

**The 6th Sunday of Easter – Mothers’ Day
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion – May 14, 2023
Rev Tom+ Moehl, Presider and Celebrant
St. Martin’s Episcopal Church**



Prelude

Susan Bevington

“When Morning Gilds the Skies” (arr. Anna Laura Page)

Opening Hymn #42 LEV “He Lives! He Lives!”

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Collect for Purity: *Presider Let us pray together*

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.

Gloria (sing together) **Hymnal # S280**

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Collect of the Day: 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 Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson is a Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 17:22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Reader The Word of the Lord;

• **People** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:7-18 *Jubilate Deo* (Sing together using modified Anglican chant)

- ⁷ Bless our God, you peoples; ***
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- ⁸ Who holds our souls in life, ***
and will not allow our feet to slip.
- ⁹ For you, O God, have proved us; ***
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- ¹⁰ You brought us into the snare; ***
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- ¹¹ You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; ***
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- ¹² I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, ***
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- ¹³ I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; ***
I will give you oxen and goats.
- ¹⁴ Come and listen, all you who fear God, ***
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- ¹⁵ I called out to him with my mouth, ***
and his praise was on my tongue.
- ¹⁶ If I had found evil in my heart, ***
the Lord would not have heard me;
- ¹⁷ But in truth God has heard me; ***
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- ¹⁸ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, ***
nor withheld his love from me.

The Second Lesson is a Reading from the First Letter of Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn # 60 LEV "How Great Thou Art"

Gospeller **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 14:15-21**
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

- *Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.
- *People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Rev Tom Moehl

silence for reflection

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 human.***

***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.

Prayers of the People – (Say together from card in the pew) [A Litany for Motherhood]

Confession and Absolution:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

***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.

Priest:

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

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

The Peace

- *Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- *People* ***And also with you.***

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

The Liturgy of the Table

The Offertory Sentence;

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

Hymn of Presentation 'Doxology with Alleluias' (sing to the tune of hymn 618)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise him above ye heavenly hosts:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C BCP p. 369

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Celebrant and People (Sing together)

**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; Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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

The Lord's Prayer (*let us sing together*)

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us this day 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 forever. Amen. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Healing Prayers -- *During Communion, people desiring healing prayer, after receiving the sacrament, should go to the kneeler behind the table for laying on of hands. Kneel if you are*

able, or stand. Others who wish to support those being blessed may join in the laying on of hands.

Communion Hymn # 189 LEV

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Post-Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving *(we pray together)*

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.

Prayer for St. Martin’s *(let us pray together)*

God of Love, open our eyes and ears to perceive you at work in creation, the church, and our parish. Fill our hearts with your love that we may reach out in love to others. Stir up our imagination with your Holy Spirit that we may find new ways to live into life with you. Give us a vision of your mission that we may share your love and your spirit in all the places where we work and play and worship you. In Jesus’ holy name, Amen.

**Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelling Mercies
Announcements**

Easter Blessings

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you this day and for ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn #184 LEV “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine”

Dismissal Let us go into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia!***

Postlude

Susan Bevington

“Air” (by Bernado Pasquini)