



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
MAY 10, 2026
11:00AM

*Quiet in the nave before the service helps us to mark sacred space and time.
We invite you to use this time to prayerfully prepare for worship.
Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

Voluntary

Salix (Plymouth Suite)

Percy Whitlock

The Word of God

Hymn 483, *Standing, sung by all*

The head that once was crowned with thorns ST. MAGNUS

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Gloria S278, *Sung by all*

William Mathias

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord 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. **Amen.**

The First Reading, *Seated*

Acts 17:22-31

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.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:7-18, *Please join the choir in singing the bold portion of the Psalm*

Tone VIII.2



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 al-/low 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 bur-/dens 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 pray-er.

**18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my / pray-er, *
nor with-/held his love from me.**

The Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 387, *Standing, sung by all*

We sing of God, the mighty source MAGDALEN COLLEGE

During the sequence hymn, children aged 4 through 4th grade are invited to follow the children's cross to Children's Chapel. Parents are always welcome to attend. All will return during the Peace.

The Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Michael Goldsmith

The Nicene Creed, *Standing*

358

The Prayers of the People, *Standing or kneeling*

Leader In this season of resurrection and joy, let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader O God, we give thanks for the goodness of creation, for the victory of resurrection, and for the grace of redemption. We praise you for leading us from the darkness into light, and for bringing us through the waters of death into new life in you: Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader That the Church, celebrating the resurrection with joy, may bring the light of Christ into the world: Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader That our community, renewed through word and sacrament, may be strengthened in the covenant of our baptism: Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader That the people of the world, remembering the source of creation, may care for the waters of the earth and for all living things: Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader That the leaders of nations, knowing their power, may bring peace and justice to the world: Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader That all who suffer, recalling the mystery of Christ crucified and risen, may be comforted: Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader In thanksgiving for the saints and martyrs, for the witnesses of the resurrection, and for all who have passed over from the darkness of death into the glorious light of Christ: Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant concludes with a collect

The Peace, *Standing*

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

If ye love me

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 'bide with you forever;
E'en the sp'rit of truth.
—John 14:15–17

Presentation Hymn 191, st. 5, *Standing, sung by all*

LUX EOI

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high; Alleluia!
To the Savior who has won the victory;
Alleluia! to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity:
Alleluia, alleluia! to the Triune Majesty.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

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 him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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 S128, *Sung by all*

Mathias

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.

Standing or kneeling

Celebrant 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;**

Celebrant 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. **Amen.**

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

The Lord's Prayer, *Said by all*

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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

Agnus Dei S165, *Sung by all*

Mathias

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

The Invitation to Communion

*Regardless of the denomination of your baptism, you are invited to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.
Gluten free wafers available upon request.*

Music during Communion

Non vos relinquam

Plainsong

I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you, alleluia;
and your hearts will be joyful, alleluia, alleluia. *Ps.* I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come? (John 14; Psalm 121)

Hymn 512

Come, Gracious Spirit MENDON

Hymn 704

O thou who camest from above HEREFORD

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth to take communion to the sick or homebound, the following is offered:

Celebrant 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.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Postcommunion Prayer, *Said by all, standing or kneeling*

365

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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.**

The Blessing

Hymn 400, *Standing, sung by all*

All creatures of our God and King (st. 1, 4, 5, 7)
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The Dismissal

The Deacon offers a dismissal followed by:

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Voluntary

Toccata (Plymouth Suite)

Whitlock

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
William "Bill" Martin and Mildred Martin by Linda Martin*

CELEBRANT The Rev. Dr. Melissa M. Hartley

PREACHER The Rev. Michael Goldsmith

ASSISTING The Rev. Rose Veal Eby

DEACON The Rev. Dn. Dr. Robert A. Serio

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Dr. Aaron Ta



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