

St. John's Episcopal Church

415 S. Lexington Street, Arlington, VA 22204

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025 9:00 a.m.

Typically, Episcopalians stand to sing and for the proclamation of the Gospel; kneel for confession and prayer; and sit while listening to reading or preaching. Your presence is more precious than your posture: please stand, sit or kneel as you are able and as you prefer.

Welcome! We're glad you're here!

Hymns listed with number only are found in the blue Hymnal 1982; those with "S" before the number are found at the front of the Hymnal. "LEVAS" identifies hymns from Lift Every Voice and Sing, and "WLP" denotes hymns from Wonder, Love, and Praise.

Prelude

The Liturgy of the Word

Hymn 537 Christ for the world we sing! *Moscow*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Collect for Purity

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 S-280

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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 Lessons

First Lesson

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. *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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67

May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

Epistle

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.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 523 Like the murmur of the dove's song *Bridegroom*

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. 5:1-9
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After Jesus healed the son of the official in Capernaum, there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids-- blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily The Reverend Mary E. Cushing

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant and People

**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.

Prayers of the People Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Mark and Gayle our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Peace

Announcements

Offertory Music Hymn 178 Jesus is Lord of all the earth verses 1&2 *Alleluia No. 1*

Refrain: Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth.

He is the King of Creation.

2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

Jesus has died and has risen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

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:

Sanctus S-130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. 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

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

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.

The bread and the cup are distributed with these words:

The body (and blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.

Communion Music LEVAS 120 There's a sweet, sweet, Spirit

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
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 forever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 398 I sing the mighty power of God *Forest Green*

Dismissal

Serving Today

The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, DMin, Rector
The Reverend Mary E. Cushing, Deacon
Lynn Robinson, Minister of Music • Zane Price, Organist
Lynn Robinson, Usher • Faye Pritchard, Altar Guild
Lynn Robinson, Reader • Faye Pritchard, Prayers of the People
Christine Williams, Lay Eucharistic Minister
Bill Pritchard, Teller • Sandy Winger, Fellowship
Pete Olivere and Sandy Winger, Sound and Live-stream Coordinators

Announcements

Pentecost is June 8th - plan to dress accordingly, wearing red for the Holy Spirit. Service will be 9 a.m. as usual.

Helpers Still Needed for Glencarlyn Days which are just around the corner, Saturday June 7th. We are planning to have Bell ringing, Face Painting, Kids Activities, and Refreshments before and after the parade, starting about 11:15. Each of these has several tasks and time-slots available. Please contact Bill Pritchard at pritchardpix@aol.com if you can provide some assistance. See his May 14th email for specifics. The parade will feature a **pajama** theme this year (theme changed from a couple weeks ago). Deacon Mary Cushing will be along for the fun as we welcome the neighborhood for our activities.

Breathing Space Schedule Our Sunday evening Breathing Space offering continues, meeting on the third Sunday of the month. Gathering in the Parlor at 6 pm, our conversation will meander along with the Spirit, then we'll pray Compline at 8, and wish each other Peace until we meet again. Upcoming dates: June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21.

Choral Evensong for Pride Month at Saint George's, Arlington June 1, 4:00 pm

You are invited to a service of Choral Evensong sung by the Saint George's Choir and Choristers in celebration of the start of Pride month and the all-embracing love of God. Music includes works by LGBTQ+ composers. An extended prelude begins at 3:45 pm and a festive reception follows. St. George's is located at 915 N Oakland Street. More information can be found here, www.saintgeorgesmusic.org

Book Club The next meeting of the St. John's book club will be Tuesday, June 3, at 7:30 p.m. The book for June is *The Lagos Wife*, also known as *The Niger Wife*, by Vanessa Walters. This meeting will also make selections for the coming year. Suggestions already discussed include titles related to immigration.

Shrine Mont programs are open to all. Shrine Mont is a diocesan center in the Shenandoah Valley that many have visited as part of a parish retreat. What's less well known is that Shrine Mont hosts numerous other events that anyone can sign up for on their own, independent of their parish. Upcoming events in May focus on yoga, pickleball, and flower arranging. Go to <https://www.shrinemont.com> to learn more and to sign up for its monthly newsletter.

The Arlington Pride Festival will hold their annual celebration indoors this year, on Saturday, May 31st, at the Hyatt regency in Crystal City. For more information, please see <https://arlvapride.com/world-pride-at-arl-pride>

WORLD PRIDE CELEBRATIONS throughout the DC area are underway, including arts performances and marches.

WorldPride International Choral Festival Sunday, May 25th, hosted by The Falls Church Episcopal free of charge, at 6 pm. 115 E Fairfax St, Falls Church. (Originally scheduled for the Kennedy Center, the congregation is honored to host this event.) website GMCW.ORG

World Pride Parade Saturday, June 7th, steps off at 2 pm from 1844 14th St NW past Thomas Circle and on to 919 Pennsylvania NW for a concert and party through the early evening. Diocese of Virginia of clergy and laity are planning to join colleagues from the Diocese of Washington for the March.

International Rally & March on Washington for Freedom Sunday, June 8th More information can be found <https://worldpridedc.org/events/international-march-on-washington-rally/>

Live-Stream Worship Continues on Sundays We continue to provide Zoom access to our services. The bulletin for the service, Zoom link (also below) and recordings of the past several weeks' service are on our website www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org (info for attending services) The Zoom access link with embedded password is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87353789589?pwd=OW1maElNYnpDZ1N2ZVF5SWdNlKoZDUT0g>

If you can't use or copy the link, go to zoom.com/join and enter Meeting ID: 873 5378 9589 and Password: 2020. If you don't have Zoom on your device, you will need to do that prior to the service. If you only want to participate by phone, dial either 301-715-8592 or 253-215-8782. When you are connected you will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID: 873 5378 9589, then be prompted to enter the password 2020.

Barbara Olivere maintains our common Prayer List, and sends cards to people who are ill, as well as birthday cards and anniversary cards. Please communicate with her at prayers@stjohnsarlingtonva.org. If you are able to share in this ministry, please be in touch with the Rector or Barbara, as keeping in contact with one another is particularly important to those unable to be with us in worship. There is also a clipboard at the rear of the church on Sunday mornings where you can enter names of individuals to be remembered during prayers of the people

Clergy Contacts: Pastoral Care and other inquiries Calls are most welcome, especially if the clergy can be of help pastorally, or to explore ministry opportunities. Please call or text the Rector, the Rev Julie D. Bryant at 703-336-2255; her email address juliediane Bryant@gmail.com. You can reach Deacon Mary E. Cushing at 703-772-7457 or deaconmarvc@gmail.com.

The clergy also serve St. Patrick's, Falls Church where the Sunday service is at 11 am The St. Patrick's is located at 3241 Brush Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042; their website is www.saintpatricks.us; and YouTube channel www.youtube.com/user/StPatsEpiscopal.

AFAC Bulk Food Packing On the second Friday evening of every other month, a group from St. John's spends an hour at the Arlington Food Assistance Center bagging food. Our next Friday evening session will be July 11th. Contact Bill Pritchard on 703-931-2168 if you would like to join in this ministry to help our neighbors in need of food.

Little Free Food Pantry Thank you to all who have been supporting the LFFP with your donations. If shopping for items is difficult, our website includes a link to contribute funds on-line. Items that are regularly in high demand include canned protein (tuna or chicken), cereal (both cold and oatmeal), ready-to-eat meals (such as Beef-a-roni), ready-to-eat soup, pasta, spaghetti sauce, shelf-stable milk, water, dry lentils and beans, plain rice, peanut butter, and crackers.(but no glass containers, please and no more canned beans for a while). More information on the website stjohnsarlingtonva.org