.

God of love, your Spirit calls us together as friends and neighbors.
Give us concern for the needs of all in our community.
Expand our compassion beyond personal networks and affiliations.
Risen Lord,
Fill our hearts with Easter joy.

God of love, your Spirit draws us to abide in your love.
Hold in your embrace all who are ill or at the limits of their endurance, especially those who have
asked for our prayers: Annie, Gordon, Kirsten, Ed, June, Kathryn S., Allison, and Gerda.

The altar flowers are given in loving memory of Meaghan Burns. We give thanks for the ministry of
the Property Committee. At this time, I invite your prayers of thanksgiving or intercession either
silently, aloud, or in the comment section of our virtual worship.

Silence

Risen Lord,
Fill our hearts with Easter joy.
God of love, your Spirit breathes life into your creation.
In you Son, give new life to all who have died.
Bring us through the waters of death to the life eternal.
Risen Lord,
Fill our hearts with Easter joy. Amen.

(Source: Intercessions for Years A, B, and C by Ian Black, adapted for use at S3JA)

Confession & Absolution

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven,
whose wrongs are pardoned.

Silence

God forgives and heals us.
**We need your healing, merciful God:
give us true repentance.**
**Some sins are plain to us;
some escape us,
some we cannot face.**
**Forgive us;
set us free to hear your word to us;
set us free to serve you.**

God the Creator brings us new life,
forgives and redeems us.
Let us take hold of this forgiveness
and live our lives
in the Spirit of Jesus.
Amen.

(Source: The New Zealand Prayer Book)

Exchange of Peace

Having received God's word of hope and new life, we share a sign of God's peace with one another.

The peace of God be with you all.
In God's justice is our peace.
Friends and siblings, Christ calls us to live in unity.
We seek to live in the Spirit of Christ.

(Source: The New Zealand Prayer Book)

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Birthdays: O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversaries: O gracious and ever living God, look mercifully on those who come to re-new the promises they have made to each other. Grant them your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their promises

and vows; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Offertory Sentence

Offering

To donate online: Text “Give” (978) 525-0712

Offertory Anthem

A New Commandment

Thomas Tallis (1515-1585)

A new commandment give I unto you, saith the Lord, that ye love together,
as I have loved you, that even so ye love one another.

By this shall every man know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. John 13:34-35

The Preparation of the Gifts

God of all creation, you bring forth
bread from the earth
and fruit from the vine.
By your Holy Spirit this bread and wine
will be for us
the body and blood of Christ.
All you have made is good.
Your love endures for ever.

(Source: The New Zealand Prayer Book)

The Great Thanksgiving

(Source: The New Zealand Prayer Book)

The Spirit of God be with you.
And also with you.
Lift your hearts to heaven
where Christ in glory reigns.
Let us give thanks to God.
It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, the first born from the dead, the pioneer of our salvation, who is with us always, one of us, yet from the heart of God. For with your whole created universe, we praise you for your unfailing gift of life. We thank you that you make us human and stay with us even when we turn from you to sin.

God's love is shown to us:
while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.

In that love, dear God, righteous and strong to save, you came among us in Jesus Christ, our crucified and living Lord. You make all things new. In Christ's suffering and cross you reveal your glory and reconcile all peoples to yourself, their true and living God. In your mercy you are now our God. Through Christ you gather us, new-born in your Spirit, a people after your own heart. We entrust ourselves to you, for you alone do justice to all people, living and departed.

**Now is the acceptable time,
now is the day of salvation.**

Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise you and say:

The Hymnal 1982 - S114

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord: Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is the one that com - eth -
— in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

All glory to you, Giver of life sufficient and full for all creation. Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ, the one perfect offering for the world, who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me. After supper he took the cup; 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 all, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me. Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death of Jesus our redeemer, we meet you in your glory. We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name. Here and now, with this bread and wine, we celebrate your great acts of liberation, ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

May Christ ascended in majesty be our new and living way, our access to you, our Creator, and source of all new life. In Christ we offer ourselves to do your will. Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit, feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ with all who share your gifts of love.

**Through Christ,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Creator God. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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 Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the bread in silence and then says

The bread we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.
**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

The priest may lift the cup.

The cup of blessing
for which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
Book)

(Source: The New Zealand Prayer

Spiritual Communion

Please join us for a moment of quiet, and then we invite those worshipping at home and any moved to pray with them in solidarity to join in the prayer for spiritual communion.

Silence

Let us pray:

Living God, holy Christ, we offer you praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim your resurrection. We who do not receive the sacrament of bread and wine today long for your spiritual presence, that we may be strengthened by your grace, and that we may draw ever-closer to you and to one another. We pray you, come into our hearts, that we may live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Invitation & Distribution of Communion

All are invited to come forward to receive communion, or a blessing from the clergy. If you wish for gluten free wafer, please tell the clergy.

The Prayer after Communion

Most loving God, creator and redeemer,
we give you thanks
for this foretaste of your glory.

Through Christ, and with all your saints,
 we offer ourselves
 and our lives to your service.
 Send us out in the power of your Spirit,
 to stand with you in your world.
 We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant,
 our friend and brother. Amen.

Book

(Source: The New Zealand Prayer

The Blessing

Announcements *(see back pages)*

The Hymnal 1982 - #492

Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness

Finnian

1 Sing, ye faith - ful, sing with glad - ness, wake your no - blest,
 2 Sing how he came forth from hea - ven, bowed him - self to
 3 So, he tast - ed death for mor - tals, he, of hu - man -
 4 Now on high, yet ev - er with us, from his Fa - ther's

sweet - est strain, with the prais - es of your Sa - vior
 Beth - lehem's cave, stooped to wear the ser - vant's ves - ture,
 kind the head, sin - less one, a - mong the sin - ful,
 throne the Son rules and guides the world he ran - somed,

let his house res - ound a - gain; him let all your
 bore the pain, the cross, the grave, passed with - in the
 Prince of life, a - mong the dead; thus he wrought the
 till the ap - point - ed work be done, till he see, re -

mu - sic hon - or, and your songs ex - alt his reign.
 gates of dark - ness, thence his ban - ished ones to save.
 full re - demp - tion, and the cap - tor cap - tive led.
 newed and per - fect, all things gath - ered in - to one.

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt. Music: *Finnian*, Christopher Dearnley (b. 1930). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Dismissal

This service has ended. Now let ours begin.
Grace be with you. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Go in peace.
Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

(Source: The New Zealand Prayer Book)

Postlude

Fugue in G minor, BWV 578

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Prayer List

Names are on the list for 6 weeks, then removed. Feel free to add a name again.
Annie, Gordon, Kirsten, Ed, June, Kathryn S., Allison, and Gerda

Announcements

Today - Coffee & Conversation at 11:15 a.m.

Join us in the Cloisters & Whiteman Room after worship on first Sundays for community time.

May 11 at 11 a.m. - 11th Hour Bells

Saints James and Andrew will be joining other churches locally and around the world in ringing our bells as a call for action in the 11th hour of the climate crisis. As a world-wide community we have time to take action, but we need to do it now. We will ring our bell on the 11th day of each month at the 11th hour of the morning for 11 minutes. Bell ringers welcomed.

May 11 at 12 p.m. - Green Team Event

Family Event: Forest Bathing at the Green River Swimming & Recreation Area in Greenfield. Noon on Saturday, May 11 with a rain date of Sunday, May 19. Wisty Rorabacher will be leading a walk to look at wildflowers and plants in the area. Bring your lunch and snacks: there are picnic tables and a sandy area for children to dig in. We will be having a scavenger hunt for children.

May 19 at 10 a.m. - Pentecost & Spring Festival Sunday

We will welcome newcomers and celebrate the church's birthday with a special service of Pentecost Lessons & Carols. You are invited to wear red, a color that symbolizes the Holy Spirit in our liturgy. Immediately following worship we will welcome Morris and Molly Dancers, who will offer a demonstration of two forms of traditional English folk dancing that were often performed on Pentecost. This will take place on the lawn, followed by a special Coffee & Conversation in the Whiteman Room & Cloisters.

May 19 at 10 a.m. - Welcoming Newcomers Liturgy on Pentecost

Each year on Pentecost we invite folks who have been exploring our community to consider becoming members. This year our Pentecost & Spring Festival worship will take place on Sunday, May 19 at 10 a.m. We think about membership as three P's: regular presence in our community worship; participation in the life and ministries of the parish; and pledging to support this parish and our outreach efforts with an annual or ongoing financial gift. You do not need to be baptized or a

confirmed Episcopalian to join as members of this parish. If you are interested in baptism or confirmation, please be in touch with one of the clergy. If you consider yourself a newcomer or a newly returned member, please join us for this special liturgy when invited to come forward. Questions? Speak to Rev. Heather Blais.

May 19 (Sunday) at 5pm - Children and Families Gathering

Families with little ones, please join us on the 3rd Sunday of each month for an evening of food, formation, and fun. We will gather for a potluck in the Whiteman room, have a short time for formation and prayer, and then enjoy some fun together. Please reach out to Rev. Jimmy if you have any questions at JPickett@vts.edu. Future gathering dates: June 16, July 21, August 18, and September 15.

Wednesday Worship Opportunities

Join Audley Robinson on Wednesdays at 6:15 a.m. for Morning Prayer on [Facebook](#).
Join Rev. Jimmy in the chapel on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. for worship, followed by a coffee hour.

Rev. Heather away April 30 - May 13

Rev. Heather will be away for continuing education and retreat from April 30 - May 13. For pastoral emergencies, call (413) 773-3925 and our answer serving will connect you to the appropriate person.

Nametags

Please consider wearing a name tag. Name tags help us greet one another by name. Sign up for a free name tag on the sign-up sheet located on the board by the Narthex (church entry) door. Forget yours at home? In the meantime, please consider using a disposal name tag.

Coloring for Kids

Please find bags with coloring materials located on a short table next to the Narthex (church entry) door.

The Episcopal Church of Ss. James & Andrew

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Clergy

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas J. Fisher, Bishop

The Rev. Heather J. Blais, Rector

The Rev. Jimmy Pickett, Missioner

Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Closed Holidays)