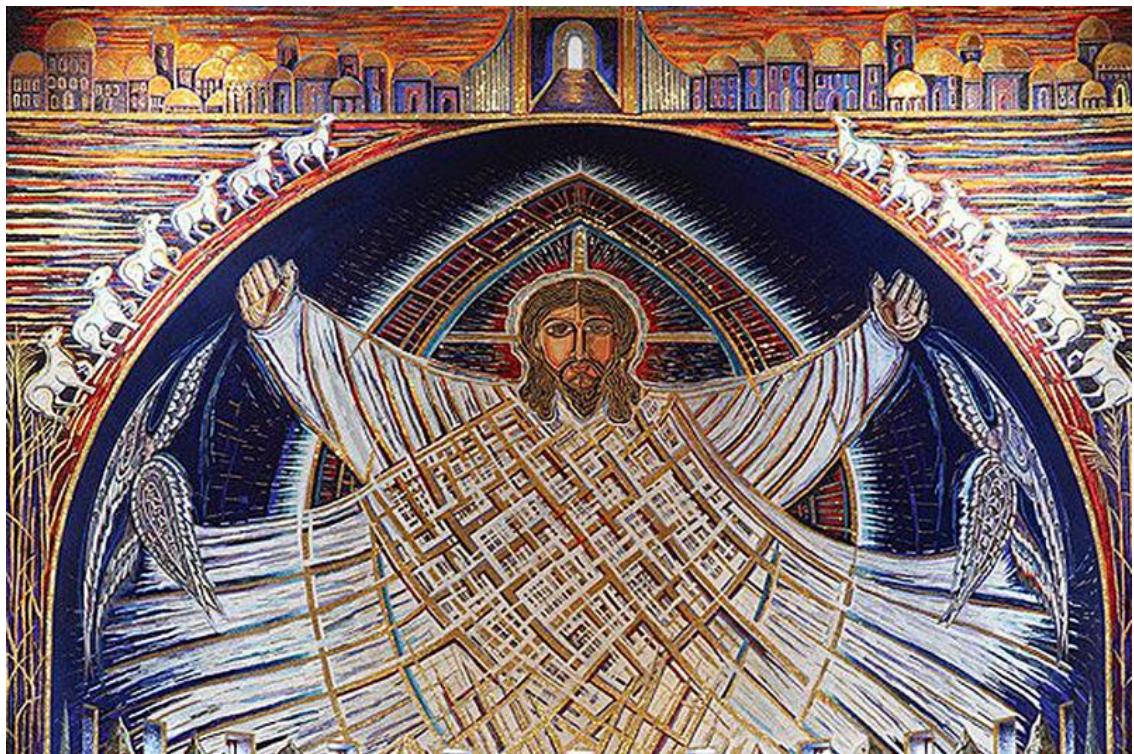
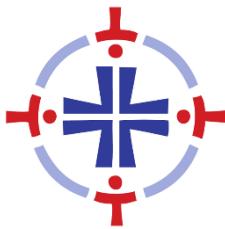




**St. Simon's**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**The Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Sunday, May 18, 2025**



## Welcome to St. Simon's

*I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)*

St. Simon's exists so that everyone can experience the abundant life Jesus came to bring. While there are many, many ways God's abundance comes to us, here at St. Simon's we understand our call to help each other and our neighbors...

- ...experience delight and joy as a way to connect with God.
- ...have basic needs met as a way to be safe.
- ...enjoy connection to community as a way to avoid loneliness.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. St. Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites everyone to this abundant life, doubts and questions included. Please feel free to participate as fully in the worship of God as you wish. Lift your voice in praise, respond to the prayers and readings, and come to the altar for communion or a blessing. Or, if you prefer, sit back quietly and allow God's Spirit to speak to you in the way that feels most comfortable.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here.  
May you encounter God in this community.

# The Holy Eucharist

\* Indicates the assembly stands, if able.

All portions of the service in **Bold** are spoken by the assembly.

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

### Opening Hymn 213

“Come away to the skies”

Middlebury

*Unison or harmony*

1 Come a - way to the skies, my be - lov - ed, a - rise and re -  
2 Now with sing - ing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our  
3 For the glo - ry we were first cre - a - ted to share, both the

1 joyce in the day thou wast born; on this fes - ti - val day,  
2 hea - ven - ly Fa - ther be - stowed, while his grace we re - ceive  
3 na - ture and king - dom di - vine! Now cre - a - ted a - gain

1 come ex - ult - ing a - way, and with sing - ing to Zi - on re - turn.  
2 from his boun - ty, and live to the hon - or and glo - ry of God.  
3 that our lives may re - main, through-out time and e - ter - ni - ty thine.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

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.

# The Gloria

S278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -  
might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,  
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;  
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of



## The Word of God

### The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light:  
Look favorably on your whole Church,  
that wonderful and sacred mystery;  
by the effectual working of your providence,  
carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation;  
let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down  
are being raised up,  
and things which had grown old are being made new,  
and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him  
through whom all things were made,  
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

*The Assembly is seated*

A reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

Praise the Lord!  
 Across the heavens,  
 from the heights,  
 All you angels, heavenly beings,  
 sing praise, sing praise!

Sun and moon, glittering stars,  
 sing praise, sing praise.  
 Highest heavens, rain clouds,  
 sing praise, sing praise.

Praise God's name,  
 whose word called you forth  
 and fixed you in place for ever  
 by eternal de-cree.

Let there be praise:  
 from the depths of the earth,  
 from creatures of the deep.

Fire and hail, snow and mist,  
 storms, winds,  
 mountains, hills,  
 fruit trees and cedars,  
 wild beasts and tame,  
 snakes and birds,

princes, judges,  
 rulers, subjects,  
 men, women,  
 old and young,  
 praise, praise the holy name,  
 this name beyond all names.

God's splendor above the earth,  
 above the heavens,  
 gives strength to the nation,  
 glory to the faithful,  
 a people close to the Lord.  
 Israel, let there be praise!

## The Second Lesson

Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from the Revelation to John.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.  
 He will dwell with them as their God;  
 they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

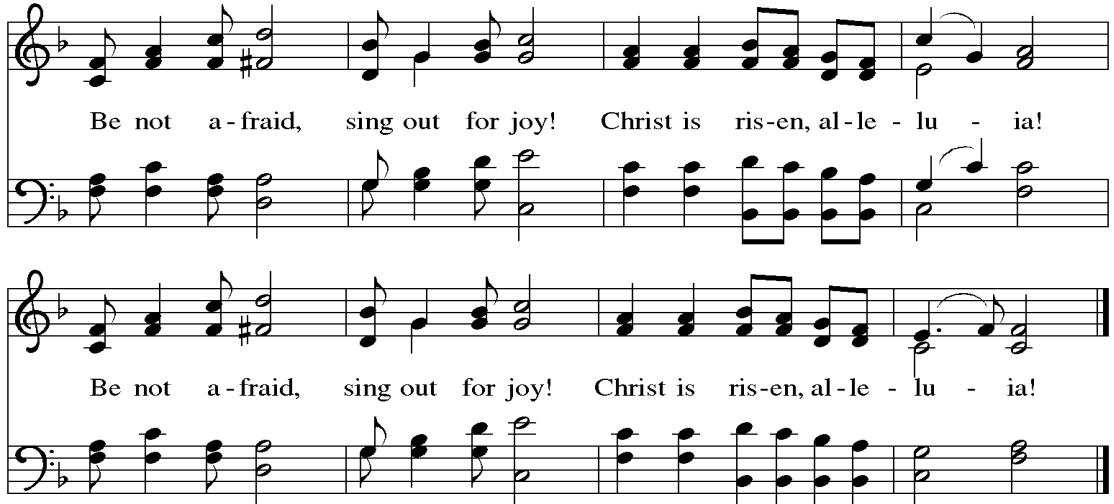
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Assembly stands as they are able to face the Gospeler.*

### **\*The Gospel Procession**

*The chant is sung several times before and after the gospel reading*



Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!

Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!

## \*The Holy Gospel

John 10:22-30

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

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

Jenny Hulen

*A period of silence is shared after the sermon.*

## \*The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just a proper use of your creation;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For those who have been disappeared, and all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Paula, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in God's Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially Jan Becker, Deborah Filipek, Sharon Grieger, Sandra Janowski, Sunita Johnston, Bonnie Liess, Sharon Maddex, Louise Retzer, Jerry Shields, Maria Whelan.

*Silence*

*The people may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

*Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.*

*In keeping with the tradition of the early church, the confession is omitted during the Great 50 Days of Easter.*

### **\*The Peace**

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

*The Ministers and Assembly stand to greet one another in the peace of Christ.*

### **Blessing Birthdays and Anniversaries**

*All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook*

**Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Engagement Opportunities**

**Offertory** *Text 73256 to give. In the body of the text type saintsimons*

Offertory Hymn 623 “O what their joy and glory must be” *Q quanta qualia*

1 O what their joy and their glo - ry must be,  
 2 Tru - ly “Je - ru - sa - lem” name we that shore,  
 3 There, where no trou - bles dis - trac - tion can bring,

1 those end - less Sab - baths the bless - ed ones see;  
 2 ci - ty of peace that brings joy ev - er - more;  
 3 we the sweet an - them of Zi - on shall sing;

1 crown for the val - iant, to wea - ry ones rest:  
 2 wish and ful - fill - ment are not sev - ered there,  
 3 while for thy grace, Lord, their voic - es of praise

1 God shall be all, and in all ev - er blest.  
 2 nor do things prayed for come short of the prayer.  
 3 thy bless - ed peo - ple e - ter - nal - ly raise.

## \*Presentation of the Gifts

5 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures  
 here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host: Cre -  
 10 a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## \*The Great Thanksgiving

## BCP Form B

The image shows musical notation for the Sanctus. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has 'Celebrant' above the notes and the text 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff has 'Celebrant' above the notes and the text 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has 'Celebrant' above the notes and the text 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has 'People' above the notes and the text 'It is right to give God thanks and praise.'

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. 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:

Ho - ly, 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-cst.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

**For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Mary the God-bearer, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from bondage, and made us free to stand before you. In him, you have healed our infirmity, forgiven our sin, and made a way home for us from exile.**

On the night before he died for us, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

**We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.**

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, the God-bearer, Blessed Simon and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.



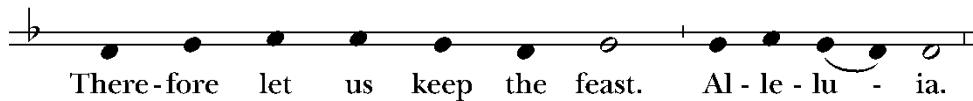
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:



### The Invitation

The gifts of God freely given for all.

*The Presider consumes the host with those online with these words:*

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

*Everyone has a place at God's table and all are invited to share in communion. You may stand or kneel at the rail. Wine is offered in individual cups around the outside of the tray. Grape juice is offered in the middle. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you would like to participate but do not wish to receive the bread and wine, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing instead.*

*Both the common cup (chalice) and individual cups are offered. Join the line for the chalice on the left (pulpit) side or the line on the right (screen) side to receive the individual cups. Grape juice is available in the individual cups.*

**Communion Hymn 321 "My God, thy table now is spread" Rockingham**

1 My God, thy table now is spread, thy cup with  
 2 O let thy table hon-ored be, and fur - nished  
 3 Drawn by thy quick-enning grace, O Lord, in coun - tless  
 4 Nor let thy spread-ing Gos - pel rest till through the

love doth o - ver - flow; be all thy chil - dren  
 well with joy - ful guests; and may each soul sal -  
 num - bers let them come and gath - er from their  
 world thy truth has run, till with this Bread shall

thith - er led, and let them thy sweet mer - cies know.  
 va - tion see, that here its sa - cred pledg - es tastes.  
 Fa - ther's board the Bread that lives be - yond the the tomb.  
 all be blessed who see the light or feel the sun.

## **\*Post Communion Prayer**

*After communion, the Presider says:*

**\*Let us pray.**

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*When members of the community are unable to attend the service, representatives of the people are sent with bread and wine to extend our communion with them.*

**In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

## **\*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 the Author, the Only - Begotten, and the Gift, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

## Closing Hymn 620

“Jerusalem, my happy home”

*Land of Rest*

1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home, when  
 2 Thy saints are crowned with glo - ry great; they  
 5 Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, God

1 shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows  
 2 see God face to face; they tri - umph still, they  
 5 grant that I may see thine end - less joy, and

1 have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?  
 2 still re - joice in that most hap - py place.  
 5 of the same par - ta - ker ev - er be!

## \*The Dismissal

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

## Postlude

## LIVE-STREAM NOTICE

A reminder, this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

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Our Cover Art: Mosaics in the Church of the Transfiguration are created in the ancient tradition of Byzantine-style mosaics. Barnstable, MA.

McLean, Helen. Christ in Glory, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56321> [retrieved May 13, 2025]. Original source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Apse\\_mosaic\\_Christ\\_in\\_Glory.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Apse_mosaic_Christ_in_Glory.jpg). Thoughts on our Offertory Hymn (623)

## Reflecting on our Offertory Hymn, “O what their joy and glory must be”

Canon Jim Foley comments on “A neglected masterpiece by Peter Abelard” (1079-1142) which this hymn moves from poetry to song.

“... I now appreciate better that it [addresses] the ultimate promise of life and refuses to be satisfied with anything less. Our poem begins where life on earth ends and addresses what we now call the Beatific Vision.

Everything in his life is consigned to the past and his eyes are fixed entirely on the future, described as ‘endless Sabbaths’. His starting point is a simple claim found in the Letter to the Hebrews that, when everything else has been swept away, ‘There remains a Sabbath rest for man’ (Hebrews 4.9-10).

That deceptively simple claim is an echo of the ambitious attempt of an ancient Jewish scribe to say something about the nature of God. The scribe is at home with the idea of a Creator God and feels free to develop this thought over a period of days which begin with chaos and end with ‘rest’. Each day brings into existence something that is ‘good’ and on the seventh day everything that comes from the hand of the creator is seen to be ‘very good’ (Genesis 1.1-2.4). If his epic had ended there, his would have been no different from the myths and legends so popular in ancient literature and published laboriously on tablets of clay or chiseled out on monuments of stone.

However, our wise Hebrew scribe had a trump card up his sleeve. The creator rested on the seventh day. We underestimate our scribe if we think he believed that the creator needed to stop at the weekend for a breather after the work of creating the universe. To see somebody in repose was to see him as he really is. As far as Peter Abelard was concerned, the Creator was no exception. The word used to describe this repose is ‘sabbath’ and is a brave attempt to capture something of the inner life of the Creator. What is revealed in creation is not the full story. The full story is in his Sabbath/rest. That is when God is really at himself.

Our scribe has something more to say. If man is created in the image and likeness of the creator, then he too must have more to him than meets the eye. He too must work for a time but find his ultimate destiny in Sabbath/rest. That one day in the week would be blessed and dedicated to celebrating his true identity. In time that sense of true identity, enshrined in the Sabbath rest, would be considered so sacred that to violate the Sabbath rest would amount to a desecration of the very nature of man, created in the image of God.”

# St. Simon's Episcopal Church

717 W. Kirchhoff Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

847.259.2930 ~ office@saintsimons.org ~ www.saintsimons.org

Parish Office Hours ~ Monday—Thursday ~ 9:00am—3:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago*

The Rev. Jennifer Hulen, *Rector*  
Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*

## Today's Service Leaders

Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Jenny Hulen
Crucifer	Dave Howley
Chalice Minister	Jo Gantzer
Readers	Kathy Ponce
Intercessor	Caryl Medske
Ushers	Pat Engbrecht
Altar Guild	Patricia Grund   Rachel Jarosik
Porter	Bari Flores
Organist	Myk Snider
Viola	Carl Chadek
Technical Production Team	Hamilton Avila
	Brian Kuczynski