

Trinity Episcopal Church, Shelburne, VT 5171 Shelburne Road, Shelburne, VT 05482

office@trinityshelburne.org 802-985-2269

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Shannon MacVean-Brown, Bishop The Rev. Dr. Frederick Moser, Priest-in-Charge Michael Hartigan, Parish Musician

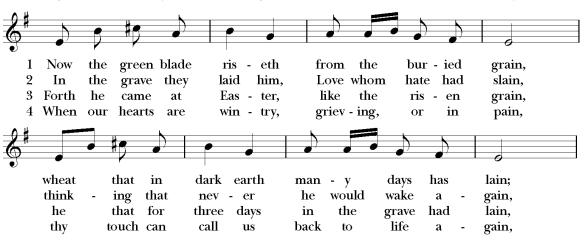
The Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C May 25, 2025, 9:30 a.m.; Holy Eucharist – Hybrid

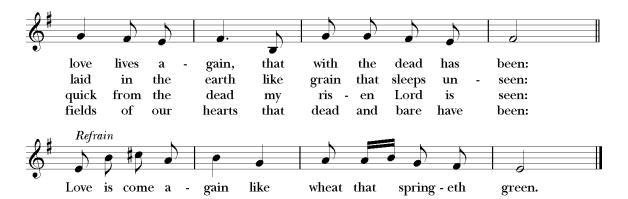
Thank you for worshiping with us this morning! We are glad you are here. Please keep your microphone muted for most of the service if you are online. If you are reading a lesson, leading the prayers, or adding an intercession or thanksgiving aloud during the prayers, please unmute yourself; then please re-mute.

Music is in this bulletin, and may be taken from The Hymnal 1982; Wonder, Love, and Praise (WLP); Lift Every Voice and Sing II (LEVAS II); Voices Found (VF); and My Heart Sings Out (MHSO).

Hymn

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain





The Presider says, and the people respond

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

After which, the following is sung

Christ our Passover [Pascha nostrum]

WLP 880





Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.
People And also with you.

Presider 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*.

First Reading Acts 16:9-15

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Acts

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67 Deus misereatur

All say

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, * show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, * your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, * for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase; * may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- 7 May God give us his blessing, * and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

Second Reading

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

A Reading from Revelation

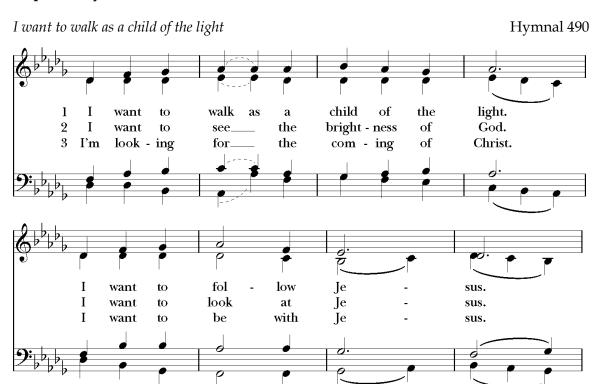
In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And

there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

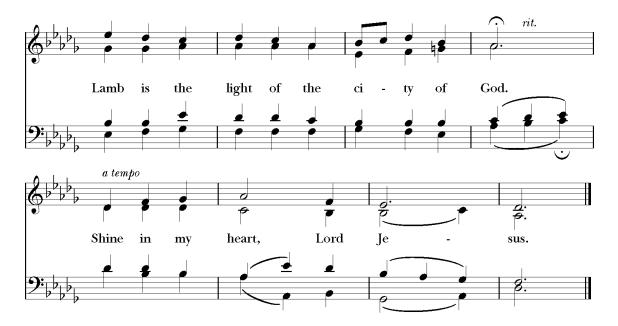
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn







Holy Gospel John 14:23-29

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

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

Nicene Creed

All say

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.

Prayers of the People

Led by the Intercessor

The intercessor offers prayers for the Church, its members, and its mission; the Nation and all in authority; the welfare of the world; concerns of the community; those who suffer or are in any trouble; and the departed.

A brief silence is kept between each prayer. Those online may "unmute" to add their own petitions and thanksgivings, along with those in the church, when indicated by the intercessor.

The Presider adds this Concluding Collect

Holy One, you breathe the word of love and the promise of new creation into the secret places of the soul, opening heart to heart: in the wildness of your Spirit, uncaptured in the wide world, teach us the costly way of fearless love and priceless peace; through Jesus Christ, through whom God dwells with us. *Amen*.

(Concluding Collect from <u>Prayers for an Inclusive Church</u>, by Steven Shakespeare.)

The Peace

Those online may unmute briefly to offer their response along with those in the church.

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

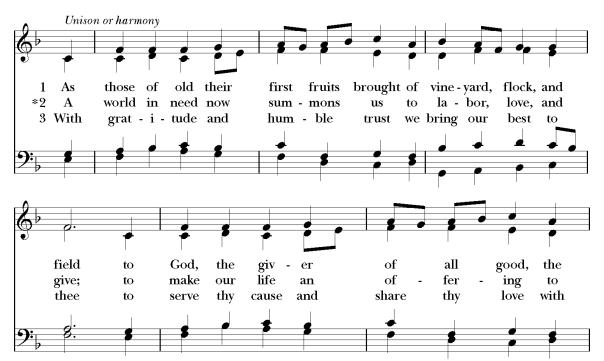
Holy Communion

The Presider says

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. 1 *Chronicles* 29:11

Offertory Hymn

As those of old their first fruits brought





The Great Thanksgiving

PresiderThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.PresiderLift up your hearts.PeopleWe lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider

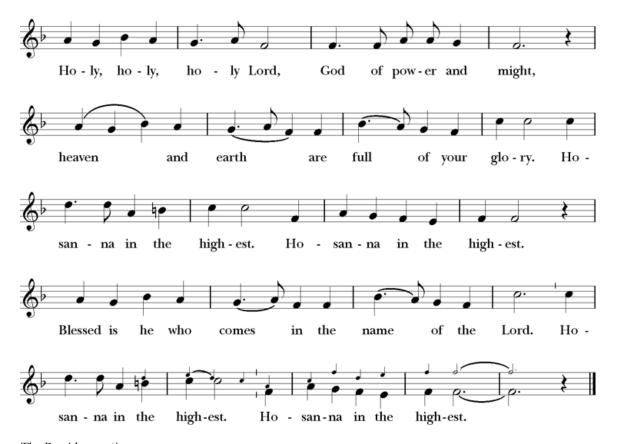
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 Hymnal S 125

Presider and People



The Presider continues

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:

Presider and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Presider 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*.

The Presider says

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

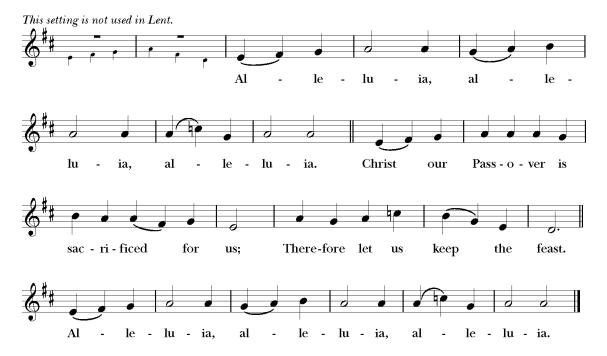
People and Presider

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 for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem



The Presider invites the people to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

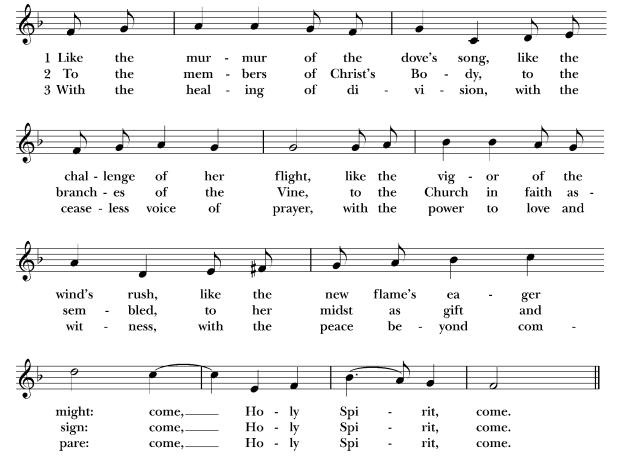
Ministration of Communion

The Body and Blood of Christ keep you in everlasting life.

During the hymn Communion is administered to those in the sanctuary, while those online reverently consume the sacrament their homes.

Communion Hymn

Like the murmur of the dove's song



Phrase 1 of each stanza may be sung by one group, with a contrasted group singing phrase 2, and all joining for the final phrase.

Postcommunion Prayer

The Presider says

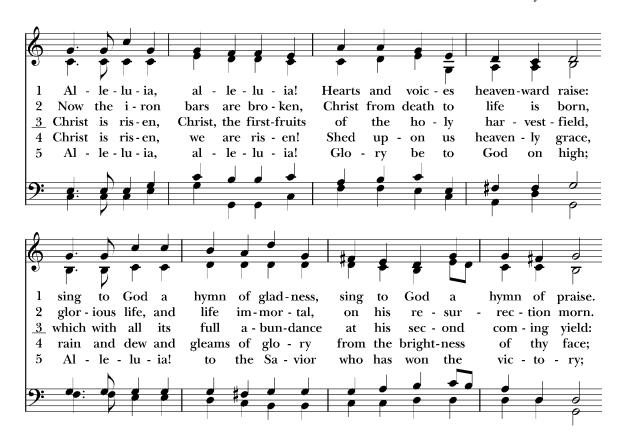
Let us pray.

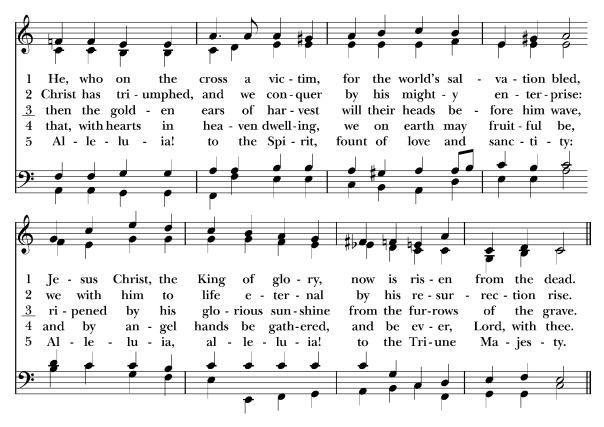
The Presider and People pray

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Postcommunion Hymn

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise





Blessing

The priest pronounces God's blessing; the people respond, "Amen."

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; and the blessing of God Almighty: Holy eternal Majesty, Holy Incarnate Word, Holy abiding Spirit, be among you and remain with you for ever. *Amen*.

Dismissal (unmuted)

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude

Announcements

A Note on Today's Readings

The Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year C

Welcome! The liturgy today continues to be concerned with exploring the consequences of Christ's resurrection and our new life in God through Baptism and Eucharist.

Today's gospel reading is a portion of the discourses between Jesus and the disciples on the evening before his crucifixion. Here Jesus talks about the union between himself and God the Father. This union is shared with us so that we can say with St. Paul, "not I, but Christ in me." The source of that union is the Holy Spirit given us in Baptism. The ultimate result of this union is peace; in Hebrew, *Shalom*. Shalom is the restored unity of the creation with God, and the resultant reconciliation among all peoples.

In the first reading, Paul, Silas, Timothy, and Luke come to Philippi, the first time the Gospel moves from Asia Minor to Europe. There Paul encounters a woman who worshipped God although she was a Gentile. After hearing Paul proclaim the resurrection of Jesus, she and her household were baptized, and her house became Paul's center of ministry there and quite likely the home of the church in that city.

It is not the created universe that is the ultimate destiny of the human race, but the new, perfect city of God's eternal reign. John, in today's reading from the Revelation, envisions the perfection and peace of that eternal reign of God.

Shalom – the peace and wholeness of God's Spirit – is our destiny and our present reality. The peace and unity of God's reign is revealed in the inclusiveness of the church as people of every race and nation are called by God. In the Eucharist, we have the foretaste of the new life in the holy city prepared for us by God.

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