

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**  
**Sixth Sunday in Easter**  
**May 9, 2021**

**Prelude**                    "Brother James's Air"                    Searle Wright

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

*Celebrant*  
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.

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.

*Celebrant*                    The Lord be with you.  
*People*                        And also with you.  
*Celebrant*                    Let us pray.

## 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 Lesson: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

*After the Reading, the reader says*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 98

1 Sing to the Lord a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.

2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.

3 The Lord has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

**The Epistle: I John 5:1-6**

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

*After the Reading, the reader says*

The Word of the Lord.


*People*

Thanks be to God.

## Sequence Hymn 455 "O Love of God, how strong and true"

*Dunedin*

*(For those worshipping in person, text is provided to allow time for reflection & meditation, please do not sing aloud, thank you)*



1 O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal  
2 O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous Love, we read thee  
3 We read thee best in him who came to bear for  
4 We read thy power to bless and save e'en in the

and yet ev - er new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -  
in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -  
us the cross of shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on  
dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion

bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all thought.  
low, in seas that swell and streams that flow.  
high, our life to live, our death to die.  
light we read the full - ness of thy might.

## The Holy Gospel: John 15:9-17

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you.

And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

*After the Gospel, the Priest says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **The Sermon**

**The Reverend John Foster Herring**

### **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 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 remain standing*

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

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; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Rob, Don and Paul our Bishops; John our Rector, and Gregoria our Vicar;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern; Joe, our President, Brian our Governor, Craig our Mayor, and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

We pray for those having birthdays especially; Bruce, Livi, Jim Elaine, Milagros, Emily, Mary Louise, Janet, Janice, Jim and Christy. And those serving in the armed forces especially; Ted, Michael, Steven, Charlie, Greg, Joel, Justin, Alexander, Phillip, Nicholas, Thomas, Ryan, Andrew, Andres, Kirsten, Johnny, Warren, Sara, Cody and Joshua. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Remembering those that are sick especially; Linda, Meg, Gina, Jodi, John, Louise and Sara. 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.

*Silence*

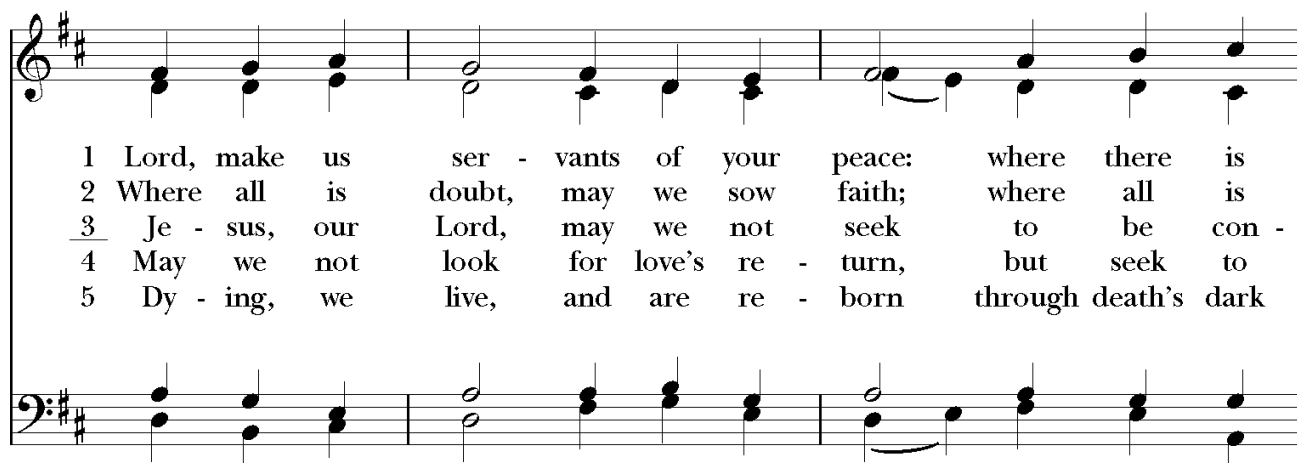
*The People may add their own petitions.*

*Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

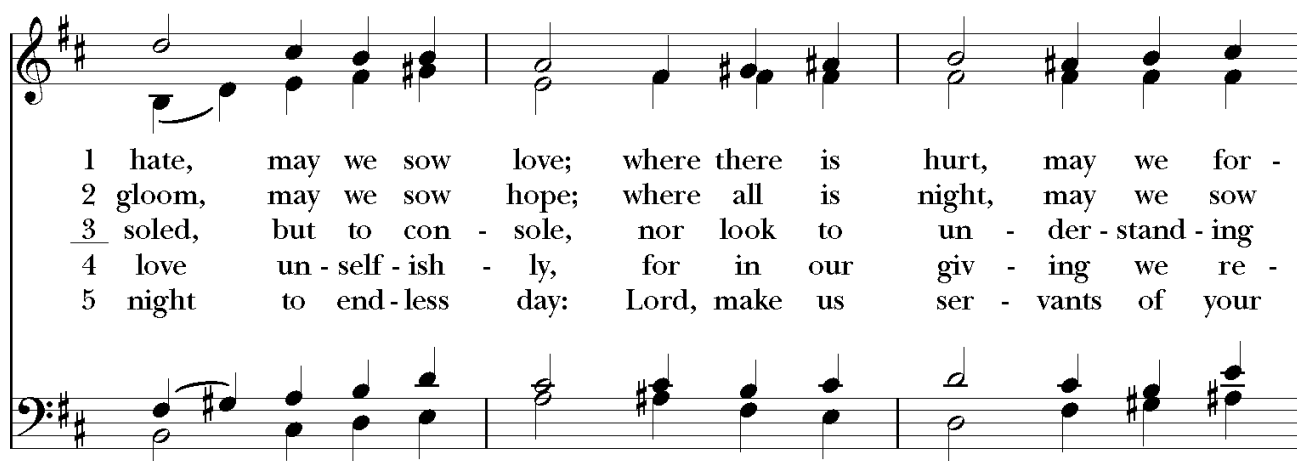
**The Peace**

# Anthem Hymn 593 "Lord, make us servants of your peace"


Dickinson College



1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is  
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is  
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -  
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to  
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark



1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -  
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow  
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing  
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -  
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your



1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.  
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.  
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.  
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.  
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

## The Holy Communion: Eucharistic Prayer D

*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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say,

*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.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with \_\_\_\_\_) and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours,  
Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

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

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father, who art in heaven,      And forgive us our trespasses,  
hallowed be thy Name,                      as we forgive those  
thy kingdom come,                              who trespass against us.

thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.      And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

Give us this day our daily  
bread.

For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

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

*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.*

*You are invited to pray the prayer for spiritual communion within your home.*

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

*Celebrant and People*

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 for ever. Amen.

### **The Blessing**

### **The Dismissal**

**Prelude**

“Ye boundless realms of joy”

C. Hubert H. Parry