

Welcome to St. John's Church



St. Paul, painting in St. Severin Church, Paris

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 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/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*Children's activity bags are available on the bench by the Baptistry.
Please return them after the Service.*

Choral Prelude *O God Be Merciful* Christopher Tye (c.1505-1572)

Translation: God be merciful unto us, and bless us: and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us: That thy way may be known upon earth: thy saving health among all nations. Let the people praise thee, O God: yea, let all the people praise thee. O let the nations rejoice and be glad: for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Let the people praise thee, O God: let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase: and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing. God shall bless us: and all the ends of the world shall fear him. —Psalm 67

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 530 *Spread, O Spread, Thou Mighty Word*

1 Spread, O spread, thou might - y word, spread the king - dom of the Lord,
2 word of how the Fa - ther's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
3 word of how the Sa - vior's love earth's sore bur - den doth re - move;
4 word of how the Spi - rit came bring - ing peace in Je - sus' name;
5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the na - tions long,
1 that to earth's re - mot - est bound all may heed the joy - ful sound;
2 how his on - ly Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
3 how for - ev - er, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
4 how his nev - er - fail - ing love guides us on to heaven a - bove.
5 spread a - broad, un - til from night all the world a - wakes to light.

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



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.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Readings

INTRODUCTION: In this reading from the story of the early church Paul and his companions are called by a vision to journey to Macedonia and the city of Philippi, where a merchant named Lydia responds to the gospel and is baptized, together with her household.

A Reading from Acts (16:9-15)

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to

Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67

the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain

Refrain

Let the peo- ples praise you, O God; hal - le - lu - jah:

let all the peo - ples praise you. hal - le - lu - jah.

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- 7 May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

INTRODUCTION: In this reading John the Seer presents a vision of the new Jerusalem, the paradise of God.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation (21:10,22-22.5)

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple

in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Gradual Hymn # 204 *Now the Green Blade Riseth from the Buried Grain*



1 Now the green blade ris - eth from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that nev - er he would wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain,
 thy touch can call us back to life a - gain,

love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
 quick from the dead my ris - en Lord is seen:
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Refrain
 Love is come a - gain like wheat that spring - eth green.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

INTRODUCTION: Our gospel tells of Jesus' promise to his disciples of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St. John (14:23-29)**

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

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

Let us join our voices with Lydia, Paul, John, and all the saints, as we offer our prayers and thanksgivings, responding, "Hear us, O risen Lord."

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers

+ In thanksgiving for the Word, that may we follow our Lord's voice, receive his gift of love, proclaim his message of hope, and seek the unity of all faithful pilgrims; let us pray to the Lord.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ In thanksgiving for the springs of forgiveness in which God's love enfolds us, releasing us from the captivity of our sins and welcoming us into a new life of liberty and freedom; for this we pray.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ That the healing Christ may be with those who are ill and those who care for them, bringing hope to all who are troubled or who dwell in interior darkness; for this we pray.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ That mutual respect and equity may thrive among all peoples and nations of the world, providing water, agricultural abundance of food, development, and hope throughout the global community; for this we pray.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ That war may cease in every land, and that those who serve in the military may return to their homes and loved ones; for this we pray.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ That we may prepare to join our wills to the will of the Holy Spirit, to move where the winds are driving, and to be set on fire in the service of God's holy word; for this we pray.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

+ In thanksgiving for our grandparents, parents, mentors, teachers, and all who were important in our lives, and who now reside in the blessed company of all the saints; for this we pray.

Hear us, O risen Lord.

O God, you have prepared good things for those who love you; pour your love into our hearts as we continue our prayers, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you this day with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of 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 *Peace I Leave With You* Amy Beach (1867-1944)

*Text: Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you.
Let not your heart be troubled.*

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 *Missa Trahe me post te* Tomás Luis de Victoria (c.1548-1611)

*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.*

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.**

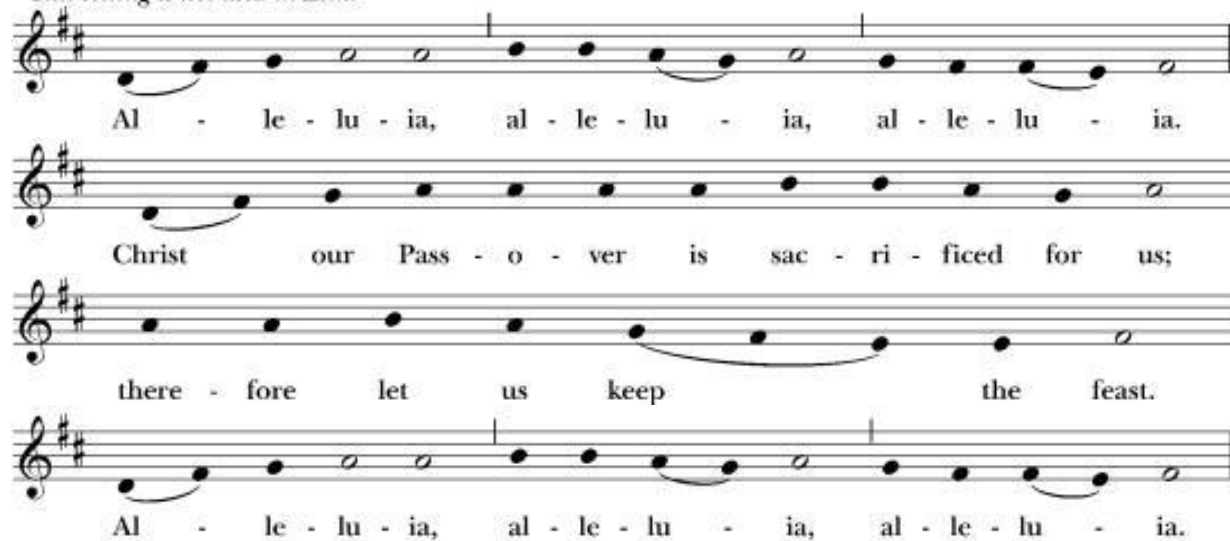
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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 Trahe me post te* Tomás Luis de Victoria (c.1548-1611)

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.

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 ushers 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.

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 # 537 Christ for the World We Sing

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and
 Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward
 Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the
 Christ we bring with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,
 and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,
 work to share, with us re - proach to dare,
 souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,



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.***

Organ Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

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

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

Jay Bauer: *Reader at 8:00 a.m.*

Laura Daly: *Reader at 10:00 a.m.*

Rebecca Bent: *Chalicer*

Laura Daly: *Veejay (VJ)*

MB Witt, Sara Coles: *Altar Guild*

Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers*

Veronique Dulack, Alec Purves: *Coffee Hour Hosts*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry

Mary Davis, Worth Bracken: *Wardens*

David Gillespie: *Treasurer*

Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*

Karen Saxe: *Clerk*

Class of 2025

MB Witt, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

Class of 2026

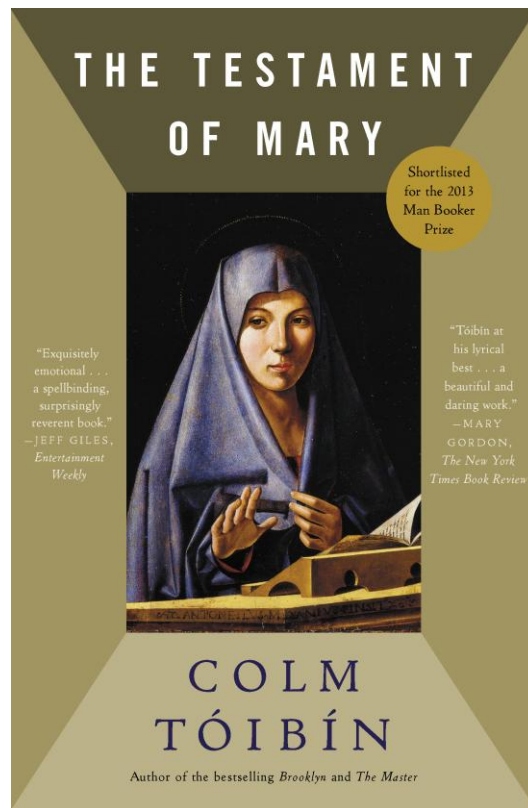
Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Robert Reynolds

Class of 2027

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt; **Alternate:** Laura Daly

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.