

# Welcome to St. John's Church



*Head of Christ, Rembrandt van Rijn (1606–1669)*

## The Sixth Sunday of Easter

*May 5, 2024*

*8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.*

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**P.O. Box 1278**

**78 Green Hill Road**

**Washington, CT 06793**

**Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527**

**Parish Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**St. John's Email: [stjohnschurch@snet.net](mailto:stjohnschurch@snet.net)**

**St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>**

**St. John's YouTube Page:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4gg>**

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## Choral Prelude

*A New Commandment*

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

Translation: *A new commandment give I unto you, saith the Lord, that ye love together, as I have loved you, that e'en so ye love one another. By this shall everyone know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. (John 13:34-35)*

## The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

### Opening Hymn # 205

*Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!*



1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the  
\*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of  
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that  
4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -  
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the



1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:  
3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:  
5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen!  
*People* ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***

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**            *Missa Super Dixit Maria*            Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

*Translation: 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,*

## **The Collect of the Day**

God be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect.*

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 Readings**

*INTRODUCTION: In our reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter has gone to Cornelius' house, a Gentile and Roman centurion, proclaiming that all who believe in Jesus will receive forgiveness of sins.*

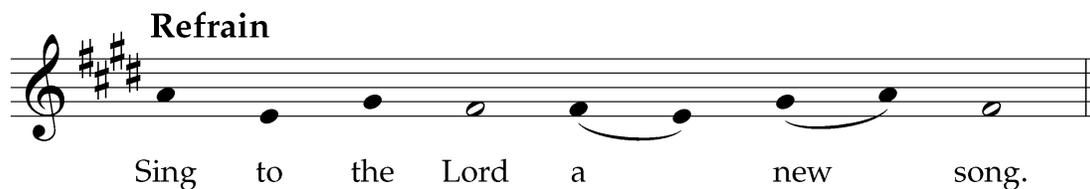
**A Reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles (10:44-48)**

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days."

The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm # 98** *the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain*



- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

*INTRODUCTION: In this New Testament reading, we learn that love of all God's children forms the heart of the Christian faith.*

**A Reading from the First Letter of St. John (5:1-6)**

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

**Gradual Hymn # 455**

*O Love of God, How Strong and True*



1 O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal  
2 O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous Love, we read thee  
3 We read thee best in him who came to bear for  
4 We read thy power to bless and save e'en in the



and yet ev - er new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -  
in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -  
us the cross of shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on  
dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion



bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all thought.  
low, in seas that swell and streams that flow.  
high, our life to live, our death to die.  
light we read the full - ness of thy might.

*INTRODUCTION: In our Gospel this morning, Jesus calls upon his disciples to show the same love toward each other that has come to him from the Father.*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to St. John (15:9-17)**

*People            Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*People            Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Sermon**            The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Priest-in-Charge

**The Nicene 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 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.*

### **The Prayers of the People**

Let us join in the Easter alleluias as we offer our prayers to the Risen One, responding to each petition by saying, "Hear us, O risen Christ."

***The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers***

+ For a renewal of Christian faith and practice throughout the western world, that the spiritual treasures of our inheritance may inspire conversion from those who do not now believe, and a renewed commitment from those who have strayed from the faith and its expression in the life of the Church; let us pray to the Lord.

***Hear us, O risen Christ.***

+ That we may reflect Jesus' sacrificial love, and reveal his generosity through our giving to the relief of the orphan and widow, the abused and unemployed, the homeless and working poor, the wealthy who hunger for family and friends, and all who walk in the shadows of hope; let us pray to the Lord.

***Hear us, O risen Christ.***

+ For the strength to obey God's commandments, and to receive the strong voices to proclaim our marvelous faith; let us pray to the Lord.

***Hear us, O risen Christ.***

+ For our all who exercise civil authority in both nations and local governments, that truth and integrity may prevail in all their deliberations; let

us pray to the Lord.

*Hear us, O risen Christ.*

+ That we will honor Jesus' friendship through our willingness to receive all that he has taught, and to take seriously his call to learn all that the Father has given to him; let us pray to the Lord.

*Hear us, O risen Christ.*

+ That God's comfort may console those who have lost loved ones, and resurrect all who have departed this life in the faith of the resurrection; let us pray to the Lord.

*Hear us, O risen Christ.*

We continue our prayers, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst, knowing that Jesus has given us gifts too numerous to mention and has appointed us to bear much fruit.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

***The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the confession***

***God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.***

*The Priest, stands and says*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

**The Peace**

*People*

The peace of God be always with you.

***And also with you.***

## The Holy Communion

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

**Offertory** *O I Want to Be More Loving in My Heart* (spiritual)

Text: *O I want to be more loving in my heart. O I want to be more giving in my heart. O I want to be more peaceful in my heart.*

### The Great Thanksgiving

God 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 God.

*People* ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

*Then, facing the Holy Table, 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:

*The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer*

### Sanctus S # 130



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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,

***We remember his death,***

***We proclaim his resurrection,***

***We await his coming in glory;***

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 the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron, 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 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

Agnus Dei S # 164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:  
 give us your peace, give us your peace.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation.*

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.

***All baptized Christians of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive Communion in this place. This is God's house and the Lord's table, not ours***

*INSTRUCTIONS: Those wishing to receive Communion should come forward to the Altar rail as directed. Please speak with an Usher if you need to receive Communion in the pew. The consecrated host will be placed in the hands or upon the tongue of the recipient, as desired. If one wishes intinction, then either the chalice bearer or the communicant may take the host and dip it in the wine. Otherwise, communicants may sip from the chalice, assisting by taking hold of its base. If the communicant does not wish to receive the wine, one can simply cross their arms across their chest so to indicate.*

*Gluten free wafers are available. Just ask at the altar rail if you wish one.*

*If you need to receive Communion in the pews, just let the usher know.*

# Communion Hymn # 304

## *I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord*

*Unison or harmony*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to  
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each  
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -  
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us  
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship  
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.  
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.  
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.  
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

After Communion, the Celebrant says  
Let us pray.

*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 peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**Closing Hymn # 529**     *In Christ There is no East or West*

*Unison or harmony*

The musical score is written for three voices (1, 2, 3) and organ. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a bass line for the organ accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 1 In Christ there is no East or West, in 2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - 3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in him no South or North, but one great fel - low - e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are ship of love through - out the whole wide earth. as his child is sure - ly kin - to me. one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

**Organ Postlude**

**Worship Ministers Today:**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant & Preacher*

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

Tom Hollinger: *8:00 Reader*

Junior Gustave: *10:00 First Reader*

Sara Coles: *10:00 Second Reader*

Sara Coles: *Chalicer*

Fr. Geoff: *Veejay (VJ)*

Corinne Johnson, MB Witt, Camille: *Altar Guild*

Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers*

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**P.O. Box 1278**

**78 Green Hill Road**

**Washington, CT 06793**

**Staff**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*

Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

**Vestry**

Mary Davis, Worth Bracken: *Wardens*

David Gillespie: *Treasurer*

Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*

Justin Ormand: *Clerk*

*Class of 2024*

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

*Class of 2025*

Worth Bracken, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

*Class of 2026*

Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Justin Ormand

**Diocesan Delegates:** Sara Coles, MB Witt

Laura Daly: **Alternate**