



Duccio Di Buoninsegna
"Jesus saying farewell to
his remaining disciples"

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2020
8:00 a.m.

Grace Episcopal Church
123 W. Washington Street
Lexington, VA 24450

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Lexington Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

May 17, 2020

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) pg. 323

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ has risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

The Collect of the Day

O God, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass man's understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards thee, that we, loving thee in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

Acts 17:22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of

the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Psalms 66:7-18

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
 make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, *
 and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
 you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; *
 you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;
 we went through fire and water; *
 but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
 and will pay you my vows, *
 which I promised with my lips
 and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
 with the smoke of rams; *
 I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
 and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
 and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
 the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; *
 he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
 nor withheld his love from me.

1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a

proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

John 14:15-21

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Sermon

Fr. Tuck

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.

The Prayers of the People

Please pray for the wider Church and intercessions requested by our congregants: Pray for the Church of England, The Most Rev. and Right Hon. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Pray for the people of St. John's Lynchburg and their rector, the Rev. Chris Roussell. Pray for the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Haiti as they search for their new Bishop, the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines, the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Justin Badi Arama.

Pray for Jeanne Eichelberger, Carolyn West-Willette, Bettie Cadden, Rev. Susan Bentley, Lynda DeMaria, Bob DeMaria, Mary Craighill, Lori Sadler, Pam Holsten, Jordan (friend of David Cox), Lynne Johnson, Melissa Hays-Smith, Pat Gibson, Polly Lawrence, Greg Lemmer, Kent Wilson, Myra Brush, Susan Williams, Eddie Hawkins, Holt Merchant, Lynn Dent, Ned Glenn (Brother of Elizabeth Harralson), Daniel Keane (nephew of James Keane) and Chris.

Pray for those who have died, especially The Rev. Tom Murphy.

Pray for those affected by unsafe living conditions, poverty, disease, especially Covid-19, violence and oppression.

Pray for Martha Burford as she discerns her call to the diaconate.

In thanksgiving for birthdays for this week and next of John Dickerson (5/17) Emily Hellwig (5/18), Joan Crawford (5/20)

Priest: We offer our prayers and thanksgiving to God, who in the midst of our trials and adversities gives us the faith to endure, responding, "Hear us, O risen Christ."

Lector: In thanksgiving for the holy commandments of the Lord's truth, and Jesus' eternal gift of love, that we may follow them as pathways to sanctification; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That we may be a community of joyous believers, bearing one another's burdens, forgiving each other's sins, responding to the needs of all, so that the world may see and know that all things are being made new through the Risen One; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for the faith of Abraham and Sarah, and of all the faithful departed whose every breath was lived in response to God's promises; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That we may give honor to those considered least in our society, knowing that Jesus reveals the divine will through their lives and in the course of their abiding faithfulness; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That children may receive a full measure of food, education, parental love, and a religious upbringing; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for those who volunteer their time for the ministry of Christ in this church, in our diocese, and throughout the world; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

We commend to your loving care all those affected physically, emotionally or financially by the COVID-19 virus. In gratitude for the selfless acts of healthcare and essential workers who serve our communities, we offer prayers for their welfare and safety. Comfort those who mourn, those living in fear from scarcity, and those who have lost hope. Surround them with your love and peace; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

As adopted children of Jesus, through our passage in the waters of baptism, let us continue our prayers and thanksgivings. You may add your intentions silently or aloud, (silence) let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

Priest: Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Peace

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this;

for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

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

People and Celebrant

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

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

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Though we cannot share in the Bread and Wine we believe that Christ is ever present with us through the indwelling Holy Spirit given to us in Baptism. We who are many are One Body because we share in the One Spirit. Together then let us join in thanking God for the grace of our unending communion.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People	Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.