

**ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SANTA CLARITA**  
**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**10:00 A.M.**  
**MAY 22, 2022**

*The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.*

**Prayer of Meditation**

*Before the service begins, we encourage you to use the following for meditation.*

Because Jesus, our Risen Savior promises to be with us always, to the end of the age, we can even face confidently that final and greatest change, which is death itself: when “we shall all be changed – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye.” -Br. Geoffrey Tristram, SSJE

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**Prelude**

*Abide With Me*

William V. Malpede

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Entrance Hymn #400**

“All creatures of our God and King”

*Lasst uns erfreuen*



1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us sing: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le-  
 4. Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless-ings on our way, O\_\_ praise him, Al-le-  
 5. All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your part, O\_\_ sing now: Al-le-  
 7. Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor-ship him in hum-ble- ness, O\_\_ praise him, Al-le-



lu - ia! Bright burn - ing sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,  
 lu - ia! All flowers and fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:  
 lu - ia! All you that pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:  
 lu - ia! Praise God the Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



O\_\_ praise him, O\_\_ praise him, Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**Priest:** Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

**Collect for Purity**

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.**

1. Glo - ry to you, Lord God of our fa- thers; you are  
wor- thy of praise; glo- ry to you. 2. Glo - ry to you for the ra - di- ance  
of your ho - ly Name; we will praise you and high- ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

3. Glo - ry to you in the splen- dor of your tem- ple; on the throne of your  
ma - jes- ty, glo- ry to you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat- ed be - tween the  
Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and high- ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold- ing the depths; in the high vault of hea - ven,  
glo- ry to you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit;  
we will praise you and high- ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

### The Collect of the Day

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **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. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE LESSONS

### The First Reading Acts 16:9-15

Reader: Mary Bennett

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 67

Reader: John Nelson

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, \*  
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, \*  
your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase; \*  
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- 7 May God give us his blessing, \*  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

## The Second Reading Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Reader: John Nelson

A Reading from the Revelation to John.

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.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Gradual Hymn #490

“I want to walk as a child of the light”

*Houston*



1. I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
2. I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at Je - sus.  
3. I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
Clearsun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## The Gospel Reading John 5:1-9

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After Jesus healed the son of the official in Capernaum, there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids-- blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said

to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.  
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## The Sermon

The Rev. Christopher Montella  
Rector

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## 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.

## Prayers of the People

Reader: Tessa Lucero

Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. The God of peace has prepared for us such good things as surpass our understanding, so let us rejoice, saying, "Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you."

By the gift and power of the Holy Spirit, teach your Church to walk in the ways of Jesus. May the gospel be found in our minds, in our hearts, and on our lips.

*Silence*

Intercessor: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you.**

Let all the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth. We look for the day, O God, when all the peoples gather around your throne in praise and worship

*The congregation may add their own thanksgivings.*

*Silence*

Intercessor: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you.**

O God from whom all good proceeds: bless the earth to bring forth her increase. Guide all your people to honor you by caring for your creation.

*Silence*

Intercessor: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you.**

O God, give to our city your peace. Shine the light of your love on those places that are plagued by gangs and violence, hatred and sadness. Be merciful to us and bless us.

*Silence*

Intercessor: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you.**

Almighty God, let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations. Give to the sick and suffering a taste of the water of life.

*The congregation may add their own petitions.*

*Silence*

Intercessor: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you.**

Grant us, O God, by your great mercy, entrance into your heavenly city where we might worship at your throne, see you face to face, and reign with you forever and ever.

*Silence*

Intercessor: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you.**

*Priest:*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

**Priest:** The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*Members of the congregation who are present are encouraged to remain at their seats to pass the peace.*

*Members of the congregation who are joining us via livestream are encouraged to post "Peace be with you" in the comments or to use the "like" or "love" reaction button to take part in the virtual exchange of God's peace with the rest of the congregation at this time.*

*Please be seated.*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

We are pleased to celebrate the following birthdays: Shari Schlaman on May 21<sup>st</sup>, Stephanie Rodriguez on May 24<sup>th</sup>, and Adriana Santana on May 28<sup>th</sup>. We also celebrate the anniversary of Donna & Derek Maldonado on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Offertory Prayer**

*The People remain seated and say together:*

**Loving God, you alone are the source of every good gift. Everything we have, and all that we are, comes from you. Now, help us to be grateful, accountable, and, with praise and thanksgiving, to give of ourselves generously, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Offertory LEVAS #120

*Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

Doris Akers

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spi - rit in this place, and I  
 (2. There are) bless - ings you can - not re - ceive 'till you  
 (3. If you) say he saved you from your sin, now you're

know that it's the Spi - rit of the Lord. There are sweet ex -  
 know him in his full - ness, and be - lieve. You're the one to  
 weak, you're bound, and can - not en - ter in, you can make it

pres - sions on each face, and I  
 pro - fit when you say, "I am  
 right if you will yield; You'll en -

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.  
 going to walk with Je - sus all the way."  
 joy the Ho - ly Spi - rit that we feel.

Sweet Ho - ly Spi - rit, sweet Heav - en - ly Dove, stay right here with us,  
 fill - ing us with your love. And for these bless - ings we lift our hearts in  
 praise; with - out a doubt we'll know that we have been re - vived when

we shall leave this place. 1.2. 3.  
 2. There are place.  
 3. If you

Please stand as you are able.

## Presentation

Old 100<sup>th</sup>

G D Em Bm G D G D Em  
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow, Praise God all crea - tures,  
C G D Em D G Am G/B C F#dim/A  
here be - low. Praise God, you hosts in heav'n a -  
Em D/F# G C#dim/ED C G/D D7 G G7 C G  
bove; Praise God the Trin - i - ty of Love. A - men.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

## Sanctus # S 128

Mathias

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.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*Priest and People*

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Stephen, and all your people, into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

*Priest and People*

**Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Please remain standing during the Fraction Anthem.*

### Fraction Hymn #S 154

Hurd

*Cantor will sing the refrain first, followed by the congregation.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there-fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.

*All are welcome to receive communion. The table we set belongs to God.  
Wherever you find yourself on your spiritual journey you are welcome to receive the Bread made holy.*

*The church teaches that temporal isolation cannot constrain the sacrament's ineffable power. Calling us to "massive, corporate, spiritual communion,"*

## The Invitation to Holy Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

*Priest and People say together:*

**In union, O Christ, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, O Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

*Please follow usher instructions for taking communion.*

O I know the Lord, I know the Lord,

I know the Lord's\_ laid his hands on me, O hands on me.

1. Did ev - er you see the like be - fore  
 2. O was - n't that a hap - py day  
 3. Some seek the Lord and don't seek him right.  
 4. My Lord's done just what he said,

I know the Lord's\_ laid his hands on me.

King Je - sus preach - ing to the poor?  
 when Je - sus washed my sins a - way?  
 They fool all day and pray at night.  
 He's healed the sick and raised the dead.

I know the Lord's\_ laid his hands on me.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

**God our Father,**  
 you have raised our humanity in Christ  
 and have fed us with the bread of heaven:  
 mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings,  
 we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Blessing**

May God, who gives patience and encouragement,  
 give you a spirit of unity to live in harmony.

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,  
 fill you with his new life; so that with one voice you may glorify God.

May the Spirit give to you and to all you love  
 comfort and peace, light and joy, safety and wisdom.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the one,  
 holy and undivided Trinity be among you  
 and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn #409**

“The spacious firmament”

*Creation*

1. The spa - cious fir - ma - ment on high,  
 2. Soon as the eve - ning shades pr - vail,  
 3. What though in sol - emn si - lence all

with all the blue e - ther - eal sky,  
 the moon takes up the won - drous tale,  
 move round the dark ter - res - trial ball?

and span - gled heavens, a shin - ing frame,  
 and night - ly to the lis - tening earth  
 What though no re - al voice nor sound

their great O - rig - i - nal pro - claim.  
 re - peats the sto - ry of her birth:  
 a - mid their ra - diant orbs be found?

The un - wea - ried sun from day to day  
 whilst all the stars that round her burn,  
 In rea - son's ear they all re - joice,

does his Cre - a - tor's power dis - play;  
 and all the plan - ets in their turn,  
 and ut - ter forth a glo - rious voice;

and pub - lish - es to ev - ery land  
 con - firm the ti - dings, as they roll  
 for ev - er sing - ing, as they shine,

the work of an al - mighty hand.  
 and spread the truth from pole to pole.  
 "The hand that made us is di - vine."

## Dismissal

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

Prayers of the People taken from *Praying the Scriptures* by Jeremiah D. Williamson, ©2014 by Jeremiah D. Williamson. All Rights Reserved.  
From *The Hymnal 1982*: #409 "The spacious firmament", Words: Joseph Addison (1672-1719); para. of Psalm 19:1-6. Music: Creation, Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809); adapt. *Dalžimer*, or *New York Collection of Sacred Music*, 1850, alt. #S 128 Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*, Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934). #400 "All creatures of our God and King" Words: Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Music: *Lass tun erfragen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesung*, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). #490 "I want to walk as a child of the light" Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934). Music: *Houston*, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934). Words, Music: Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration. #S236 Setting: John Rutter (b. 1945).  
From *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*: #120 Sweet, Sweet Spirit, Words: Doris Akers (b. 1922). Music: Doris Akers. Copyright © 1962. Renewed 1990 MANNA MUSIC, INC 25510 Stanford Ave., Suite 101, Valencia, CA 91355. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. #131 *I Know the Lord's Laid His Hands on Me*, Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943). Arr. Copyright © 1936 Paul A. Schmitt Music Company. Copyright assigned to Belwin Mills. Made in U.S.A. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission of CPP/Belwin, Inc., P.O. Box 4340, Miami, FL 33014.  
*Doxology* – Music: Old 100<sup>th</sup>, melody from *Psaumes odeante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. After Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).  
Post Communion Prayer: churchofengland.org