

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Hymnal 405

Descant
All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain
All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,
all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.
all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Repeat Refrain
he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958)
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THE OPENING SENTENCE

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

THE COLLECT OF 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.**

THE GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

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.**

All sit for the lessons

FIRST LESSON

Acts 17: 22-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

- 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

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

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.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand, as able

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 14: 15-21

Priest: 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

Fr. Walker

Silence may be kept after the sermon

All Stand, as able

THE NICENE CREED

Book of Common Prayer p. 358

**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.**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Saying together **Roscoe, Josephine, Larry, Bill, Gisela, Catherine, James, John, Susan, Corwin, Beth, David, Casey, Sally, Teresa, Jimmy, Jamesen, Billy, Jimmy, the Snyder family, the Slater family, Donna, Calissa, Ryan, Amy, and all those on our long term prayer list.** Are there others? (Please add the names of others either silently or aloud)

In thanksgiving we pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the coming week, especially **Linc McDaniel (17).**

We pray for all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad especially those listed on our military prayer list. We pray also for their families, friends, and neighbors who await their safe return.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for our sister church, St. Gabriel's and the Church of the Ascension in Hickory. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Anglican Church of Korea.

We pray for our missionaries and their work in the world, for **Russ and Heidi Smith in Chile, John and Zsófi Wilson in Hungary, Daniel & Rachel Aytes in Thailand, and Jim & Jennifer Bowers in Mali.**

We pray for St. Francis Day School, and for its students and teachers and their families, that they may grow in stature and wisdom, and in the knowledge and love of your grace and truth.

A Prayer for our Time of Transition

O God, as we proceed through this interim time, we confidently rely upon your Holy Presence to guide us, and we are thankful for the many blessings you have bestowed upon St. Francis Church.

May we use this time well to discern your will for us in our reading of Sacred Scripture, in our celebration of the Holy Eucharist, through our sensitivity to one another, in our personal meditation and prayer, and through our sharing with others in fellowship.

We ask this, Lord of our lives, through your son Jesus, and through your Holy Spirit, who teaches us how to pray, and how to live together in peace forever. Amen.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, remembering especially Marsha Babb, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.
Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Book of Common Prayer p. 360

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Book of Common Prayer p. 360

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

The ministers and people greet each other in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Doxology

As the offering is presented at the altar the people say

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord

***People:* and of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Prayer B

Book of Common Prayer p. 367

The people remain standing.

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.**

Then the Celebrant proceeds

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

Celebrant and People

**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

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,
Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

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 [_____ and] 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 hath taught us, we are bold to pray,
People and Celebrant

**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.

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

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

INVITATION TO THE EUCHARIST FOR THOSE AT HOME (may be said during communion)

In union with the faithful of every generation and especially with those present at Saint Francis Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer my own thanks and praise to You, my Lord and my God. I present my mind, soul and body towards heaven with the earnest intention of being present in spirit with those who call You, Lord of all. I remember Your death and resurrection and I await Your coming in glory. I unite myself with those gathered at your altar and embrace You with all my heart, knowing that nothing can ever separate Your love from me. May I live, move and have my being in Your loving presence. Amen

(prayer adapted from the Armed Services Prayer Book by Fr. Walker+)

COMMUNION HYMN

Come gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove

Hymnal 512



1 Come, gra - cious Spi - rit, heaven - ly Dove, with light and
 2 The light of truth to us dis - play, and make us
 3 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing Way, nor let us
 4 Lead us to heaven, that we may share full - ness of
 com - fort from a - bove; be thou our guard - ian,
 know and choose thy way; plant ho - ly fear in
 from his pre - cepts stray; lead us to ho - li -
 joy for ev - er there; lead us to God, our
 thou our guide; o'er ev - ery thought and step pre - side.
 ev - ery heart, that we from thee may ne'er de - part.
 ness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.
 fin - al rest, to be with him for ev - er blest.

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

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness

Hymnal 492



1 Sing, ye faith - ful, sing with glad - ness, wake your no - blest,
2 Sing how he came forth from hea - ven, bowed him - self to
3 So, he tast - ed death for mor - tals, he, of hu - man -
4 Now on high, yet ev - er with us, from his Fa - ther's



sweet - est strain, with the prais - es of your Sa - vior
Beth - lehem's cave, stooped to wear the ser - vant's ves - ture,
kind the head, sin - less one, a - mong the sin - ful,
throne the Son rules and guides the world he ran - somed,



let his house res - ound a - gain; him let all your
bore the pain, the cross, the grave, passed with - in the
Prince of life, a - mong the dead; thus he wrought the
till the ap - point - ed work be done, till he see, re -



mu - sic hon - or, and your songs ex - alt his reign.
gates of dark - ness, thence his ban - ished ones to save.
full re - demp - tion, and the cap - tor cap - tive led.
newed and per - fect, all things gath - ered in - to one.

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST:

Priti, Kate, Zoey, Courtney, Tom, Addison, James, Jeff, Tina, Charles, Starry, James, Julie, Nichole, Chuck, Bill, Thomas, Mary, Jamie, Tammy, John, Jessica, Remi, Erik, the Wood Family, Thomas, Glen, Carletta, Steve, Christy, Gus, Ken, Rose, Melissa, Madilyn, Dorothy, Katherine, Brandon, Mike, Jess, Daniel, Brooke, Sophia, Lane, Mary, Al, Jessica, Sara, Carl , John Scott & family, Barbara, Leslie, Larry, Joann, Meagan, Owen, Eli, Barbara, Rebecca, Dick, Robin, Valerie, Ed, David, Keith, Jessie, Holly, Mike, Nancy, Ginger, Bobbie, Crystal, David, Fatima, Elaine, Penny, Carrie, Mark, Ben, Samuel, Lonnie, Scott, Tom, Lauren, Craig, Rosie, Susan, Santos, Mike, Houston, Joe, the Greenway family, Amanda, Dylan, Drake, Jenny, James, Scott, Kristen, the Allen family, Peter, Katherine, Deanna, Debbie, Luke, Tyler, Bob, Trinity, Tony, Lucy, Diana, Susan, Andrew, Jennifer, Marlene, Gene, Madeline, Mark, Mayden, Dakota, Eubanks family, Vicki, William, Brenda, Nancy, Bob, Justin, Nancy, the Deviney family, Anna, Grayson, Jackie, Billy, Ricky, Tabitha, Chad, Deborah, Brandon, Margie, Bonita, Jenna, Seth, Mary, Scott, Mary, Joanne, Jennifer, Clara, Judy, Gary, Betsie, Skip, Joyce, Kevin, John, Susan, Jill, Charles, Chad, Geoffrey, David, Caleb, Christian, Dean, Bobby, Maria, James, Emily, the Leverette family, Laura, Robin, Cindy, Amberleigh, McKayleigh, Ayden, Paisley, Susan, Chad, Sue, Michael, Mary, Ann, Andrea, Cathy, Bud, Mary, Sydnor, Bob, Beth, Karen, Joe, Valerie, Tyler, Larissa, Alex, Noreen, Marion, Spencer, Casey, Danny, Patrick, Kathryn, Christy, Bella, Derek, Bob, John, Jesse, Martha, Jerry, Bobby, Roger, Jimmy, Linda, Betty, Paula, Donna, Gordon, Cullin, Lisa, Will, Tammy Jo, Pam, Ken, Janet, David, Lillian, David, Ken, Lee, Jack, Kaylin, Paula, Bob, Trish, Daphne, Chris, Karmen, Devon, Gary, Janice, Laura, Celia, Daniel, Wayne, Annie, Bob, Paden, Mike, Linda, Nicole, Ryan, Scott, Helen, Kathy, Jo, Paula, Theresa, Cindy, Jane, Lori, Renee, Ed, Pat, Brian, AJ, Emily, Mary, Makenzie, Mike, Elaine, Tony, Elizabeth, Paula, Jennifer, Morgan, Danielle, Marsha, Chester, Terry, Paula, Betty.