

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 4th & 5th, 2024
St. Peter's-at-the Light Episcopal Church
Barnegat Light



*Thank you for celebrating resurrection hope with us.
May this be a time of blessing.*

To minimize distractions during worship, we do not “pass the plate” during the service. Still, we are very grateful for contributions to support our ministries. You can find the offering plate by the door, and you may leave a contribution there either as you enter or as you leave the service. We are always grateful for your presence and for your support!

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SINCERE THANKS TO SUNDAY'S CELEBRANT AND WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

LAURA VAN ORDEN, ACOLYTE & EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OF THE SIPPING CHALICE

SALLI GORDON, EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OF THE INTINCTION CHALICE

SUSAN BLAUVELT, FIRST NT LECTOR & PSALM LEADER

LEN VAN ORDEN, SECOND NT LECTOR

PASQUAL RODRIGUEZ, LITANIST

BRUCE ALLEN, GREETERS

DON MANN, WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY

BOB SCHMIDT, ORGANIST

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Thank you for worshiping with us today.
Please join us in the parish hall for a time of fellowship.

Entrance Hymn

Praise to the Holiest in the Height

Hymnal # 446

1 Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the
 2 O lov - ing wis - dom of our God! When all was
 3 O wis - est love! that flesh and blood, which did in
 4 and that the high - est gift of grace should flesh and
 5 Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the

1 depth be praise; in all his words most
 2 sin and shame, a sec - ond Ad - am
 3 Ad - am fail, should strive a - fresh a -
 4 blood re - fine: God's pres - ence and his
 5 depth be praise; in all his words most

1 won - der - ful, most sure in all his ways!
 2 to the fight and to the res - cue came.
 3 gainst the foe, should strive, and should pre - vail;
 4 ve - ry self, and es - sence all - di - vine.
 5 won - der - ful, most sure in all his ways!

Words: John Henry Newman (1801-1890), alt. Music: *Newman*, Richard Runciman Terry (1865-1938).

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Priest: 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.

All: **Amen.**

Glory to God

Hymnal S-280

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 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

The Collect for the Sixth Sunday of Easter, from the Book of Common Prayer at page 225.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: Let us pray.

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.

All: Amen.

Please Sit

The Liturgy of the Word

First NT Lector: The first reading is from the book of Acts

Acts 10:34-48

³⁴ Peter took a deep breath and began to speak: "It has become clear to me that God shows no favoritism. ³⁵ No! In every race, people who fear him and do what is right are acceptable to him. ³⁶ God sent his word to the people of Israel, announcing peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all! ³⁷ You know all about this, and how the word spread throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed."

³⁸ "God anointed this man, Jesus of Nazareth, with the holy spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses of everything he did in the land of Judea and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day, and allowed him to be seen. ⁴¹ He was not seen by all the people, but by those of us whom God had appointed beforehand. We ate and drank with him after he had been raised from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to announce to the people, and to bear testimony that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets give their witness: he is the one! Everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the holy spirit fell on everyone who was listening to the word. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished, for the gift of the holy spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles too. ⁴⁶ They heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ "No one can deny these people water to be baptized, can they? They have received the holy spirit just as we did!" ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus the Messiah. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

First NT Lector: In response to this first reading, we will pray Psalm 98 responsively by half verse.

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song, *

for he has done marvelous things.

² With his right hand and his holy arm *

has he won for himself the victory.

³ The Lord has made known his victory; *

his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁶ Sing to the Lord with the harp, *

with the harp and the voice of song.

⁷ With trumpets and the sound of the horn *

shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

⁸ Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *

the lands and those who dwell therein.

⁹ Let the rivers clap their hands, *

**and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.**

¹⁰ In righteousness shall he judge the world *

and the peoples with equity.

2nd NT Lector: The second reading is from the first letter of John

1 John 5:1-6

¹ Everyone who believes that the Messiah is Jesus has been born of God. Everyone who loves the parent loves the child as well. ² That is how we know that we love the children of God, because we love God and do what he commands. ³ This is what loving God means: it means keeping his commandments. His commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world: our faith.

⁵ Who is the one who conquers the world? Surely the one who believes that Jesus is God's son! ⁶ It was Jesus who came by water and blood, not with water only but with the water and the blood. The Spirit is the one who bears witness, because the spirit is the truth.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation

Sequence Hymn

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Hymnal # 513

1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the
 2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the
 3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the

chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the
 branch - es of the Vine, to the Church in faith as -
 cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and

wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger
 sem - bled, to her midst as gift and
 wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -

might: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
 sign: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
 pare: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

Phrase 1 of each stanza may be sung by one group, with a contrasted group singing phrase 2, and all joining for the final phrase.

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Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John *John 15:9-17*

All: **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

⁹ Jesus continued speaking. “As the father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and so that your joy may be full.”

¹² “This is my command: love one another, in the same way that I have loved you. ¹³ No one has a greater love than this, to lay down your life for your friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I tell you. ¹⁵ I am not calling you servants any longer; servants do not know what their master is doing. But I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I heard from my father.”

¹⁶ “You did not choose me. I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. Then the father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷ This is my command to you: love one another.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Finding God in the last place you'd ever look!

Please stand

Priest: Let us affirm our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

People: 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

Priest: We come today seeking to become more faithful witnesses, sharing in the resurrection life of Jesus, as we entrust the concerns of our world to God's care.

Litanist: Jesus, you triumphed over evil and death, and so brought new hope to all the world: Speak your living truth unto everyone who leads and holds authority among the nations, that they may be agents of life and justice. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Litanist: Jesus, you chose to participate in all our human experiences. Pour your peace upon our diocese and our local community, upon Presiding Bishop Michael and the candidates for Presiding Bishop, and upon our Bishop Sally. May we remain faithful to the work you entrust to us, the work of restoring all people to unity with God and each other in your name. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Litanist: Jesus, you ask us to be faithful and joyous witnesses to your resurrection. Make us courageous in proclaiming your goodness and love. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Litanist: Jesus, you are the wounded healer who has overcome all evil and all the troubles and sorrows we fear. Let the power of your resurrection bring healing and hope to those for whom we pray, especially all those on our parish prayer list, represented today by these names:

Don Acque, Ron Anderson, Carol Andrew, Guy Baldecchi, the Barron Family, Heather Bendingtree, Debbie Bergmen, Harvey Bishop, John Breitling, Alan Brooks, Mary Bruner, Young Dominic, LeeAnn & Al Cappella, the Carr Family, Maria Ciammetti, Bret & Kathy Clark, Cynthia Clarke, Cynthia Cooper, Carolsue Cummings, Al D'Alessio, Sue & John D'Elia, Sonja & Thomas Detjen, Danielle DiPisa, Eileen Donovan and Kristy Downey

Because we trust the power of your resurrection, we pray with confidence for all of these. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Litanist: Jesus, you have passed through death and have been restored to the fullness of life. Today we remember with joy all those we love who have passed from this life, and we speak our hope of rejoicing once again with them in your presence. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Litanist: Lord Jesus, as we move closer to the summer season on this small island, give us hearts that embrace without judgment all those who visit us this year. By your grace and power, may they find with us a place of your true respite and renewal. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The priest will invite other petitions here.

Priest: Gracious Eternal and Loving God, you anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and raised him from death on the cross into resurrection life: Nourish us with his life as we eat and drink with him in this Easter Eucharist, that we may be his witnesses, sharing in the Spirit's work of reconciliation and peace, through the Risen Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

Let us now offer each other a greeting of peace.

Please Be Seated

The Liturgy of the Table

Hymn as the Table is Set

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Hymnal # 655



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end:
2 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
3 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee,



be thou for ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;
that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be;



I shall not fear the bat - tle, if thou art by my side,
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
and, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way, if thou wilt be my guide.
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Please stand

*We are praying Eucharistic Prayer B during this Easter Season. It begins **page 367** in the BCP.*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Priest: 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

Hymnal # S-129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Priest:

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 Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All:

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

Priest: 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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; 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.

The Great Amen

Hymnal # S-147



We will use the contemporary form of the Lord's Prayer, found on page 364 in the BCP

Priest: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**All: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
Your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Priest: Alleluia! Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

Priest: These are the gifts of God, for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Post-Communion Hymn: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Hymnal # 657

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

Priest: Let us pray together once again.

All: **Loving God,
 we give you thanks
 for restoring us in your image
 and nourishing us with spiritual food**

in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
 Now send us forth
 As a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
 that we may proclaim your love to the world
 and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

Announcements

Please stand for the final blessing of this service

Priest: May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

All: Amen.

Sending Hymn

God of Grace and God of Glory

Hymnal # 594

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;

crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.
 From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
 shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
 let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.

Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, days, goal, dore, for the fac - ing of this hour. for the liv - ing of these days. lest we miss thy king - dom's goal. serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt. By permission of the author. Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932).

Priest: Let us go forth in the name of Christ, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Thank you for worshiping with us today.
Please join us in the parish hall for a time of fellowship.**