



The Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 14, 2023  
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

*The people's responses are in bold.*

*The people stand.*

### Opening Acclamation

*Priest* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

*Priest and people*

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.

*Priest and People*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### The Collect for the Day

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest* Let us pray.

*Priest and People*

**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 First Reading

**Acts 17:22-31**

*Reader* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 66:7-18**

Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
**make the voice of his praise to be heard;**

Who holds our souls in life, \*  
**and will not allow our feet to slip.**

For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
**you have tried us just as silver is tried.**

You brought us into the snare; \*  
**you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

You let enemies ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and water; \*  
**but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.**

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.**

I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
with the smoke of rams; \*  
**I will give you oxen and goats.**

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

I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
**and his praise was on my tongue.**

If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
**the Lord would not have heard me;**

But in truth God has heard me; \*  
**he has attended to the voice of my prayer.**

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my  
prayer, \*  
**nor withheld his love from me.**

*The people stand*

## The Gospel

John 14:15-21

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.  
*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."

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

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

## Sermon

The Rev. Javier G. Ocampo

*The people stand.*

## 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 truly 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. 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 III

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.**

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.

*A brief silence is kept. The people may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.*

We pray for comfort, healing, courage and hope for **Judy Conroy, Steve Heinig, Lucia Valenzuela, Robert Taylor, Nikka Hakimi, Lowell Smith, The Osorio Family, Angie Ricks, Denise Rouse, Jean Isaac, Mary Waldron, Jan Hauber, Whittaker Thompson, Craig Cullen, Chelsea Osorio, Salvador Hines, Tilven Bernal, Juan Carlos Rodriguez** and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for peace in the world and for the victims of war everywhere. We also pray for all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families.

We pray for all those affected by, suffering from, and killed by gun violence throughout our country.

We offer thanksgiving for the life of Mabel Yalley-Ogunro, sister of Jake Yalley-Ogunro, who died on May 4, 2023.

The flowers on the altar today were given by Nancy Carman in loving memory of her mother, Shirley L. Thomas.

We give thanks for the recent birthdays of **Randall Adams, Malcolm Sawyer, Hawa Clemens, Betty Knight** and **Kelly Ten Hagen.**

### *Celebrant*

*Mother's Day prayer:* We thank you Lord for our mothers, to whom you have entrusted the precious care of human life from the beginning. You have given women the ability to participate with you in the creation of new life. Make them come to understand the full meaning of this blessing. Look over every mother who is expecting a baby, give them strength in their faith, in your love for them and their baby. Give them courage in times of fear or pain, understanding in times of uncertainty and doubt, and hope in times of trouble. Give them joy in the birth of their baby. Bless the mothers to whom you have given the great privilege and responsibility of being a foster parent. Make them all able to foster their children in faith. Help all the "spiritual mothers," who care for the children of others and assume their task with maternal love, who can discover that engendering life is much more than giving birth. We ask you to send the Holy Spirit of Comfort to mothers who have lost children, who are sick or separated from their families, who are in danger or have problems of any kind. Show them your mercy and give them strength and serenity. We remember with love and joy mothers who are no longer with us,

who are now in your presence as a result of their efforts on earth. All this we ask in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE PEACE

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

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Celebrant*  
Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

*The altar is prepared for Holy Communion and an offering is received to support Ascension's ministry of sharing God's love with the world. Text ASCENSIONMD + Amount to 73256 to give a donation using your text messaging Or scan the QR code*



## The Holy Communion

*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.**

*Celebrant*  
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:

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

*The people kneel or remain standing.*

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;**

*The Celebrant continues*

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 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,

*Celebrant and People*

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

*Celebrant* God's Holy gifts for God's holy people. Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love. Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith. Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole in Christ. Come to Christ's table, there is room for all.

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

## **PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

**Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. We offer you praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim your resurrection. We love you above all, and long for you in our souls. Since we cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Church of the Ascension. Please follow the directions of the Priest. In addition to using a communion kit or receiving bread only, you may now receive in both parts but with the caveat that intincting (“dipping”) is not permitted; only receiving the wine by drinking from the cup.*

## **THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

**Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for the Body of Christ, the bread of heaven, and for the offering of Christ’s holy presence, the gift of spiritual communion, which feeds us when we must be apart. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we become One Body in the sacrament of Christ’s Body. Transform our lives with your life, for the love we share becomes bread for the world. AMEN.**

## **BLESSING**

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.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated for the announcements. For more information about activities and events coming up at Ascension, please refer to the bulletin insert.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*All stand as able*

## **DISMISSAL**

*Deacon* Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
*People* **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***Service Participants:***

*The Rev. Javier García Ocampo – Rector*

*The Rev. Rosa Briones – Deacon*

*Tracey Forfia – Lay Eucharistic Minister*

*Andrew Kullberg – Minister of Music*

*Jesse Velazquez – Spanish Service Music Director*

*The Ascension Tech Team*

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