



The Church of St. Paul, Cambria
• The 7th Sunday in Easter • May 21, 2023 •

Opening Hymn 379

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for
ever.

Amen.

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.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your
only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your
kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless,
but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and
exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has
gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

First Lesson Acts of the Apostles (1:6-14)

So when they had come together, they asked
Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore
the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for
you to know the times or periods that the Father
has set by his own authority. But you will receive
power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all
Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
When he had said this, as they were watching, he
was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their
sight. While he was going and they were gazing up
toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes
stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do
you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus,
who has been taken up from you into heaven, will
come in the same way as you saw him go into
heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from
the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a
sabbath day's journey away. When they had
entered the city, they went to the room upstairs
where they were staying, Peter, and John, and
James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas,
Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of
Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of
James. All these were constantly devoting
themselves to prayer, together with certain

women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as
well as his brothers.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered;
* let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind
drives it away; * as the wax melts at the fire, so let
the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before
God; * let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him
who rides upon the heavens; * YAHWEH is his
Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, * God in
his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth
prisoners into freedom; * but the rebels shall live in
dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your
people, * when you marched through the
wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down
rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, * at
the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your
inheritance; * you refreshed the land when it was
weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; * in your
goodness, O God, you have made provision for the
poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; * sing
praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; * his majesty is over
Israel; his strength is in the skies.
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! * the
God of Israel giving strength and power to his
people! Blessed be God!

The **Second lesson** is from the First Letter of Peter
(4:12-14; 5:6-11)

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal
that is taking place among you to test you, as
though something strange were happening to you.
But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's
sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout
for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled
for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because
the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is
resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore

under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John (17:1-11)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Sermon Music

Here follows the Nicene Creed, all 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.

The Prayers of the People

Let us once more cast our cares upon the Lord, saying: To God be glory forever and ever.

(As the Spirit moves you, please take turns reading one or more of the petitions. Please observe a short silence at the indicated times.)

For the church of God, especially its members who share in Christ's suffering, that the glory of the Lord might be revealed, we pray: **To God be glory forever and ever.**

For the world so loved by God, that the power of God's grace working in us might restore the beauty of its created image, we pray: **To God be glory forever and ever.**

For those who glorify God in simple, hidden, and faith-filled ways, we pray: **To God be glory forever and ever.**

For those labeled wrongdoer and mischief-maker, that they might be loved without judgment and might enjoy God's life, we pray: **To God be glory forever and ever.**

For this local community, that the coming of the Spirit might find us steadfast in prayer and strong in love, we pray: **To God be glory forever and ever.**

For all in any pain and for all who sorrow, that they might be brought beyond their trouble into the Spirit's peace, we pray: **To God be glory forever and ever.**

For the young men and women who serve our nation, that their hope in the resurrection sustains them in danger. **To God be glory forever and ever.**

We pray for Jennifer and Sandra. **To God be glory forever and ever.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

Celebrant concludes

Good and gracious God, you do infinitely more for us than all we can ask or even imagine. Hear these prayers; be our Savior again, now and for ever.

Amen.

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

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Hymn 538

Prayer over the gifts: Source of all joy, receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Keep us in the love of Christ and bring us to the vision of his glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
(Repeat) **Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest**
(Repeat) **Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest**
(Repeat).

Officiant

Holy and gracious God: 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, Creator of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, the perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

Silence is held, then...

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we receive these gifts. We know them to be sanctified by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body of your Son, the Holy food of new and never ending 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 God, now and for ever. Amen.

Officiant And now, we pray...

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

The Bread is broken.

Officiant

Alleluia, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People

Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia

The Officiant presents the bread with the following or similar words.

These are the holy gifts of God for us, the holy people of God.

So come, those who have been here often and those who have not been for not been here long: those who have much faith, and those who wish to have more: those who have tried to follow Christ, who, like me, have failed. Come, for it is Jesus who is inviting you.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Author of life divine, in the breaking of bread we know the risen Lord. Feed us always in these mysteries, that we may show your glory to all the world. 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.

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

May Christ, who is human and divine, who is of heaven and also of earth, lift up your hearts, lift up your lives to God, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Announcements

Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 400 v 1,2,3, & 7

Go forth and bear witness to Christ, who is gloriously risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!