

Sixth Sunday after Easter

Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 – 10:30 am, May 14, 2023



St. Mark's Episcopal Anglican Church

Fairland Parish

Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins, Rector

Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

Sixth Sunday after Easter

The People stand.

Prelude

The Celebrant says.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you. Please rise. Our worship begins with [*the opening hymn*].

The Altar party processes as the Choristers lead the People in singing

Opening Hymn:

Hymn #292

O Jesus, crowned with all renown

1. O Jesus, crowned with all renown,
since thou the earth hast trod,
thou reignest and by thee come down
henceforth the gifts of God.
Thine is the health and thine the wealth
that in our halls abound,
and thine the beauty and the joy
with which the years are crowned.

2. Lord, in their change, let frost and heat,
and winds and dews be given;
all fostering power, all influence sweet,
breathe from the bounteous heaven.
Attemper fair with gentle air

the sunshine and the rain,
that kindly earth with timely birth
may yield her fruits again:

3. that we may feed the poor aright,
and, gathering round thy throne,
here, in the holy angel's sight,
repay thee of thine own:
That we may praise thee all our days,
and with the Father's Name,
and with the Holy Spirit's gifts,
the Savior's love proclaim.

Opening Rites and the Collect of the Day

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: *Serve the Lord with gladness*

LEVAS 278

***Please see musical insert. The Congregation will sing the refrain*

“Serve the Lord with gladness, Alleluia”

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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 First Lesson

Acts 17:22-31

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³For 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. ²⁴The 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, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble

about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ 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.’

²⁹ “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. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ 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.

Psalm of the Day: *Jubilate Deo*

Psalm 66:8-20

The Choristers will chant the Psalm.

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.

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ 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, ¹⁵ 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, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ 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, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ 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 lives, were saved through water. ²¹ 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, ²² 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.

Gradual Hymn: *Be thou my vision*

Hymn # 488

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be;
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

3. High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Gospel

John 14:15-21

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This 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.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ 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, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: Athenians

The LEM leads the People as they say

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 human.

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.

A Litany for Mothers' Day

The Intercessor prays.

Loving God, look upon the mothers of young children, and give them energy, patience, and gentleness in the fleeting days of sticky hands, messy homes, and laundry that never ends.

Bless mothers raising school-aged children and teenagers, and give them peace and joy in parenting when it is hard, if also still wonderful.

Bless mothers who watch and wonder at their adult children and the lives they have chosen, and give to them and their children patience, vision, and wisdom.

Bless those mothers who have seen their children taken or given for adoption, and those who have adopted the children of others, that they may know that your love is boundless, and that all of us are from beginning to end your children.

Bless those who have become mothers against their will, that they may know your grace and healing power, and live to see a world in which none need ever endure what they have endured.

Healing God, comfort all people who mourn the loss of their mothers, be it from illness, malice, accident, or poor choices, and bring to them your peace, which passes all understanding.

Comfort those who had hoped to be mothers but whose hopes have not been fulfilled, and those who continue to hope to become mothers.

Ever-present God, embrace and comfort those mothers, and all persons, who mourn the loss of their own children.

Gracious God, help us to see all those who guided us and loved us like mothers shine with the brightness of the love you shine upon each of your children.

Bless us and keep us today in that love and always. In your name we pray. Amen.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Peace

The People stand.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you,

People: And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in silence and at physical distance.

Choral Anthem:

Christ Hath a Garden

English Folk Song/Gerald Near

The Priest prepares the altar and sanctuary for the Eucharist.

The Holy Eucharist: The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, holy Lord, giver of life and light. You fill us with your blessings and feed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Christ Jesus, renewed us in your Spirit, and brought us into everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining with Angels and Archangels and with all the host of heaven, who forever sing this hymn, to the glory of your Name,

Sanctus

Hymnal #S129

The Choristers lead the People as they sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, maker of all things, judge of all who live. You made us in your image and to live in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care and bade us be faithful stewards of its bounty. But we honored not your gifts, misused your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us. You called us into your promise, delivered us from bondage, sustained us in the wild, and sent prophets to bid us repent and return.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made human in Christ Jesus, to live as one of us, and to reveal your glory. Giving himself up to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil and opened for us the way of everlasting life.

On the night before he died, as he sat at table with his friends, Our Lord Jesus Christ took bread. Giving thanks to you, he broke it, and shared it with them, saying:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.” †

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and shared it with them, saying:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in memory of me.” †

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The LEM leads the People as they say:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

In that mystery we offer to you this bread and this wine, fruit of the vine and the work of human hands. Send your Spirit upon them that they become for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. May we who share them be filled with that Holy Spirit to live as Christ's Body in the world. May we come to the everlasting heritage of your children, and with the apostles and martyrs and all your saints, enter into the joys of your salvation.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, now and forever. AMEN. ††

Now, as Christ taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

The Choristers lead the People as they 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and then keeps a period of silence.

The Fraction Anthem:

Hymnal #S154

The Choristers lead the People as they sing:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn:

Hymn #323

Bread of heaven, on thee we feed

1. Bread of heaven, on thee we feed,
for thy Flesh is meat indeed;
ever may our souls be fed
with this true and living Bread;
day by day with strength supplied,
through the life of him who died.

2. Vine of heaven, thy Blood supplies
this blest cup of sacrifice;
Lord, thy wounds our healing give,
to thy cross we look and live:
Jesus, may we ever be
grafted, rooted, built in thee.

Communion Anthem

God be in my Head

John Rutter

The People consume their gifts. After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *The Celebrant prays*

Eternal God, holy Lord, 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.*

Announcements

Announcements, if any, are made here.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Celebrant says

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord be with you, this day and always, and give you peace.

Withdrawal Hymn:

Hymn #344

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

1. Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;

let us each, thy love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace:
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.

2. Thanks we give and adoration
for thy Gospel's joyful sound:
may the fruits of thy salvation
in our hearts and lives abound:
ever faithful, ever faithful
to thy truth may we be found;

3. so that when thy love shall call us,
Savior, from the world away,
fear of death shall not appall us,
glad thy summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with thee in endless day.

The Altar Party withdraws.

The LEM says

Let us go forth, in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Celebrant, the LEM, and the People depart, maintaining physical distance.

Postlude

Please join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour and Fellowship.

The Flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God.

*Our services and events may be live-streamed and/or recorded. By entering the service/event premises, you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming, promotional purposes, advertising, inclusion on web sites, and/or any other purpose by St. Mark's Episcopal Church. *

If you would prefer not to be shown on camera, please sit on the pulpit side of the nave, behind the videographers.

Readers and Intercessor

1st Reader: Gail Soulea

2nd Reader: Kris Taweel

Intercessor: Olivia Lee

St. Mark's Announcements

1. **“Scripture or Reason, I am Sure, Do Not Anywhere Say So:” Reading Scripture and Finding Freedom with John Locke.** Sunday, 9:05-10:15am, Parish Hall and via Zoom. Please join us for this critical study of Locke’s use of scripture and reason in laying political and religious foundations for natural rights, democracy, and freedom. No prior reading required. Please see Rev. Wilkins for more information.
2. **Financial Oversight Committee (FOC):** Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 7:00pm in the library. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.
3. **Funeral for Eleanor (Ellie) Thurber,** Thursday, May 18, 11:00 am, in the Church.
4. **Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.
5. **At-Home Covid-19 Self-Test kits** are available, free of charge, in the church office. There are 2 kits in each box; we will provide one box per person. Please contact Janis Smith, Parish Administrator, or Keira Vargas, Parish Secretary, if you would like a box of test kits. Contact number: 301-622-5860.
6. **Coffee Hour Hosting:** Please consider helping to host the *Coffee Hour* following the 10:30 service. Help is needed with setup, cleanup, and purchasing. There is a sign-up sheet located on the wall beside the coffee pot in the Parish Hall. Instructions on what a host needs to do may be

found on the clipboard. We give thanks for all those who help with this ministry of hospitality.

7. **Altar Flowers**: Beginning with Easter and through the season of Epiphany, you may sponsor the Altar Flowers for any Sunday or major feast day in memory of your loved ones, a birthday, an anniversary, or any other suitable occasion – or even just because. The sign-up book with details is in the church office or, on Sundays, in the narthex (at the back of the church). Please contact the office for more information or to support this part of our worship ministry.
8. **Bag Lunches for Elizabeth House**: On the 3rd Sunday of each month, following the 8:00am service, St. Mark’s Outreach ministry makes bag lunches for those in need at Elizabeth House. St. Mark’s is looking for volunteers to help make these bag lunches. Please contact Linda Toran or the office if you would like to volunteer.
9. **“Good morning” Greeters**: As a welcoming congregation that is now back to in-person worship, we’d like to return to having greeters at the sanctuary doors on Sunday mornings. The main purpose will be to say “Good Morning” to all who enter and point out the location of the bulletins. This would be a separate function from the Usher. If anyone is interested in volunteering, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall near the coffee machine.

Please check your e-letters and the website for the most up-to-date information.

Save the Date

Saturday, June 24, 1:00pm - 4:00pm: Seventh Annual Rockville Pride!
In-Person Event at the Rockville Town Square, free and open to all ages.

Featuring:

- Live performances.
- Information booths and dialogue.
- Arts and crafts/children's activities.

Sunday, July 9-12, 2023: IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE:

A Festival for the Jesus Movement

The churchwide festival takes place in Baltimore, Maryland, and features revival worship and plenary sessions, in addition to workshops.

St. Mark's Mission

- ❖ We will deepen our faith by adopting more liturgical options to reach out into the community.
- ❖ We will extend our outreach by getting more people involved in and reaching more people through community involvement.
- ❖ We will embrace evangelism by choosing to be a church that reaches out to our community and spread the good news of Christ.
- ❖ We will increase our participation by being committed to our church through regular attendance, and giving of our resources of time, talent, and treasure.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fairland, MD

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Parish Office hours: Monday – Friday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and by appointment.

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Wilkins, Rector

rector@stmarks-silverspring.org * Cell: 301-768-3075 * 301-622-5860 ext. 105

Janis Smith, Parish Administrator

administrator@stmarks-silverspring.org * 301-622-5860 ext. 104

Don Hague, Director of Music

Keira Vargas, Parish Secretary

Pamela Gibson, Senior Warden

Rosanne Tingley, Junior Warden

For information about St. Mark's, please visit our website:

www.stmarksfairland.org * www.stmarks-silverspring.org

We hope that today's service has been a blessing to you.

We are here to serve you, and hope to see you again.

Please feel free to call us, email us, or visit us online.

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