

# THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 5, 2024 | 5:00 PM | THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Holy Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition

*This liturgy is adapted from "A Celtic Liturgy for Every Season" by Elizabeth Grover.*



## PRELUDE

*Slane*

*The Dawning of the Day*

*The people's response is in bold.*

## OPENING WORDS

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

Christ is alive in our hearts.

**The God who is love dwells in us. Alleluia!**

## THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

We will light a light in the name of the Maker –

**God the Creator of all life.**

We will light a light in the name of Christ –

**Jesus who offers us newness of life.**

We will light a light in the name of the Spirit –

**The Holy One whose presence sanctifies all creation.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. God said, "Let there be light!"

God called the light day and the darkness night

**Day and night bless you.**

The winds of new beginnings stirred; the deep and everlasting waters flowed.

**Winds and waters bless you.**

The dry land appeared and was called earth and it was good.

**Mountains and fields, hills and valleys all bless you.**

The day and the night guided the seasons and marked the days and years.

**Sun and moon bless you.**

The waters brought forth living creatures, who filled the seas, roamed the earth, and rose up to the sky.

**Birds and fish, dogs and cats, cows, ostriches, and giraffes; all bless you,**

In God's likeness, God then created humankind

**Let all the peoples praise you.**

You are the God of all creation, let all things bless your Name. **Amen.**

## **OPENING PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. O God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more fully understand the purpose to which we are called; in the name of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **FIRST 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **THE RESPONSE**

*The Voice of God*  
by Crystal Williams

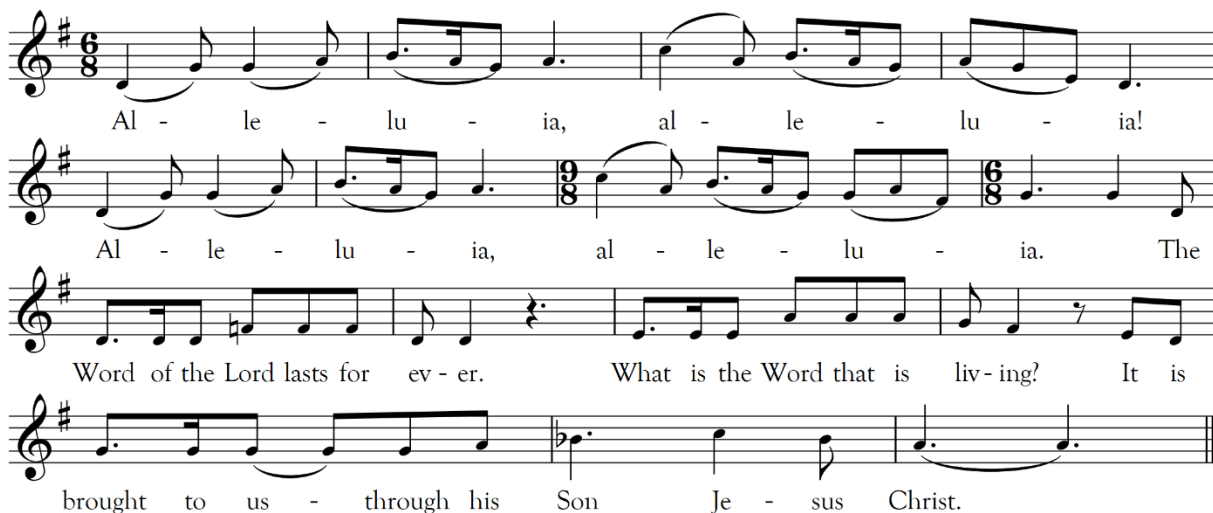
*Poem for Aretha Franklin*

when she opens her mouth  
our world swells like dawn on the pond  
when the sun licks the water & the jay garbles,

the whole quiet thing coming into tune,  
the gnats, frogs, the dandelion pollen, the  
pebbles & leaves & the whole world of us  
sitting at the throat of the jay  
dancing in the throat of the jay  
all of us on the lip of the jay  
singing doowop, doowop, do.

## GOSPEL SONG

*Celtic Alleluia*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. The  
Word of the Lord lasts for ev - er. What is the Word that is liv - ing? It is  
brought to us - through his Son Je - sus Christ.

## THE GOSPEL

JOHN 15:9-17

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

**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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE HOMILY

*There will be a pause for silent reflection immediately following the homily.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Celebrant* We pray now for the needs of all people throughout the world, remembering that God created all and loves all. Let us pray.

*Intercessor* Heavenly Father, we come before you with reverence but with faith that through our prayers your presence can bless. We pray for the Church that its mission may reach to the ends of the earth.

*People* **May we be Christ to each other and light to the world.**

*Intercessor* We pray for the world that its leaders may follow the path of justice and its peoples the way of peace.

*People* **May we and all nations respect one another in freedom, truth, and love.**

*Intercessor* We pray for our community that those who make decisions that affect the lives of others may be inspired by your wisdom.

*People* **May we all act with integrity, respect, and courage that we may live together in harmony.**

*Intercessor* We pray for those any need or trouble.

*Particular intercessions are offered.*

God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

*People* **May they know the power of your healing love through human compassion.**

*Intercessor* We remember those who have died and those who mourn.

*Particular intercessions are offered.*

Father, into your hands we commend them.

*People* **Bring those who mourn peace in their time of loss.**

*Intercessor* We pray for ourselves in this church community and for the ministries in which we serve God here.

*Particular intercessions are offered.*

Lord, you have called us to serve you.

*All* **Grant that we may walk in your presence with your truth in our minds, your strength in our souls and your love in our hearts, that we may share the light of your love with all, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

God makes peace within us.

**Let us claim it.**

God makes peace between us.

**Let us share it.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY

THE EAGLE WITH THE SUNLIT EYE

We encourage you to give your offering electronically today through our CoR App. (Search Redeemer Cincy in your app store.) Or you may choose to give online via our secure online system located here:

<https://redeemercincy.tpsdb.com/Give/offering> There are also two collection spots in the narthex (look for the Give Here signs) where you may deposit your offering safely.

## 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.**

We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, O God, by whose word the heavens were formed and the earth was brought forth from the waters. The reflection of your glory shines in each created thing, and though earth's flowering fades, you plant within us imperishable seeds for our salvation and call life out of death into the light that endures forever. And so with heaven and earth's host of light, with the saints of every nation, and with those who now live in the spirit as you are Spirit, we join in the song of your unending greatness:

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, —  
g heav'n and earth are filled with your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is the  
One who comes in the name of the Lord. — ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est

Blessed are you, O God, for the great day of salvation prepared from the beginning of the world, when Christ, though rejected on earth, will be seen by all to be chosen and precious in your sight. We bless you for Christ who carried in his body to the tree sin's destructive powers that we and all people might be set free. Through Christ you inspire the hope in us that earth's forces of darkness will be scattered, and angels of glory and principalities of light will bring a new heaven and a new earth.

Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and having blessed it, he broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took wine and, having given thanks for it, he poured it out, and gave the cup to his disciples, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

*Celebrant and people*

**Remembering his eternal self-giving, we proclaim the mystery of Christ among us. Made one with him and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy living sacrifice.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, and upon this bread and wine, that they may be the body and blood of Christ. May our inner selves be nourished that, in the outward things of life, we may follow the way of Christ and grow more and more into salvation; through Christ, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, world without end. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now say,  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
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**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Gracious God, we come to your table;  
Nourish us with the bread of life and the cup of heaven.

# THE SHARING OF A HOLY MEAL

## COMMUNION MUSIC

INIS SIAR

## CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray.

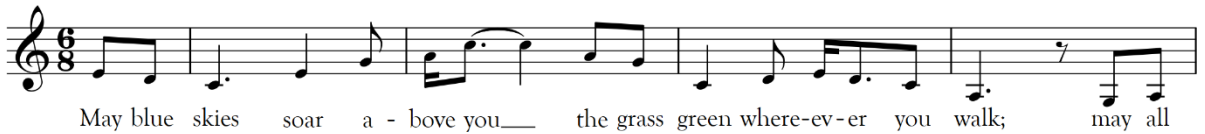
O God, who has renewed the earth by the gift of creation,  
we thank you for opening our hearts  
and making us new with this holy meal.

As we have shared this communion meal,  
may we also generously share our lives in love,  
and as we seek you in your creation each day,  
may we find the patience and vision  
to see your love at work in all things  
and the grace to let our lives reflect that love;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish the lights that here  
represent the presence of the Holy in our midst.

**But we will carry the light in our hearts and we pray that as we go about our work in the  
world, we will shine with the love of God. Amen.**

## CELTIC BENEDICTION



## THE BLESSING

May the Lord of all creation, open your eyes, to behold the beauty around you,

May the Lord of light shine forth to guide you, and walk the way with you

May the Lord of love enfold you in their arms, this day and every day.

And the blessing of God; Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,

be with you now and always. **Amen.**



# CLOSING SONG

'God of creation ...'

Slane



1 God the Cre - a - tor, you in love  
2. O Christ the Sav - ior, you in love  
3. O God the Spi - rit, you in love  
4. And with the peo - ple sum - moned to -



made me who once was no - thing but now have  
called me who once was no one, lost and a -  
move me who once was no - where and felt un -  
- geth - er to be the church in which faith is



grown. I bring the best of all my life  
- lone. I pledge to go wher - ev - er you  
- known. I know my need of you for com -  
sown, I make my prom - ise to live for



of - fers; for you I share what - ev - er I own.  
sum - mon, mak - ing your will and pur - pose my own.  
- pan - ion: all things can change when not on my own.  
Je - sus and let the world know all are his own.

## THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

## THE POSTLUDE

*Glen Logie*

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher ..... The Rev. Melanie Slane  
Lector ..... Pattie Kovach  
Lay Reader .....  
Intercessor ..... Robin Henderson  
Celtic Guild ..... John Calhoun  
Bread Guild ..... Kathy Krug  
Altar Guild ..... Karen Staffiera, John Morabito, Katy Mallon  
Flower Guild..... Francie Morrison, Lynne Zajac, Michelle Kirk

## IN THANKSGIVING & MEMORY

The flowers that beautify our worship spaces are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the anniversary of Cheryl & Ed Polaski; in thanksgiving for Jessica, the daughter of Jeanne & Mike Plunkett; and in loving memory of Bobbie Mosher by John Mosher.





### VISION STATEMENT

We have a vision of a worshipping community  
that **knows Jesus and grows in love:**

- **United** in relationships of holy connection and communion;
- **Growing** with people of every age, race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, and political persuasion;
- **Inspired** by our understanding of why we are Christian, why we are Episcopalian, why Redeemer matters to us;
- **Sent** into the world, rooted and grounded in love, to serve all people with humility, compassion, and faithfulness.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

