

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

Worship at Home: During Our Blessed Interruption

Spiritual Communion

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021



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Priest-in-Charge

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THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

Collect of 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 Lord. Amen.

Gloria

*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.*

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

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.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Acts 10:44-48

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 God's people.

Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

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

Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.

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

Epistle

1 John 5:1-6

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 God's people.

Gospel

John 15:9-17

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

People: 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.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Praise to you for your power revealed in the resurrection! Fill your church with the power of your love that is stronger than death. Send us to tell the good news wherever death holds sway. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for your life at work in the resurrection! Fill all of creation with your life. Bring it to blossom and flourish; use it to remind us of your persistent grace. Cultivate our care for what you have made. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the peace made possible in the resurrection! Fill the nations with your peace. Draw together people of all nations and languages; reveal new possibilities and inspire new beginnings. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the joy of your resurrection! Fill this assembly with joy as we are called your beloved in baptism. Multiply that joy so that we share it at home, at work, and in our community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for the hope of the resurrection! Fill all in need with hope: those who are afraid or confused, those who are sick or suffering especially, Denise Brown, Janette Davis, Doris Dickerson, Christina Foster, Christine Forrest, Eudora Forrest, Lewis Forrest, Annie Gould, Eva Hicks, Floyd Higgs, Jasmine Kee, Eli Kince, Mary Little, Jonathan Lyles, Michael Mack, Clarissa Martin, Haywood McCallum, Johnetta Merritt, Lela A. Morris, Roscoe Parker, Beblon Parks, Randolph Phillip, Venita Phillip, Steve Russell, Frank Saunders, Dora Sims, Amy Smith, James Smith, Pam Southall, Patty Sydnor, Kenny Taylor, Ed West, and Marilyn West, those who are dying, and those who grieve. Assure them of your promises. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Praise to you for your faithfulness revealed in the resurrection! Fill us with trust that we join with all who have gone before us especially, Iris King, in proclaiming: "your mercy endures forever!" Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants Pattie Sydnor and Evelyn Style 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. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon your servants; Frederico and Mary Garza that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Peace

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

People: And also with you.

The Offertory

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness, and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the gifts we give. All are invited to make a gift to support St. Philip's ministry of sharing God's love with the world. See our website, stphilipsrva.org for ways to give. The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

Musical Offering

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

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 God thanks and praise.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; 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 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

*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.

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father 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 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 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

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

*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.****

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

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Invitation to Holy Communion

In the Episcopal tradition, we believe that when circumstances make it impossible to consume the Eucharistic elements, our desire is enough for God to grant all the benefits of communion.

Celebrant: I invite all those who are unable to receive the consecrated bread and wine this day, but who long for the grace and blessing of God through our Savior Jesus Christ, to join me in this Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

Celebrant and People:

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITE

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Women who Mother

Almighty God, we thank you for being gracious unto us. We honor your name for you are the God that battles on our behalf. Thank you for loving and choosing us before the foundations of the world to be wives and mothers and aunts and grandmothers, godmothers and sisters, friends and church leaders and women who care and mother in many and various ways. Thank you for the good plans that you have over our lives. We also thank you for choosing us to serve in different capacities in your Kingdom. Lord we dedicate all that we are to you and ask you to help us continue walking in spirit and truth. In Jesus' sweet and holy name, we pray. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God—Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life—be among you and remain with you always.

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Worship Participants

Lector: Joy Lee

Soloists:

Charmaine McGilvary / Karen Savage

Janet Copeland / Anthony Ray

Fronnell Weaver

Organist: Dr. Willis Barnett



| Virtual Worship, Prayer, Bible Study and more | Time | Phone | St. Philip's Website or Facebook Live | Zoom |
|--|----------|---|--|---|
| Sunday Bible Study | 9 AM | Dial: 978-990-5000 Access code: 656298 # | - | - |
| Sunday Morning Worship | 10 AM | Dial: 1-301-715-8592 ID: 937 9611 8377 Password: 074878 | Go to our website: stphilipsrva.org or our Facebook page: St. Philip's Episcopal RVA | Meeting ID: 937 9611 8377 Password: 074878 |
| 1 st & 3 rd Sundays Only Youth Sunday School | 11:15 AM | - | | Meeting ID: 894 3313 5393 Password: Jesus |
| Tuesday Night Prayer | 8 PM | - | Go to our website: stphilipsrva.org or our Facebook page: St. Philip's Episcopal RVA | - |
| Wednesday Circle of Love Noonday Prayer | 12 PM | Dial: 978-990-5000 Access code: 870051 # | - | - |
| General emails from church - Please check often and READ. Lots of church and Diocesan information included! | | | | |