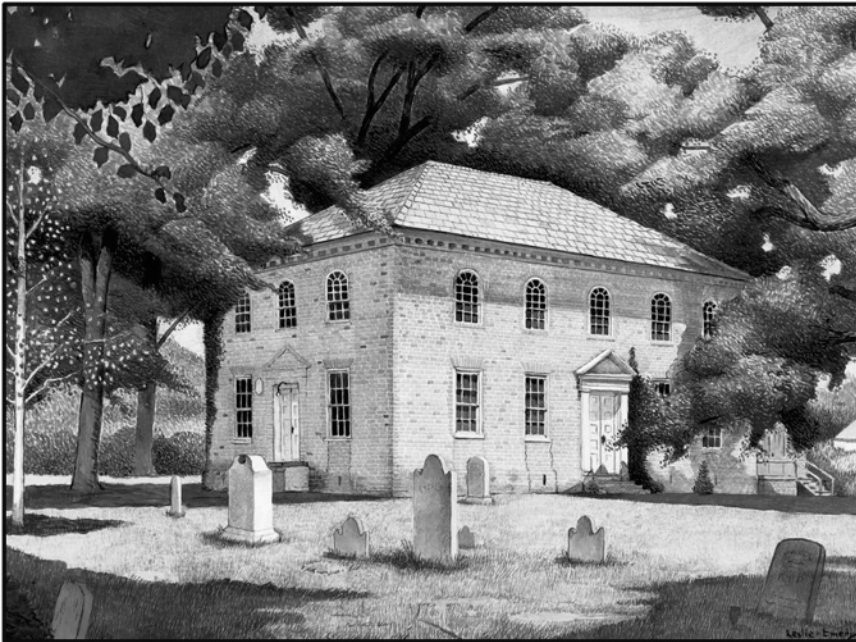


# THE FALLS CHURCH

*an Episcopal congregation*

*A welcoming community called to be an enduring  
beacon of faith, hope, and love to all.*



The Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 14, 2023

Prelude

*Dolcezza*

Percy Whitlock  
(1903-1946)

## THE WORD OF GOD

*The people stand.*

**Opening Hymn 205**

Each little flower that opens  
*verses 1, 2 & 4 only at 9:00 a.m.*

*Royal Oak*

### Opening Acclamation

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

*Celebrant*

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.**

**Song of Praise S266**

Canticle: Pascha nostrum

Calvin Hampton  
(1938-1984)

*The congregation sings the antiphon after each verse.*

*Introduction* *Antiphon*

Splen - dor and hon - or and

king - ly power are yours by right, O Lord our God,

Splendor and honor and kingly power are yours by right, O Lord our God. For you created everything that is, and by your will they were created and have their being.

*Antiphon*

And your by right, O Lamb that was slain, for with your blood you have redeemed for God, From every family, language, people, and nation, a kingdom of priests to serve our God.

***Antiphon***

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, and to Christ the Lamb be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, for ever and for evermore.

***Antiphon***

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

***Celebrant***

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.**

*The people sit.*

**The First Lesson**

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."

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

## The Psalm

Psalm 66:7-18

*Jubilate Deo*

- 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.**

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.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God**

*The people stand.*

*Children are invited to follow the Crucifer into Nicolson Hall for Children's Chapel.*

**Sequence Hymn 455**    O Love of God, how strong and true

*Dunedin*

## The Gospel

John 14:15-21

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

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."

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

## The Sermon

The Rev'd. Matthew Dumont-Machowski

*The people sit at the invitation of the preacher.  
A period of silence follows the homily.  
Please stand when the Celebrant stands for the 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 Peace

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

*The people sit.*

## Welcome and Announcements

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on BCP page 376, or with some other sentence of Scripture.*

## The Offertory

9:00 a.m.  
“Creating God”

David Hurd  
(b.1937)

11:15 a.m.  
*Jubilate Deo*

Benjamin Britten  
(1913-1976)

*During the offertory you are invited to make a gift to God’s mission at The Falls Church through Realm (see QR code), on the website, by texting TFCE at 73256, or by using the plate.*



### Give Now Online

You may “Give Now” electronically in one of three ways (1) Scanning the QR code with your smartphone; (2) Visiting [onrealm.org/thefallschurch/-/form/give/now](https://onrealm.org/thefallschurch/-/form/give/now) or (3) Texting TFCE to 73256 to give by text message.

*The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*



Presentation Hymn      Good Christians all, rejoice and sing      *Gelobt sei Gott*

*To God the Father, God the Son, To God the Spirit always One,  
We sing for life in us begun: Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia.*

The Great Thanksgiving      Eucharistic Prayer D      (BCP p. 372)

Sursum Corda S-120      Lift up your hearts

The musical notation is presented in four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes.

*Celebrant*      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. 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.

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

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing;

## Sanctus S-128

Holy, holy, holy Lord

William Mathias  
(1934-1992)

Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy.

To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the

blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Mark, Gayle, Burl, Matthew and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember Ashley, Kent and Richard.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with matriarchs and patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

*The Celebrant then continues*

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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

*A period of silence is kept.*

### Fraction Anthem S-171

*Plainsong, Mode 6*

*The congregation joins the choir in singing the antiphon.*



## The Invitation to Communion

*All those who seek the Lord are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion at this time. Should you desire to receive, the ushers will direct you to one of the stations (at 9:00 a.m.) or to the communion rail (at 11:15 a.m.) where the priest will offer you the host by placing the wafer in your outstretched palms. To receive the wine, guide the base of the chalice to your lips, tipping it slightly toward your lips, take a sip of wine, then tip chalice back toward the minister and release your fingers from the base of the chalice. If you do not wish to receive the wine, but would like to partake in this sacramental act, simply touch the chalice with your finger as the minister pronounces the words. Alternatively, simply fold your arms across your chest, and the minister will refrain from offering you the chalice. After receiving Communion, you may return to your seat.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available. Should you desire a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know as you approach them for communion.*

### Communion Music

9:00 a.m.

“Creator of all time and space”

Plainsong  
text: Ruth Duck

11:15 a.m.

“I will not leave you comfortless”

Howard Everett  
Titcomb (1854-1968)

### Hymn 343

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

*St. Agnes*

*The people stand.*

**Postcommunion Prayer**

(BCP, p. 365)

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

*People and Celebrant*

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.

**The Blessing**

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 Almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn 516**

Come down, O Love divine  
*verses 1 & 3 only at 9:00 a.m.*

*Down Ampney*

**Dismissal**

(BCP, p. 366)

*Gospeler*     Let us go forth into the world,  
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
*People*        Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Postlude**

*Homage à Mulet*

Richard T. Gore

+ + + + +

**Celebrant and Preacher**

The Rev'd. Matthew Dumont-Machowski

+ + + + +

**The Parish Prayer List**

**For Healing in Body, Mind, and Spirit**

*Immediate Needs*

Ashley, Kent, Richard

*Long Term Prayers*

Joanna, Kendall, Liz, Michael, Robert, Tom

*Family and Friends*

Anne, Chris, Cindy, Dick, Grace, Heather, Judy

+ + + + +



The Falls Church is a parish of The Episcopal Church, a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We share ministry with Christians in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.

The Most Rev'd. and Rt. Hon. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury  
The Most Rev'd. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church  
The Rt. Rev'd. E. Mark Stevenson, Bishop Diocesan, Diocese of Virginia  
The Rt. Rev'd. Gayle E. Harris, Assistant Bishop, Diocese of Virginia

#### **Vestry**

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Michael Ankuma, Heather Falen Ashby, Kathleen Bell, Matthew Harrington, Louise Liebeskind,  
Barb Mantegani, Amy Marshak, Kofi McCleary, David Scharre, James Weatherly (Treasurer),  
Brandon Huffman (Registrar), Jason Matechak (Chancellor), Ava Liberatore (Youth Representative)

#### **Clergy and Staff**

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