

The Sunday After Ascension Day 6/1/2025

Liturgy for the Contemporary Service
The Anglican Church in North America

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE BELL

OPENING SONGS

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art Thou my best thought, by day or by night Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

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

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise Thou mine inheritance, now and always Thou and Thou only first in my heart Ruler of heaven, my treasure Thou art

High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

Goodness of God

(Verse 1)

I love You Lord, Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

(Chorus)

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

(Verse 2)

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire
In darkest night, You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

(Bridge)

Your goodness is running after, It's running after me
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me

THE ACCLAMATION

Bishop: The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh, **People:** And your sons and daughters shall prophesy.

Bishop: Your old men shall dream dreams, **People:** And your young men shall see visions.

Bishop: You shall know that the Lord is in the midst of his people,

People: That he is the Lord and there is none else.

Bishop: And it shall come to pass

People: That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.

Bishop: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with your spirit.

Bishop: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

Acts 16:16-34

As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. She followed Paul and us, crying out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are Jews, and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were

unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

Reader: The word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-20

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; * let those who hate him also flee before him.
- 2 As the smoke vanishes, so shall you drive them away; * and as wax melts before the fire, so let the ungodly perish before the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; * let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 O sing unto God, and sing praises unto his Name; magnify him who rides upon the heavens. *

The LORD is his Name; rejoice before him.

- 5 He is a father of the fatherless and defends the cause of the widows, * God in his holy habitation.
- 6 He is the God who gives the solitary a home, and brings the prisoners out of captivity, * but lets the rebellious dwell in a desert land.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before the people, * when you went through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the heavens poured forth rain at the presence of God, * even as Sinai also was moved at the presence of God, who is the God of Israel.
- 9 You, O God, sent a gracious rain upon your inheritance * and refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your congregation found a dwelling there, * for you, O God, of your goodness have provided for the poor.

- 11 The Lord gave the word; * great was the company of those who proclaimed the tidings.
- 12 Kings with their armies fled, they fled, * and the women at home divided the spoil.
- 13 Though you have lain among the sheepfolds, * yet shall you be like the wings of a dove that are covered with silver, and whose feathers shine like gold.
- 14 When the Almighty scattered kings, * it was as if it snowed in Zalmon.
- 15 As the hill of Bashan, so is God's hill, * even a high hill, as the hill of Bashan.
- 16 Why look with envy, you high hills? This is God's hill, on which it pleases him to dwell; * surely, the LORD will abide on it for ever.
- 17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels, * and the Lord has come from Sinai into the holy place.
- 18 You have gone up on high; you have led captivity captive, and received gifts from men, * even from your enemies, that the LORD God might dwell among them.
- 19 Praised be the Lord daily, * even the God who helps us and pours his benefits upon us.
- 20 He is our God, the God from whom salvation comes; * God is the LORD, by whom we escape death.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

Revelation 22:10-21

And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy."

"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

The Gospel (congregation standing)

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 17:20-26

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (congregation standing)
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten 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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

CONFIRMATION

Presenters: Reverend Father in God, we present these persons to receive the

laying on of hands.

Bishop: Have they been adequately prepared?

Presenters: They have.

Dearly beloved, it is essential that those who wish to be Confirmed or Received in this Church publicly confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior; become his disciples; know and affirm the Nicene Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments; and have received instruction in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and the Catechism of the Church. God's grace is imparted in Baptism, through which we are made God's children by adoption and given the Holy Spirit. By the power of the Spirit, manifested in gifts and fruit, we are enabled to be God's people for the sake of the world.

Now, these Candidate desire publicly to confess their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and their commitment to follow him as Lord. They also desire the strengthening of grace through the laying on of hands, that the Holy Spirit may fill them more and more for their ministry in the Church and in the world.

Bishop: Do you, here in the presence of God and the Church, renew the solemn

promises and vows made at your Baptism and commit to keep them?

Candidate: I do.

Bishop: Do you renounce the devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that

rebel against God?

Candidate: I renounce them.

Bishop: Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world

that corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Candidate: I renounce them.

Bishop: Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the

love of God?

Candidate: I renounce them.

Bishop: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as your Lord and Savior?

Candidate: I do.

Bishop: Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy

Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Candidate: I do.

Bishop: Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandment, and walk

in them all the days of your life?

Candidate: I will, with the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these

persons in their life in Christ?

People: We will.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we beseech you to strengthen these your servants for witness and ministry through the power of your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in them your manifold virtues of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and the spirit of holy fear, now and forever. **Amen.**

Defend, O Lord, these your servants, with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until they comes into the fullness of you everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

Bishop: I sign you with the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be upon these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Holy Word, that they may faithfully serve you in this life, and joyfully dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE (congregation standing)

Bishop: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Bishop: Let us greet one another and share the peace of Christ.

THE DOXOLOGY (congregation standing)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

Celebrant: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours: Yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all.

All things come from you, O Lord.

People: And of your own have we given you.

THE SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his most glorious resurrection appeared to his Apostles, and in their sight ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also ascend, and reign with him in glory.

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 SANCTUS

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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

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.

COMMUNION SONG

Lead Me to the Cross

(Verse 1)

Savior I come quiet my soul Remember, redemption's hill Where Your blood was spilled, for my ransom

(Pre-Chorus)
Everything I once held dear
I count it all as loss

(Chorus)
Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees, Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself, I belong to You
Oh lead me, lead me to the cross

(Verse 2)

You were as I tempted and tried, human The word became flesh, bore my sin in death Now You're risen

(Bridge)
To Your heart, to Your heart
Lead me to Your heart

THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. *Amen.*

THE PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Heavenly Father,
We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
 of the most precious Body and Blood
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the body of your Son,
 and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes 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.*

THE RECESSIONAL (congregation standing)

How He Loves

(Verse 1)

And He is jealous for me
Love's like a hurricane. I am a tree,
Bending beneath the weight of His wind and mercy
When all of a sudden,
I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory
And I realize just how beautiful You are,
And how great Your affections are for me

(Chorus)
And, oh, how He loves us, oh
Oh, how He loves us
How He loves us, oh

(Bridge)
Yeah, He loves us
Oh, how He loves us
Oh, how He loves us
Oh, how He loves

(Verse 2)

And we are His portion and He is our prize,
Drawn to redemption by the grace in His eyes
If His grace is an ocean, we're all sinking
And Heaven meets earth like a sloppy wet kiss
And my heart turns violently inside of my chest
I don't have time to maintain these regrets,
When I think about the way

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Sunday, 8:30 and 10:55 am www.apostleslex.com admin@apostleslex.com 859-245-1318



Scan this QR Code with your phone's camera to access our online giving, website, upcoming events, and more.

Friendly Reminders:

Please place your bulletins in a blue recycling bin after services.

We kindly ask that children stay on the Sanctuary level during discipleship hour and after services for their safety.

There is always a team available to pray with you during Communion.