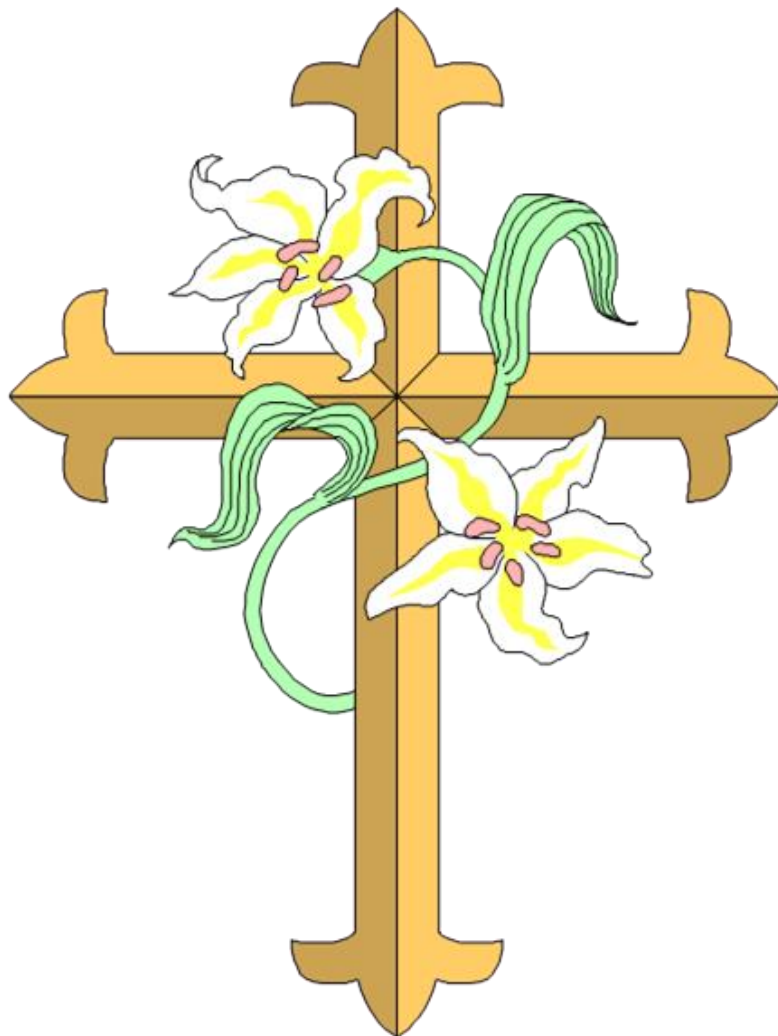


The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist



The Sixth Sunday of Easter

*May 5, 2024
9:00 AM*

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
W. Columbia, Texas
(979) 345-3456
www.stmaryswestcolumbia.com

The Rev. Paul B. Wehner, Interim Rector

We welcome all friends and visitors to worship with us this morning. St. Mary's is "The Mustard Seed Church," where out of a small number, great things will grow for the glory of God.

If you would like to receive more information about life within our community, please fill out a Visitor's Card in the pew rack in front of you so that we may get in touch with you this week. You can hand the card to the priest or usher as you leave or leave it in your pew.

Ministers of the Service

Celebrant/Preacher	The Rev. Paul Wehner
Chalice Bearer	Gwynne Olson
Crucifer	Kendy Hankins
Lectors	Dani Mikel
Prayers of the People	Wendy Hankins
Music	Grace Culbreath
Ushers	Bill Olson, Jay Wiggins
Altar Guild	Theata Miller, Hannah Hussey
Technical Support	Amber Prater, Justin Hussey
Hospitality	Gwynne and Bill Olson

Rev. Paul Wehner is our Interim Rector during the current transition time. He will be in the church office on Tuesdays from 8:30 – 5:00, or can meet at other times by appointment. Please do not hesitate to drop in or to call and schedule a time to meet and talk or pray with Fr. Paul. Call the church office or his cell phone: 409-766-0088.

Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Prelude

Grace Culbreath, Organ

Opening Prayer

Processional Hymn

All things bright and beautiful

Hymn #405

Descant




All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



- 1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
- 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
- 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
- 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



Repeat Refrain

he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

The Celebrant continues

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.**

Children two years old through 5th grade are invited to follow the cross to Sunday School. They will return during the Peace.

Song of Praise

PASCHA NOSTRUM

Hymn tune #287



1 God's Pas - chal Lamb is sa - cri - ficed for us;
2 Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain;
3 In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead:



1 There - fore with joy we keep the Eas - ter feast;
2 death has no more do - min - ion o - ver him;
3 though Adam's sin had doomed all flesh to die,



1 For - saking sin, we share the bread of truth.
2 Through him we die to sin and live to God.
3 in Christ's new life shall all be made a - live.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Collect of the Day (standing)

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 sit.*

Our first reading is from 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

BCP p. 727

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.**

Our second reading is from the First Letter of 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

1 I sing the al-might - y power of God, that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, but makes thy glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the lof - ty skies.
 he formed the crea-tures with his Word, and then pro-nounced them good.
 and clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
 Lord, how thy won - ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye,
 while all that bor - rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

the moon shines full at his com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
 and ev - ery-where that I could be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John. (15:9-17)

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Paul Wehner

The Nicene Creed *(standing)*

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.

Easter Prayers of the People *(standing)*

Leader That our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Hear us, Lord of glory.**

Leader That Christ as head of the Church will bless our Bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai, our bishops; Paul, our priest; and the people of St. Mary's Church, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Hear us, Lord of glory.**

Leader That he will bless and guide those who are celebrating their birthdays; and those who are celebrating their anniversaries; that they will be strengthened and encouraged for the years ahead, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Hear us, Lord of glory.**

Leader That he may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Hear us, Lord of glory.**

Leader That he will defend and protect all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad, especially Ricky Wallace, Luis Cassells, Aidan Vrazel, Ben Rowland, Josef Gottlieb, and Benjamin Kelley, and that by his power, wars and famine may cease through all the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Hear us, Lord of glory.**

Leader That he may reveal the light of his presence to those who are in danger, sorrow, sickness, or any kind of trouble, especially Donna, Mary, Mike, Marglet, Anne, Ouida, Bonnie, John, Doris, Vicki, Cody, Keri, Carol, Donnie, Susan, Nancy, Cathy, Arlien, Darla, Veronica, Jane, Linda, Hayden, Bobbie, Liz, Connie, Bill, Joe, Megan, David, the family of Katherine Miller, Rick, Debbie, and those we now name silently or aloud ; that they may be comforted and strengthened in the love of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Hear us, Lord of glory.**

Leader We remember those who have died, especially Katherine Miller and those we now name silently or aloud , and pray for their eternal blessing. We also give thanks for all the blessings of this life; offering our praise and thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Hear us, Lord of glory.**

Leader That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, enabling us to bear faithful witness to his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Hear us, Lord of glory.**

Priest 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.**

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Risen Christ.

Honoring our Graduates

Presentation of Gifts

Blessing

Priest Let us pray together for our young people.

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Holy Communion

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Grace Culbreath

The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

THE DOXOLOGY Hymn # 380 vs 3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP 361)

The people 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.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

Hymn #S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



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



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people are invited to remain standing in witness of the Resurrection.

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.

The Celebrant continues

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.**

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,

forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP p. 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

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.

All that desire a closer relationship with Jesus Christ are invited to the table.

Please proceed down the center aisle to the Communion rail, where you may stand or kneel. The priest will put a wafer in your hand. If you desire wine, you may sip from the cup or lightly dip your wafer in the wine. If you prefer to receive only the bread or a blessing, so indicate by crossing your arms over your chest at the appropriate time. If you desire to receive Communion in your pew, please tell one of the ushers. The ministers will be pleased to bring the bread and wine to you.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these or similar words.

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

People and Celebrant

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.

Easter Blessing:

May Almighty God, who redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
 *2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
 *3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
 *6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
 2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
 4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
 5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
 6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
 7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
 2 morn, with praise re - jice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

Refrain



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Dismissal

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.



**The flowers on the altar
this Sunday are given
to the Glory of God
by Donna and Dan Roddy.**

2024 FLOWER SIGN UP

The forms to sign up for 2024 flower offerings are in the Narthex. Please stop by and sign up to honor or celebrate special days in your life. The cost is \$50, to be paid in advance.

For more information, contact the church office. (979-345-3456)

Prayers

Prayers for Healing: Donna, Mary, Mike, Marglet, Anne, Ouida, Bonnie, John, Doris, Vicki, Cody, Keri, Carol, Donnie, Susan, Nancy, Cathy, Arlien, Darla, Veronica, Jane, Linda, Hayden, Bobbie, Liz, Connie, Bill, Joe, Megan, David, the family of Katherine Miller, Rick, and Debbie.

Prayers for the Departed: Katherine Miller

Prayers for our men and women in the Armed Forces: Ricky Wallace, Luis Cassells, Aidan Vrazel, Ben Rowland, Josef Gottlieb, and Benjamin Kelley

Prayers for birthdays:

Prayers for anniversaries:

Prayers for the Members of our Search Committee: Jackie Walker (chair), AJ Mikel, Colleen Matocha, Tracy Lane, Jennifer Schill, Bill Olson, and Shyanne Roddy

Announcements

1. We welcome all visitors to our worship service. If you need anything, the ushers will be happy to assist you.
2. Today we honor our high school graduate, Reesie Cantrell. Please join us after the service for a reception in the Parish Hall.
3. The children's Sunday School will be during the service with them leaving the sanctuary during the Song of Praise and returning during the Peace.
4. Adult and Youth Sunday School will be after hospitality at 10:30 a.m.
5. Our next parish dinner is Wednesday, May 15th, at 5:30 p.m. The Brotherhood will be providing Kitty Nash Ranch Casserole, green beans, salad, rolls, peach cobbler, cherry cobbler, ice cream, tea, coffee, and water. Mark your calendar for this great meal and wonderful fellowship.

6. Next Sunday is the last day to donate for the gift cards to our 6 military personnel; Ricky Wallace, Luis Cassells, Aidan Vrazel, Ben Rowland, Josef Gottlieb, and Benjamin Kelley. Letters to these men and their families thanking them for their service and sacrifice are also needed. The gift cards and letters will be mailed May 13th, so they can arrive around Armed Forces Day, the day the United States honors those who are currently serving in one of the 5 branches of the military. Donations and letters can be placed in the offering plate or given to Dani.
7. Next Sunday is Mother's Day. A special gift will be given to the ladies in our church.
8. From April 1st to June 30th, St. Mary's will be providing cake mixes and icing tubs to the Meals on Wheels program at the Senior Citizen Center. Each week, we will donate 4 cake mixes and 2 tubs of icing. There will be containers in the Narthex and Parish Hall for your donations. Each cake made takes 2 mixes and one icing tub.
9. Camp Allen is now taking reservations for Summer Camp for children and youth. Visit campallen.org to view available sessions and make your reservations. The church pays two-thirds of the camp fee.
10. Brotherhood meets next Sunday at 7:30 a.m.
11. Dani will be on vacation from Monday, May 6th to Sunday, May 12th.

