

St. Christopher's at the Crossroads Episcopal Church



The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Don A. Wimberly, Assisting Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Paul E. Lambert, Assisting Bishop
The Rev. Shirley Porter, Rector

The Feast of Pentecost

May 23, 2021

Welcome to St. Christopher's!

By direction of the Bishop, we must observe the following restrictions:

- If you have a fever or feel ill, do not enter the church.
- If you haven't already registered with us, we will obtain contact information from you for contact tracing.
- Enter the church through the main aisle; exit through the door at the right of the church or the doors at the courtyard.
- When the service is over, please exit the church immediately.

Prelude

HYMN 225


Refrain



Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! blest day that art hal - lowed for




ev - er, day when the Ho - ly Ghost shone in the




world with God's grace. *First time only* grace. 2




1 Lo, in the like - ness of fire, on those who a -
3 Hark! for in myr - i - ad tongues Christ's own, his—



wait his ap - pear - ing, he whom the
cho - sen a - pos - tles, preach to the




Repeat Refrain
Lord fore - told sud - den - ly, swift - ly, de - scends:
ends of the earth Christ and his won - der - ful works:



2 Forth from the Fa - ther he comes with seven - fold—
4 Praise to the Spi - rit of Life, all praise to the



my - sti - cal of - fering, pou - ring on all hu - man
fount of our be - ing, light that dost light - en—



Repeat Refrain
souls in - fin - ite rich - es of God:
all, life that in all dost a - bide:

The refrain may be sung once by choir alone and repeated by all. The stanzas may be sung by choir alone, alternately by contrasted groups, or by all.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

S278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles [2:1-21]

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed,

these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.
And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 104:25-35, 37

Benedic, anima mea

25 O LORD, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
26 Yonder is the great and wide sea
with its living things too many to number, *
creatures both small and great.
27 There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan, *
which you have made for the sport of it.
28 All of them look to you *
to give them their food in due season.
29 You give it to them; they gather it; *
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.
30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; *
you take away their breath,
and they die and return to their dust.

31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
and so you renew the face of the earth.
32 May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; *
may the LORD rejoice in all his works.
33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
34 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; *
I will praise my God while I have my being.
35 May these words of mine please him; *
I will rejoice in the LORD.
37 Bless the LORD, O my soul. *
Hallelujah!

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans [8:22-37]

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Gospel

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

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But

because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Shirley Porter

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?
*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
*I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,*

*the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.*

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

The Prayers of St. Christopher's

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray to God, who alone makes us dwell in safety:

For the Church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and serve as beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Robert, Don, and Paul our Bishops, Shirley our priest, and all who minister in your name.

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who are affected by coronavirus, through illness or isolation or anxiety, that they may find relief and recovery:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are guiding our nation at this time, and shaping national policies, that they may make wise decisions and uphold the dignity of our most vulnerable communities, especially immigrants and persons of color:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers, that through their skill and insights many will be restored to health; and for those working to develop, distribute and improved vaccines, treatments, and improved measures to reduce the spread of the virus:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For workers, including warehouse, grocery and delivery workers, and those who harvest and process our food whom we often ignore, and who are now at risk: that employers and policy makers may provide for their safety and security,

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the vulnerable, those born and not yet born, and the fearful, for the gravely ill and the dying, that they may know your comfort and peace:

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who have died, especially for those in this time who have died alone, that they may be held in the company of all your saints, and for those who mourn loved ones they have not been able to accompany in their last hours.

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God. Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

The Exchange of the Peace will be touch free and while maintaining at least six feet of distance (waving, bowing, etc.)

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer A (Page 361)

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 him 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. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down on this day from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations. 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:

S128

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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,
 for ever and ever. Amen.*

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

Fraction Anthem S16

Antiphon

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1. Christ our Passover is sac-ri-ficed for us, therefore let us keep the feast,

2. Not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of mal-ice and wick-ed-ness,
 but with the unleavened bread of sin-cer-i-ty and truth. [Ant.] 3. Christ be-ing
 raised from the dead di-eth no more; death hath no more do-min-ion o-ver him.

4. For in that he died, he died un-to sin once; but in that he liveth, he liv-eth un-to God.

5. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead in-deed un-to sin,
 but alive unto God through Je-sus Christ our Lord. [Ant.] 6. Christ is ris-en
 from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. 7. For since by
 man came death, by man came also the resur-rec-tion of the dead.

8. For as in Ad-am all die, even so in Christ shall all be made a-live. [Ant.]

(Gloria Patri may be added)

Glo - ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit:

As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for ev-er. A-men. [Ant.]

Prayer for Those Who Cannot be Present

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you together today, we beseech you to join us spiritually in our hearts with the presence of your Body and Blood. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Come as you are, become what you receive.

The Bishop has suspended the use of the common cup during the pandemic, so we will only distribute the bread. The Episcopal Church believes that receiving the bread alone is full reception of both the Body and Blood of Christ.

Communion Hymn 516

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Prayer after Receiving

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.

May Almighty God, who enlightened the minds of the disciples by pouring out upon them the Holy Spirit, make you rich with his blessing, that you may abound more and more in that Spirit for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit as a flame of fire that rested upon the heads of the disciples, burn out all evil from your hearts, and make them shine with the pure light of his presence. *Amen.*

May God, who by the Holy Spirit caused those of many tongues to proclaim Jesus as Lord, strengthen your faith and send you out to bear witness to him in word and deed. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Sending Forth

LEVAS 117

I'm goin' - a sing* when the Spir - it says sing.

I'm goin' - a sing when the Spir - it says sing.

I'm goin' - a sing when the Spir - it says sing, and o -

bey the Spir - it of the Lord.

*2. pray 3. moan 4. shout

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