



## St. John's Episcopal Church The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12th, 2024 ~ 10am

### Prelude

Opening Hymn     #494 ~ *Crown Him with many Crowns* (verses 1-4)

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own;  
awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Son of God before the worlds began,  
and ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man;  
who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast,  
and takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;  
his glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,  
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

### **Opening Words:**

Happy are those who do no ridicule and scoff, but who delight in God's teachings and meditate on them day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water.

They yield fruit in due season, and their leaves do not wither.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### The Gloria

1982 Hymnal S 280

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth,  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### The Collect

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

### The First Lesson

[Acts 1:15-17, 21-26](#)

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

### The Psalm

[Psalm 103](#)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all my being, bless his holy name  
Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all his benefits  
**Refrain: The Lord has set in throne in heaven.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth, So surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, So far has he put our transgressions from us.

**Refrain: The Lord has set in throne in heaven.**

The Lord has established his throne in heaven, And his kingdom rules over all.

Bless the Lord, all you his angels, You mighty in strength, who do his bidding.

**Refrain: The Lord has set in throne in heaven.**

**Response: Alleluia (6x)**

Give Thanks to the Lord, for he is good, For his mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."

The right hand of the Lord has struck with power, The right hand of the Lord is exalted.

I shall not die but live. And declare the works of the Lord.

The stone which the builders rejected as become the cornerstone.

By the Lord has this been done, It is wonderful in our eyes.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia (3x)**

*I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord.*

*I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice!*

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia (3x)**

## **The Gospel**

### **John 17:6-19**

Jesus prayed for his disciples, "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil

one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

### The Sermon

The Rev. John Beach

### The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the world and ask that we may be given the grace to be faithful disciples of Jesus.  
**May we be like trees planted by streams of water.**

Holy God, this world is peopled by those who delight in your teachings and those who scoff at your ways. Guide us to meditate on you day and night, that we may be an influence for good in the world.

**May we be like trees planted by streams of water.**

We pray for the people and the leaders of the world in all our diversity. Sanctify them in your truth, that there may be peace and harmony on earth.

**May we be like trees planted by streams of water.**

We pray for those who are sick or suffering, especially Elin Babin, David Bell, Ron, Paul Brophy, Maureen Burke, Norma Cahill, Marie Conners, Barbara Cox, Sue Croft, Don DiGiacomo, Beth (Manoogian) DuPlessie, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Joanne Felci, Paul Felci, Ruth Garrett, Peggy Gibbs, Allison Gray, Patti Greene-Botticeli, Will Hare, Carolyn Hashem, Tom Hashem, Bruce Higgins, Louis Hoelzl, Doris Kelly, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Dennis Lancaster, Janet Lancaster, Rachel Lesch, Robert Long, Melissa McSheffery, Matt, Lori, Mary & Dante, Harriet Miraglia, Erica Moore, Gisela Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Kathy Pothier, Sandy St. Clair, David St. Clair, Nancy Scarry, Terrie Sevier, Ray Shaw, Malcolm Silva, Gail Smith, Dom Tello, Jill Vaccaro and Family, Kathy Webber, Nancy White, Walter, Baby Viviana, and Rachel. That they may know your protection and care through our faithful service.

**May we be like trees planted by streams of water.**

We pray for your church, that by the marriage of your grace and faith we may serve you and our neighbors.

**May we be like trees planted by streams of water.**

We pray for loved ones and friends who have risen in glory and found peace with you, especially Carol & William Cox, Members of the Auger Family, Frances Tranfaglia, Martin & Nora Casey, George & Etta Hannigan, Nora Morrissey, and Gwendolyn Fairchild; we take comfort, knowing they have been received into your heavenly kingdom.

**May we be like trees planted by streams of water.**

We pray for Earth itself, your marvelous creation. Inspire and help us to be the good stewards that you ask us to be, now and for the future.

**May we be like trees planted by streams of water.**

Make holy all for which we pray; the poor, the infirm, the church, the world - for holiness and wholeness come from you. Receive these prayers both spoken and unspoken for we are yours Amen.

### **The Peace**

*Officiant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*          **And also with you.**

### **The Holy Communion**

Remember the first believers-who shared one heart and soul, held their possessions in common, and distributed them to all in need. In the same spirit, let us present our offerings at the feet of the risen Christ.

Offertory Anthem

Doxology

1982 Hymnal #380 vs. 3 only

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.  
Amen.

God of grace, you have freed us from our sins and made us a kingdom in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept all we offer you this day, and strengthen us in the new life you have given us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Lord be with you.  
*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts.  
*We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Officiant proceeds*

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

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
*By your will they were created and have their being.*

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

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

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

*Minister and People*

**Sanctus**

#S 130 ~ *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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

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

*Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.*

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

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

### The Lord's Prayer

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.

### The Breaking of the Bread

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
*People* Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### 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.*

*The Officiant invites the following prayer to be said by all.*

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 receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

### Fraction Anthem

1982 Hymnal #S 155 ~ *Christ, our Passover*

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

*Officiant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. This is God's table, and everyone is welcome here.



## Distribution of Communion

### Communion Anthem

### Post-communion Prayer

Eternal God, may we who share Christ's banquet be one with him as he is one with you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen and ascended Lord.

*Officiant*      Let us pray.

*People*          **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Blessing

Now may the truth of the empty tomb, the astonishing reality of Jesus' resurrection, keep you fearless and sure, that you will see the Resurrected One again and again in this life. May the power of God's endless love surround you and guide you, this day and always. Amen.

### Closing Hymn      #544 ~ *Jesus will Reign where'er the Sun* (verses 1-4)

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
doth his successive journeys run;  
his kingdom stretched from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,  
and praises throng to crown on his head:  
his Name like sweet perfume shall rise  
with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue  
shall dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his Name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns:  
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all who suffer want are blest.

**Dismissal**

*Officiant*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People*

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Postlude**

**Participants in this Service:**

The Rev. John T. Beach, Priest-in-Charge

Stephen Sikorski, Music Director

Colleen Marcotte, Worship Leader ~ Joanne Lancaster, L.E.M.

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