

Welcome to St. John's Church



Cornelius Kneeling Before Saint Peter, Philips Galle, 1537-1605

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025

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

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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

St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Choral Prelude *A New Commandment*

Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

Text: *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.*

Invenerunt me custodes civitatis

Heinrich Schütz (1586-1672)

Translation: *The city watchmen found me. Scarcely had I passed by them, when I found him whom my soul loves. I held him and let him go. Go forth, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, and rejoice with me, Sing with joy for my beloved, with jubilation, with the harp.*

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 529

In Christ There is No East or West

Unison or harmony

The musical score is written for unison or harmony on two staves (treble and bass clef). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

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.

The people standing, the Celebrant may say

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

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

The Celebrant says

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 S# 278

Glory to God

Mathias



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of

God the Fa-ther. A-men.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Readings

INTRODUCTION: In this reading from the story of the early church, followers of Jesus living in Judea and Jerusalem are astonished to learn of the conversion of Gentiles as Peter tells them of his heavenly vision and how the Holy Spirit fell upon the new believers.

A Reading from Acts (11:1-18)

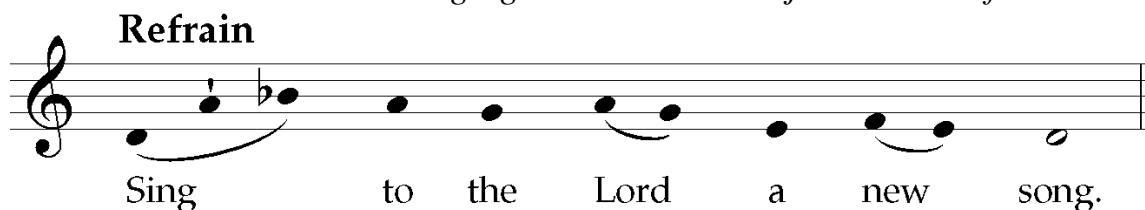
Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 148

the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain



1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.

- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.
- 4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the LORD; *
for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the LORD, *
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!

INTRODUCTION: In this reading, St. John the Divine has a vision of the renewal of all creation and of the new Jerusalem as the city in which God will abide with redeemed humanity.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation (21:1-6)

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words

are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Gradual Hymn # 457 Thou Art the Way, to Thee Alone

1 Thou art the Way, to thee a-lone from sin and death we flee;
2 Thou art the Truth, thy word a-lone true wis-dom can im-part;
3 Thou art the Life, the rend-ing tomb pro-claims thy con-quer-ing arm;
4 Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: grant us that way to know,

and all who would the Fa-ther seek, must seek him, Lord, by thee.
thou on-ly canst in-form the mind and pu-ri-fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in thee nor death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e-ter-nal flow.

INTRODUCTION: In our gospel lesson Jesus speaks to his disciples on the night that he is to be betrayed and handed over to death.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John (13:31-35)

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

*After the Gospel, the Reader says
The Gospel of the Lord.*

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Rector

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

Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, be with us on our journey to the Father's love as we offer our prayers, responding, "Hear us, O risen Lord."

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers

+ For all those who exercise leadership in the nations of the world; that they may see themselves as servants of the common good and use their power to enrich the lives of others; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ For a greater understanding among people of all cultures and faiths, that by learning to see Christ in the one we distrusted, we may let go of violence and anger that create barriers between our love for each other; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ For the Christian Church throughout the world, remembering especially the new Pope, Leo XIV, Bishop of Rome, and the newly baptized and confirmed with whom we share the grace of salvation and the promises of new life; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ For release from our fear of renewal, trusting that the Church, the whole people of God, shakes the dust off its feet when we are called to move forward; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ For students preparing for summer vacation, graduation, examinations, and employment, that they may be faithful in the midst of anxiety, and hopeful as they embark on an unknown future; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ For those who have died, who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb, and whose tears have been wiped away; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

We set our hearts on the holy path of God's promises as we continue our prayers, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring

us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the confession

*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 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

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of God be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

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 Anthem *There Shall Be No Night There* Dudley Buck (1839-1909)

Text: There shall be no night there, they need no candle neither light of the sun, for the Lord God giveth them light. They shall hunger no more neither thirst any more; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

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	<i>Missa Secunda</i>	Hans Leo Hassler (c.1564-1612)
	<i>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.</i>	

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;***

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.***

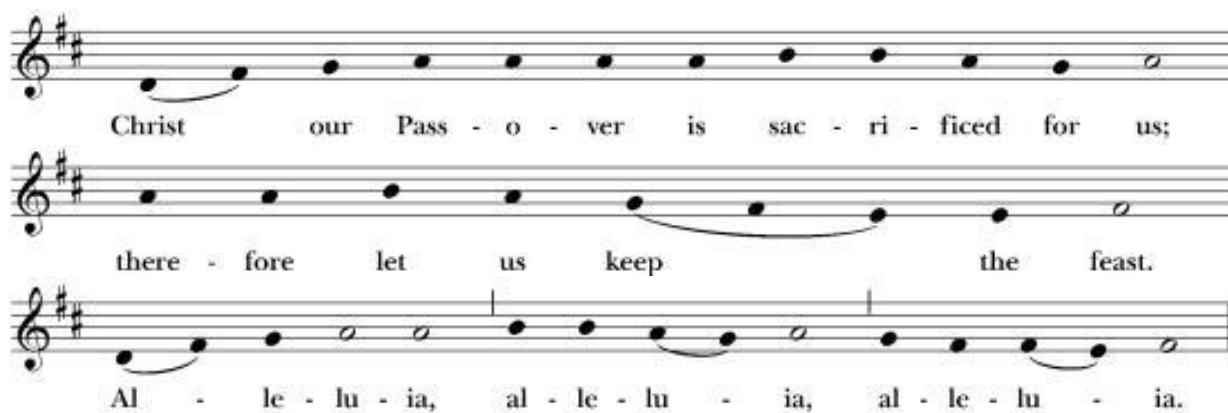
***For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread S # 154

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

This setting is not used in Lent.





Agnus Dei *Missa Secunda* Hans Leo Hassler (c.1564-1612)

Translation: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy 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.

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

Communion Hymn # 313 *Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured*

Bo - dy bro - ken, be to me, O gra - cious Lord,
cam'st to save me; all that love of God could give
and the nail - ing, by the pain and death, I now
tence I give thee; thou art my ex - alt - ed King,

Refrain

of thy bound - less love the to - ken.
Jes - us by his sor - rows gave me. Thou didst give thy -
claim, O Christ, thy love un - fail - ing.
of thy match - less love for - give me.

self for me, now I give my - self to thee.

The People may join in saying this prayer

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing

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 # 583 O Holy City, Seen of John

1 O ho - ly ci - ty, seen of John, where Christ, the Lamb, doth reign,
2 O shame to us who rest con - tent while lust and greed for gain
3 Give us, O God, the strength to build the ci - ty that hath stood
4 Al - rea - dy in the mind of God that ci - ty ris - eth fair:

with - in whose four - square walls shall come no night, nor need, nor pain,
in street and shop and ten - e - ment wring gold from hu - man pain,
too long a dream, whose laws are love, whose crown is ser - vant - hood,
lo, how its splen - dor chal - leng - es the souls that great - ly dare—

and where the tears are wiped from eyes that shall not weep a - gain!
and bit - ter lips in blind de - spair cry, "Christ hath died in vain!"
and where the sun that shin - eth is God's grace for hu - man good.
yea, bids us seize the whole of life and build its glo - ry there.

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the people with these words

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

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

Choral Postlude *Love One Another Now*

Traditional, arr. Tom Brand

Text: *We're gonna love one another now!*

We are marching in the light of Love!

Worship Ministers Today:

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

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

John Magee: *Reader at 8:00 a.m.*

Mary Davis: *Reader at 10:00 a.m.*

Laura Daly: *Chalicer*

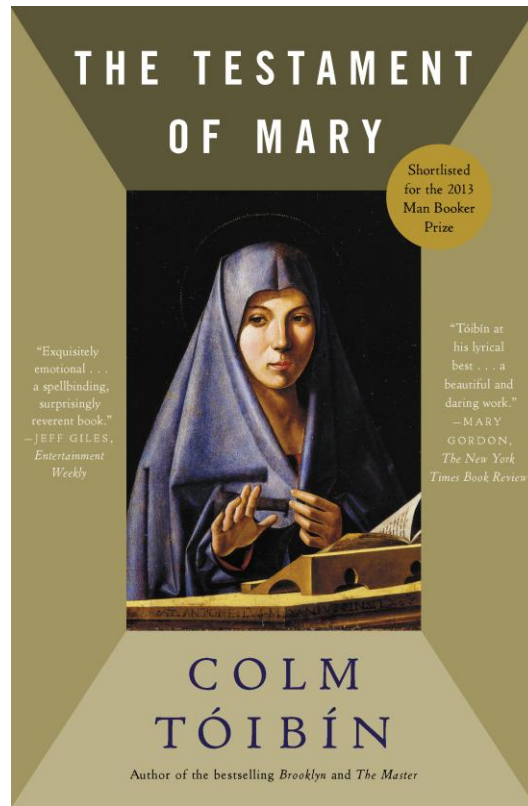
Laura Daly: *Veejay (VJ)*

MB Witt, Corrine Johnson: *Altar Guild*

Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers*

Camille & David Gillespie: *Coffee Hour Hostesses*

ST. JOHN'S READING CLUB



CURRENT SELECTION

Colm Tóibín's ***"The Testament of Mary"***
to gather for a Group Discussion in the Parish Library
after 10:00 Coffee Hour, Sunday, June 1st
so start reading now!

"This short novel is written from the point of view of Mary, mother of Jesus, reflecting in her old age on her son's life and the claims he was a messiah.

In the ancient town of Ephesus, Mary lives alone, years after her son's crucifixion. She has no interest in collaborating with the authors of the Gospel, who are her keepers. She does not agree that her son is the Son of God; nor that his death was "worth it"; nor that the "group of misfits he gathered around him, men who could not look a woman in the eye," were holy disciples.