

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023, 9:30 am



Prelude	“Music for a Solemn Occasion”	by Calvin Hampton
Welcome		Laurie Hyndman
Opening Hymn, #488	Be Thou my vision	The Hymnal 1982

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ is risen!
People **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Celebrant If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
People **everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new!** (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.

People **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31

Harriet Davis

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.”

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:7-18

Mary Curlew

- 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.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Harriet Davis

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.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn, #455 O Love of God *The Hymnal 1982*

The Gospel: John 14:15-21 *The Rev. Dr. Robert Flanagan*

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to John
People **Glory to you, O God.**

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."

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

Sermon *The Rev. Dr. Robert Flanagan*

Anthem Love Bade Me Welcome *Music by David Hurd, text by George Herbert*

*Love bade me welcome. Yet my soul drew back
Guilty of dust and sin.*

*But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,
If I lacked any thing.*

*A guest, I answered, worthy to be here:
Love said, You shall be he.*

*I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah my dear,
I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
Who made the eyes but I?*

*Truth Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame
Go where it doth deserve.
And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?
My dear, then I will serve.
You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:
So I did sit and eat.*

Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith as we say together:
People

**We believe in one God,
maker of heaven and earth,
who in goodness created us
and by grace sustains us.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
beloved child of God,
who became a human being and lived among us,
experiencing fully the joys, sorrows, and temptations of human life.
While he walked on the earth,
he taught and healed,
but most of all he loved,
and showed us how to love one another.
By us and for us he was crucified;
he died and was buried.
Yet he rose again and lives on,
freeing us and empowering us to be children of God.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
poured out upon the early disciples at the Day of Pentecost
and upon us in our baptisms.
She has spoken through the prophets
and continues still to speak through us today.**

Prayers of the People

Mary Curlew

Leader When Jesus appeared to his disciples, he met them where they were, but also invited them to step forward and bear witness to his resurrection. As we offer our intercessions and thanksgivings today, may we, too, be living witnesses to the power of the risen Lord.

Gracious God, you have called us to be members of your body in Yarmouth. Bless and guide us as we seek to serve you in this place. Strengthen us as we proclaim your resurrection to the world. Pray, my siblings, for the witness of the Church:

(pause)

People In your Church, Lord God,
May we be your witnesses.

Leader God of wisdom, we pray for all leaders charged with ordering our world's resources, maintaining peace and providing for those in need. Send a spirit of wisdom and compassion, that peace, justice and wisdom may prevail. Pray, beloved, for those in positions of public trust:

(pause)

People By our words and actions, Lord God,
May we be your witnesses.

Leader God our provider, you have given us this pleasant earth as a goodly heritage. May we use its resources wisely and always according to your purpose. Pray for our fragile earth:

(pause)

People In our stewardship of this earth, Lord God,
May we be your witnesses.

Leader Merciful God, we pray for the lonely, the sick and the suffering, the homeless, and for those seeking safety in this country. As they cast their cares upon you, may they experience your presence and healing touch. Pray for those in need this day, especially: **Bobby; Charles; Kellan; Pat; Marcella; Tim; Sam; Matthew; Antonia; Al; Alex; Virginia & Jamil; Ed; Hannah; Mike; David; Sarah; Jenny & Matt; Rich, Nancy & Jonathan; Perry; Jim; Matt & Shannon; Elaine; Sasha; Katie; Paige; Anne, Richard & family; Courtney; Dianne; Diane; Karl; Sudon, Aunt Niki; Ron; Nathaniel; Boyd; Terry; Celeste; Will; Tom & Laurel; Caia; Jennifer; Jani & Lisa; Ramsey; Alicita; Nancy A.; Dennis; and the Lund family.**

Please add your own intercessions, either silently or aloud.

(pause)

People As we trust in your healing power, Lord God,
May we be your witnesses.

Leader God of Life, you raised Jesus from the dead; Give us assurance that because Jesus lives, we do as well. We remember all who have died and who rest eternally in you, O God, especially Ruth Lund, great aunt of Rev. Amanda.

Please add your own intercessions, either silently or aloud.

(pause)

People In death, as in life,
May we be your witnesses.

Leader God our parent, you sent Jesus to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to yourself. We thank you for your tender mercies. We thank you for the many ways you continue to make yourself known to us. Give thanks for those things that make our hearts glad this day: Please offer your own thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

(pause)

People In our lives, Lord,
May we with gratitude bear witness to your love.

Leader We ask these things in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
People **Amen.**

Peace
Celebrant The peace of Christ is always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Please greet one another with a sign of peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant As Jesus so freely gave himself for us, let us consider the offerings we make to God. For the scriptures say: "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God." (*Ephesians 5:2*) Let us, now, share the offerings and oblations of our lives to the glory of God.

Bread and wine are brought forward at this time, while the ushers pass the offering plates.

Offertory Hymn Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth *Words: Jean Janzen*
Music: John Bell, Janet Peachey

tune: Norwich



13



Mothering God, you gave me birth
In the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of every breath,
You are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form,
Offering me your food of light,

Grain-- of life, and grape of love,
Your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing one,
In arms of patience hold me close,
So that in faith I root and grow
Until I flower, until I know.

The offering is brought forward at this time.

Offertory Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray,
People All things come of Thee, O God, and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to our God.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to Christ our Sovereign.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere
to give thanks to you, God our Creator and Lover.
You make all things and call them good.
You love us into being,
you form us in your image,
and breathe into us the breath of life.
When we turn away, and our love fails,
your love remains steadfast.
You deliver us from captivity,
and bring us to a land flowing with milk and honey.
You set before us the way of life.
And so, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name as we join their unending hymn:

Sanctus, S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven 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. _____

Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By his baptism of suffering and death
you give your church birth into a living hope.
Raising Jesus from the dead,
you make a new covenant with us,
by water and the Spirit,
and deliver us into freedom.
We who were no people are now your people,
declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,
who calls us out of death's shadow into everlasting life.

On the night when he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
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."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, 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."

On the third day you raised him from the dead
and revealed him to the women
who came to the tomb to care for his body.
On that day he was recognized by his disciples
in the breaking of bread.

And so, remembering these
your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
We offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice,
and we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give you thanks, O God of love.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ
that we may be for the world
the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.
By your spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in loving service to all the world,

until all feast at your heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant
People

Gathered into one as the family of God, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
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 Fraction

Celebrant
People

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

Fraction Hymn – Agnus Dei, S163

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Invitation

Celebrant Come, for all is now ready! 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.

The Communion

Everyone is welcome to receive communion at St. Bart's! The ushers will invite you to come forward through the center aisle, individuals and families are invited to stand along the rounded edge of the chancel to receive the bread, hands facing upward for bread with gluten, hands facing down will indicate you'd like gluten free bread. The Chalice Bearers will follow the Priest with the chalice of wine. You are invited to sip from the cup but not to dip. If you would prefer not to sip from the cup, you may place your hands across your chest to receive the blessing of the words. If you would prefer to receive neither the bread nor the wine but would like to come forward for a blessing, please come forward as described above and simply cross your arms at your chest and the Priest will offer a blessing. Hand sanitizer is available in the aisle. Please use the side aisles to return to your seat once you have received.

Communion Music

Choir Anthem "If Ye Love Me" *by Thomas Tallis*
*If ye love me,
keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may abide with you forever,
e'en the spirit of truth.*

Hymn, #330 Therefore we before him bending *The Hymnal 1982*

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.
People **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.**

The Blessing

Celebrant God's Blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always.
People **Amen.**

Closing Hymn, #410

Praise my soul the king of heaven

The Hymnal 1982

Postlude

“March”

by Calvin Hampton

RESOURCES

Opening Acclamation: Enriching Our Worship, Morning Prayer

Affirmation of Faith: *Excellent Words*. © 1988 by Lutheran and Episcopal Ministry at MIT

Prayers of the People: The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer

Great Thanksgiving & Eucharistic Prayer: St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, San Francisco, CA.

Post-Communion Prayer & Blessing: Enriching Our Worship

Cover Image: Easter manuscript, Metropolitan Museum of Art

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Robert Flanagan
Music Director	Dr. Christina Edelen
Musicians	The St. Bart’s Choir
Chalice Bearer	Mary Curlew
Lector	Harriet Davis
Ushers	Ann Donaghy, Pam Hobson
Altar Guild	Mary Ann Hodsdon, Beth LaSalle
Flower Arranger	Barbara Barhydt
A/V	Joe Michaud
Bread Baker	Barbara Barhydt
Counters	Pal Covie, Harriet Davis
Lawn Care	John Duncan
VPOW	Laurie Hyndman
Coffee Hour	Kathy Abernathy & Colin Pope



St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church, Yarmouth, ME

A Congregation of The Episcopal Diocese of Maine

Priest-in-Charge:	The Rev. Amanda Gerken-Nelson
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Music Director:	Dr. Christina Edelen
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Corey Walmer
Intern:	Mary Curlew
Sr. Warden:	Michele Johns
Jr. Warden:	Laurie Hyndman
Pastoral Care:	Imelda Schaefer, Barbara Barhydt
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