

GOOD MORNING & WELCOME

Welcome to everyone joining us for worship this morning. Whether or not you consider yourselves members of this congregation, we are glad you are here. If the flow of worship should seem unfamiliar to you, relax and let God's presence envelop you, without a worry about when to stand, sit or kneel. If you are new to St. John's, please sign our guest register.

Please silence all cell phones and other noise-making devices before the start of the service. Thank you.

The Rev. Nathan Carr – Vicar
The Rev. Lisa Chronister – Deacon
The Rev. William Font – Deacon
Cynthia Cortright D.M.A. – Organist / Choir Director
Daisy Leyva-Lara, Children's Coordinator

Serving Today:

Cantor – Doug Rogez
Greeters / Oblationers – Ron and Priscilla Pierce
Lay Readers / Chalice Bearers – Beverly Bradley,
Nancy Jones and Priscilla Pierce
Acolytes – Charlie Bornman, Cornel Bornman,
Lewis Carr and Kaden Watson
Children's Activities – Volunteers

St. John's Episcopal Church
5401 N. Brookline Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
Telephone: 405-943-8548
Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Nancy Jones – Office Manager
Email address: stjohnsokc@yahoo.com
Web site: stjohnsokc.org
Facebook page: facebook.com/stjohnsokc
The Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year A

The Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year A

Rite II - Holy Baptism and Eucharist - May 14, 2023 - 10:15 AM

The Word of God

Prelude

Processional

The Hymnal, #516



Celebrant **People** Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;

People: There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: One God and Father of all.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

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.**

We Proclaim and Respond to the Word of God

The First Lesson 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."

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:7-18 Jubilate Deo

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**.

The Second Lesson 1 Peter 3:13-22

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

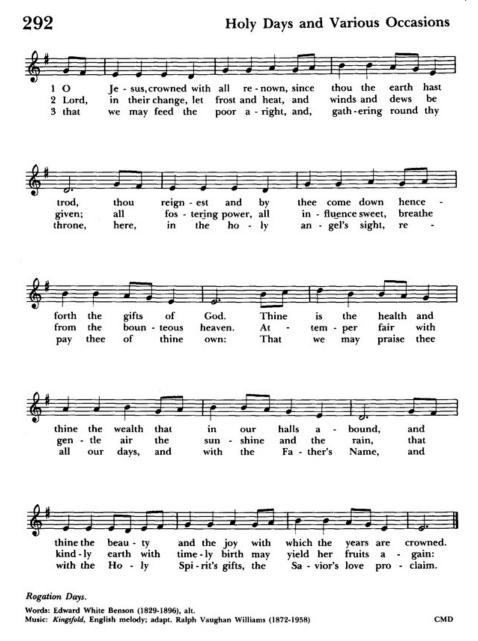
"He committed no sin,

and no deceit was found in his mouth."

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **People Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Holy Gospel John 14:15-21

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."

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

Sermon The Reverend Nathan Carr

The Celebrant says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Presenters: I present Graham Charles and Finn Westley to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that these children are brought up in the

Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help these children to grow into the full stature of Christ? **Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer: I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying:

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ? **People:** We will.

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with *those* who *are* committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: 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.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: 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.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

The Celebrant then says to the congregation:

Let us now pray for Graham Charles and Finn Westley, who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth. As these prayers are being offered the altar party, candidates, parents and godparents process to the baptismal font.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions:

Leader: Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen*.

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Graham Charles, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** Graham Charles, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen**

Finn Westley, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** Finn Westley, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen**

The Celebrant continues

Let us pray

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them inquiring and discerning hearts, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

The altar party, newly baptized, parents and godparents and sponsors process back to the crossing.

The Celebrant disperses baptismal water to the congregation.

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Blessing Prayer

O God, our times are in your hand: look with favor, we pray, on all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; strengthen their trust in your goodness, and in their hearts may your peace, which passes understanding, abide all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People And of thine own have we given thee.

Offertory Anthem

Be Thou My Vision Kathleen Ferguson and Victoria Thomason, Soloists

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

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine Inheritance, now and always: Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won, May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Doxology The Hymnal, #380 (Verse 3)

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is said.

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:

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 people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

The Hymnal - #S129

arr. Tom Fettke

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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,

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

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

Agnus Dei The Hymnal, S163

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

We Share the Gifts of God

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn The Hymnal, #513

1 Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight, like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might: come, Holy Spirit, come.

2 To the members of Christ's Body, to the branches of the Vine, to the Church in faith assembled, to her midst as gift and sign: come, Holy Spirit, come.

3 With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer, with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare: come, Holy Spirit, come.

Post Communion Prayer

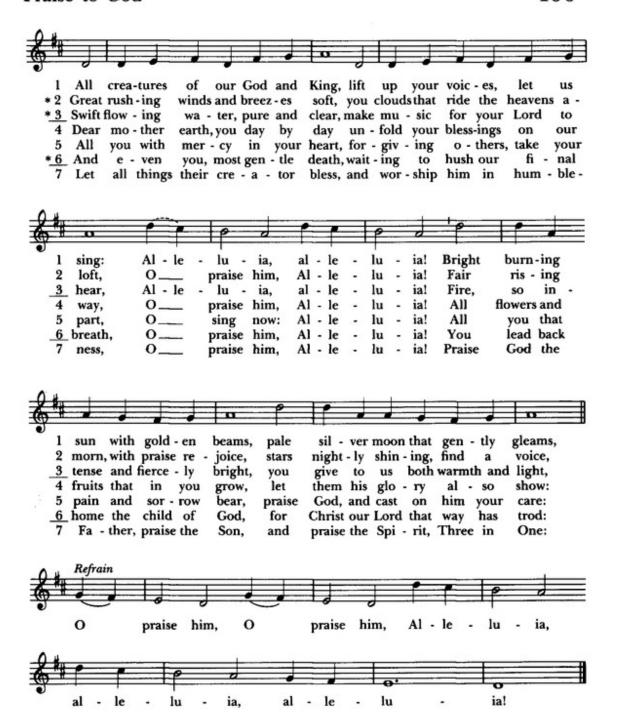
BCP 365

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.

Praise to God

400



The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Words: Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt.

Music: Lasst uns erfreuen, melody from Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

88. 44. 88 with Refrain

Dismissal Response: Thanks be to God

Postlude

We welcome into the Body of Christ Graham Charles Newberry and Finn Westley Newberry



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please hold these souls in your ongoing prayers:

Bob Denys Lenets Beverly Bradley Jean Ledet & Chad Braiden Dixon Lewis Honor Carr Kara Lynn Cynthia Cortright Tony Marruchella Stephanie Dunham Leland Mayo Ed Betty & Delbert Millican Sharon Ellington and Ryan Lightfoot Joyce Ezell Trish Morgan Jim Freeman Paul Mosier Tom Freeman David Nelson Myrna Gowman Joy Nelson Steve Hammontree The Nichols Family Babette Patton Jean Inge Jessica Patty The Pearson Family Judd Sarah Kramer Monte Pratt

Mary Anne Reed Mathew Reynolds Kathleen Rhodes Rob, Ruthie and Samuel Adrienne Robertson **Betty Sinclair** Family of Kenneth Sosna John Steward and Lee DeWitt Martha Steward Nancy Steward Ed Tebow Donna Walters Colette Amelia Wantland McDonald Ginny Wynn

Altar Gifts

Flowers are given today by Peggy Cummings in memory of both mothers, Eleanor Cummings and Mae Macy.

If you would like to donate towards flowers in memory or honor of someone close to you, please call Nancy at the church office. Suggested donation for the altar flowers is \$50, or \$10 for the sanctuary candle.

Birthdays This Week

14 – Ezra Carr

14 – Evan Greaves

14 – John Freeman

14 - Sarah Brewer

15 – Amber Fuller

20 – Aréta Carr

Announcements

"Church History – The Reformation" led by Steve Orwig continues . . .

WEEK TEN (May 14) The 17th century: Civil Wars and The Commonwealth—

- 1. Who was Oliver Cromwell?
- 2. What were some of the changes in religious and civil life that occurred during the period of English history known as The Commonwealth?

Wednesday, May 17 at 5:30 pm – Evening Prayer in Mary Chapel

Sunday, May 21 – Bike to Worship Day. Find information in the Fab Friday.

Sunday, May 28 – Day of Pentecost, Senior Sunday. On this Sunday, we will honor Thomas Howard, graduating senior. Because it is also Pentecost, please know that you can also expect that **incense will be used during the service.**

In light of recent events, the Bishops Committee has been reviewing our safety and security guidelines. As a safety precaution, a member of Bishop's Committee (BC) will lock the front door of the church after the Sunday service begins. The BC member will remain near the door, for the duration of the service, to provide access for anyone arriving late for the service. Safety precautions are under review for other services. More to come.

St. John's is looking to hire a nursery worker who can commit to two / two-and-a-half hours per week for consistent service in our nursery. Background check and Safe Church training will be required. Please contact Nancy if interested.