



**The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 25, 2025
Holy Eucharist: Rite II**

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church. Whoever you are, and wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome here, just as you are, to experience God's love.

St. John's is a compassionate Christian community of healing, hope, and hospitality at the heart of Centreville's Historic District. First consecrated on July 14, 1854, St. John's was partially burned in the Civil War, rebuilt, expanded, and is now home to many faith communities. To learn more about us, talk to one of our clergy, chat up a neighbor, join us after worship, and visit us at stjohnscentreville.org.

Today's service follows the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Responses are in bold. Music can be found in the blue hymnals in your pew. Service music, noted with an "S," can be found in the front of the book, and our hymns, noted by an "H" and their number, after that. Participate as the Spirit moves you!

Services are live-streamed, so please be aware that you are being recorded. Cell phone use—texting, pictures, video, social media—is encouraged, but please silence your devices and disable Wi-Fi during worship.

The Word of God

Prelude

Processional Hymn: H 292, "O Jesus, crowned with all renown"

Kingsfold

Opening Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

BCP, p. 355

Collect for Purity

BCP, p. 355

Song of Praise: H 417 "This is the feast of victory..."

Festival Canticle

(All sing vv. 1,3,5; Men v. 2; Women v. 4)

Collect of the Day

BCP, p. 225

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

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.**

Children's Story

Our youngest parishioners are invited to come forward for today's story. They'll adjourn to children's chapel, returning in time for Communion.

First Lesson: Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Response: Psalm 67, *Deus misereatur*

BCP, p. 675

May God be merciful to us and bless us, * **show us the light of his countenance and come to us.**

Let your ways be known upon earth, * **your saving health among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; * **let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; * **let all the peoples praise you.**

The earth has brought forth her increase; * **may God, our own God, give us his blessing.**

May God give us his blessing, * **and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.**

Second Lesson: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: H 513, "Like the murmur of the dove's song"

Bridegroom

Gospel: John 14:23-29

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You

heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon: The Rev. Kevin Laskowski

The Nicene Creed

BCP, p. 358

Prayers of the People: Form III

BCP, p. 387

The Peace

BCP, p. 360

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

At this time, the gifts of God in bread and wine and the gifts of the people are collected and brought forward in thanksgiving. Thanks to all who have pledged a portion of their time, talent, and treasure to God's mission here at St. John's.

As the Spirit moves you, please give generously by cash or check, use the QR code at right to donate online, or text STJOHNSCENTREVILLE" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. Donations of food and other items for Western Fairfax Christian Ministries and the Katharine K. Hanley Family Shelter can be given to the usher or to the church office.



The Presentation of Alms & Oblations: H 380, vs. 3, "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, p. 361

Sanctus: S 125, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord"

Prayer A (cont.)

BCP, p. 362

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

Fraction Anthem: S 161, "Lamb of God"

Agnus Dei

Communion Hymn: H 455, "O love of God, how strong and true"

Dunedin

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP, p. 365

Announcements

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: H 608, "Eternal Father, strong to save"

Melita

Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God.

The Next Chapter. Today marks the last day of our May fundraising campaign. We're at 74% of our goal of \$42,000. Help us write the next chapter at St. John's by donating:



- by check with "Next Chapter 2025" in the memo line;
- online, using the QR code inside or at right, selecting "Next Chapter 2025;" and/or
- by gifting an appreciated stock or mutual fund, or a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA. Please designate as "Next Chapter 2025."

For more information, contact Fr. Kevin, Lisa Heller, and/or Andrew Wade.

Outdoor Eucharist. We will celebrate our Pentecost Eucharist Sunday, June 8 outdoors at 9:30 AM. Bring lawn or camp chairs. Wear red. And bring something for the festive coffee hour to follow.

Volunteers Welcome! Over the next few months, we are looking for volunteers who may be willing to help members of the vestry with the organization of some upcoming events: **June** parish off-site trip to a local winery or park, a **July 4 celebration** – picnic and sparklers and fireworks viewing, and a **Bishop's visit**. Please be in touch with the office, the wardens, or Fr. Kevin if you are able to assist.

Coffee Hour. Please join us in the hall after the service for coffee and refreshments.

Adult Lectionary Forum. If you'd like to discuss today's readings in greater depth, grab coffee and a snack, and join us in the library after the service.

Visit Us! For more information, visit stjohnscentreville.org and subscribe to our E-notes.

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TODAY'S MINISTERS

Celebrant: The Rev. Kevin Laskowski
Deacon: The Rev. Steve Busch
Music Director: Mandy Hull
Usher: Jim Heller
Crucifer: Alex Walsh

Lector: Laura Walsh
Acolyte: Val Tucker
Alms Counters: Marie McDermott, Penny Parker
Altar Guild: Elise Crawford

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Kevin Laskowski, Priest-in-Charge, Priest@StJohnsCentreville.com

The Rev. Steve Busch, Deacon, Deacon@StJohnsCentreville.com

Lisa Heller, Senior Warden, SeniorWarden@StJohnsCentreville.com

Val Tucker, Junior Warden, JuniorWarden@StJohnsCentreville.com

Mandy Hull, Organist & Choir Director, amandahull101@gmail.com

Terri Katon, Parish Administrator, ParishAdmin@StJohnsCentreville.com

The Rev. Jason Lody, Ministry Partners Administrator, mpadmin@stjohnscentreville.com

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday; 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM

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