

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church:** Sixth Sunday of Easter / May 14, 2023  
Guest Celebrant: Fr. Ken Simon

**Prelude:** *Wayne Seppala*

**Processional Hymn** (*The people stand*) #292 (1-3), "O Jesus, Crowned With All Renown"

**Opening Salutation**

**Celebrant:** Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

**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.**

**Kyrie** (*Sung*)

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

**Gloria In Excelsis** (*Sung*)

*Glory be to God on high, and on Earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

**Children's Sermon** (*The people may be seated*)

*All children and parents are invited to come forward for a short children's sermon followed by Godly Play in the Parish Hall.*

**Collect of the Day**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

**Celebrant:** 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** (*The people may be seated*)

**The First Reading:** Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual 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 peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries

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of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about 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**

7 who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations— let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

**8 Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,**

9 who has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.

**10 For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.**

11 You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;

**12 you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.**

13 I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows,

**14 those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.**

15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatted calves, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

**16 Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.**

17 I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.

**18 If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.**

**The Second Reading: 1 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 respect. Maintain a good conscience 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 lives, 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.

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

**Gospel Hymn:** *(The people stand)* #705 (1&3), “As Those Of Old”

**The Gospel: John 14:15-21**

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

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**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."

Celebrant:        This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:**            *Praise to you Lord Christ.*

**Celtic Alleluia** (*sung*)

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Now He is living, the Christ, out of the tomb He is risen; He has conquered death – opened heaven to all believers. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

**The Sermon** (*The people may be seated*) Fr. Ken Simon

**The Nicene Creed** (*The people stand*)

*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** (*Form III, the people stand*)

*[Opens with prayer for St. Andrew's]*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

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Give to the departed eternal rest.

***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. (*Silence*)

(*The People may add their own petitions*)

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:"

Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

**Confession of Sin and Absolution** (*The people kneel*)

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

***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.***

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all our 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.***

**The Peace** (*The people stand*)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People: And also with you.***

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

**Announcements/Birthdays/Anniversaries** (*The people may be seated*)

**Offertory** (*The people may be seated*)

"*She Will Be Called Blessed*" – *The St. Andrews Choir*

**Doxology** (*The people stand and sing*)

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

**The Great Thanksgiving** (*Eucharistic Prayer A, remain standing*)

Celebrant: The Lord 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 our God.

***People: It is right to give him 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. [*Proper Preface*]

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 (S125: Sung)**

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are 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.***

*(The people kneel)* 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: *(sung)*

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

***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. *(sung)* ***Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing: *(Sung)*

***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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.***

**Breaking of the Bread**

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

***People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant: 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** *(The people may be seated)*

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**Communion Prayer** (*Celebrant and those at home or not receiving*)

*My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart, as though you have already come. I embrace You, and unite myself with you entirely. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

**Post Communion Prayer** (*The people kneel*)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*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 Blessing**

The peace of God, which passeth 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, rest upon you this day and forever. *Amen.*

**Recessional Hymn:** (*The people stand*)                      **#405 (1-4), "All Things Bright And Beautiful"**

**Dismissal**

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

**Postlude:**                      *Wayne Seppala*

**Prayers at the Altar:**    *Prayer Ministers are available for those seeking additional prayer.*