

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

www.old-swedes.org

215-389-1513

May 10, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Ministry Assistants Today

Lector: *Susan Steele*

Intercessor: *Carol Jenkins*

Usher: *Bob Jenkins*

Altar Guild: *Cathy Ufheil*

Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

Organist: *Adam Haines*

Ministry Assistants May 17

Lector: *Cathy Ufheil*

Intercessor: *Gabrielle Barbour*

Usher: *Jim Ufheil*

Altar Guild: *Christine Pickup*

Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

Organist: *Adam Haines*

Welcome to Easter at Gloria Dei!

It's hard to overstate the significance of this season – more than any other season, Easter is at the heart of the Christian faith. For this reason, Easter is celebrated for a full 50 days (it's intentionally longer than Lent). Today, we continue to celebrate that the grave could not contain Jesus. In any other story, Good Friday would have been a tragic ending. Jesus would have died a martyr – and though he may have been an ongoing source of inspiration – his life would be over. But in this story, Jesus rises from the dead, and that changes everything. Death is no longer the end of the story, for Jesus or for us. Rather, we see that God's love and healing cannot be contained. It may take a while yet, but we know that evil will ultimately be defeated, and death will ultimately be destroyed. Please join us throughout this Easter season as we celebrate this resurrection hope, and as we look to see what new things God is doing in this community.

Prelude

Opening Hymn # 408

Sing Praise to God

Hymnal 1982

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

Celebrant 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - mighty 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.

All 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.

(Congregation is invited to sit for the readings.)

First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

Susan Steele

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:7-18

Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn # 492

Sing, Ye Faithful

Hymnal 1982

Gospel Reading

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John (14:15-21)**

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Rev. Chris Micklewright



Image from

*The Holy Ghost:
A Spirited Comic*

By John Hendrix
@hendrixart

The Nicene Creed

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 *(the leader and the people pray responsively)*

Carol Jenkins

- Celebrant Fellow children of God – as we celebrate the new act of creation that began with Jesus’ resurrection from the dead, let us remember the parts of our world that are yet in need of God’s healing and redemption.
- Intercessor Give thanks to the LORD for God is good.
People God’s mercy endures forever.
- Intercessor Giving thanks for Jesus, who calls us to live in the power of his resurrection, we pray that the church may be a faithful reflection of God’s healing love – and we pray especially for Sarah, Sean, and Daniel, our Bishops; for Chris, our priest; for Rachel, our postulant, for our vestry and potential future vestry members; and for all the people of this congregation.
(Pause) The LORD is our strength and our song;
People God has become our salvation.
- Intercessor Remembering that it is better to rely on the LORD than to put any trust in rulers, we pray for those who hold power, locally, nationally, and internationally. May they seek justice and peace, and may we have the courage to do likewise.
(Pause) Open for us the gates of righteousness;
People May we enter in, offering thanks to the LORD.
- Intercessor: As we look at the news, we acknowledge the reality that troubles swarm around us like bees and blaze like a fire of thorns. Today, we pray for immigrants and others who feel afraid in our country, for those struggling with homelessness or addiction, and for the victims of warfare.
(Pause) May the works of the LORD touch every corner of the earth;
People That those in distress shall not die, but live.
- Intercessor When we are pressed so hard that we almost fall, the LORD promises to come to our help. Therefore, we remember the needs of this congregation, praying especially for: **Frank, Karen, Heather, Sara, John, Erica, Elia, Eulogio, Sheila, Emily, Amy, William, Betty, Dina, Gia, Beth, Thomassina, Julie, Denise, Jason, Peggy, Joanna, Mark, Margie, Bonnie, Keith, Connie, and Jack.** *(Long pause for additional names)* I called to the LORD in my distress;
People The LORD answered by setting me free.

(continued...)

Intercessor Trusting that Jesus has opened the way through death to everlasting life, we remember all who have tasted of death, especially **Maisie Mattison**, and we hope for the resurrection.
(Long pause for additional names) Our eyes are ever looking to the Lord,

People For you are the God of our salvation.

Celebrant Loving God, we believe that you have acted on this day, and that your love will not rest until every wrong is made right. Help us with our unbelief. Give us eyes to see your marvelous works. And grant us courage and hope to work alongside you for the healing of this world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you. *(Please share the peace by greeting your siblings in Christ.)*

Pre-Offertory Hymn # 512

Come, Gracious Spirit

Hymnal 1982

Offertory Sentence

Blessed be God, who has not rejected our prayer, nor withheld love from us. -Psalm 66:18

Collecting an offering is a way for us to remember that all we have is a gift from God, and that we are to be responsible stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. Guests should feel no obligation to give. Electronic giving is possible using the QR code found on the back of the bulletin. After the collection, the offering is brought forward as we stand to sing the following song of thanksgiving.

Flowingly, in 1

Unknown

Praise God from whom all Blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above all heavenly hosts, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Holy Communion –Eucharistic Prayer C

Celebrant God 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 our thanks and praise. *(Then, facing the Altar, the Celebrant proceeds)*

Celebrant God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People By your will they were created and have their being.

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for beauty, creativity and love. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

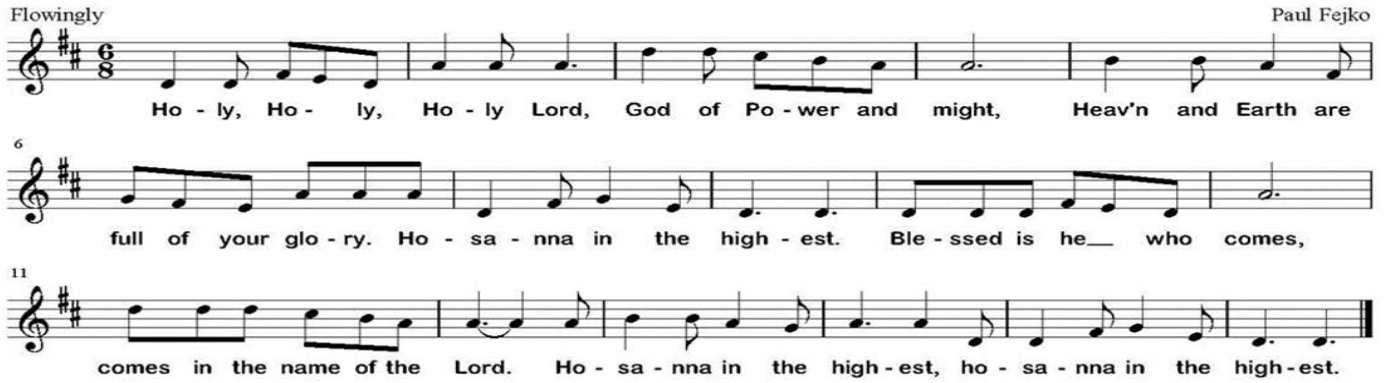
People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

People By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed. *(continued...)*

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Flowingly Paul Fejko



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of Po - wer and might, Heav'n and Earth are
 6 full of your glo - ry. Ho - sa - nna in the high - est. Ble - ssed is he who comes,
 11 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - nna in the high - est, ho - sa - nna in the high - est.

Celebrant On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
 People **We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.**

Celebrant Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior. Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal. Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN!**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

<p>All</p> <p>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,</p>	<p>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.</p>
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Fraction & Invitation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant This is the table not of the church but of our Lord Jesus. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is Jesus who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

All those interested in receiving communion should make their way forward to the rail, while the elements are prepared for distribution to the congregation. Episcopal theology recognizes baptism as the formal entry into the Christian community, and baptism is normally a prerequisite to receiving communion. However, we also recognize that God meets us wherever we are on our journey of faith. Moreover, Jesus regularly welcomed and ate with people from outside of his normal community. **Therefore, all are welcome at this table - including children!**

Kneel or stand at the rail, as you are comfortable. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available – just hold up one finger to receive either of these alternative elements. The priest will distribute wafers, which you receive in your outstretched hands. If you wish to receive the cup, you may drink or dip your wafer; it is also okay to receive the wafer only – we believe that Jesus is fully present in each of the elements of communion. If you prefer not to receive, you are still warmly invited to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing.

Post Communion Prayer

All 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, 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.

Blessing Rev. Chris Micklewright

Announcements Please pick up an "Upcoming Events" flyer from the table in the back. Some events will be highlighted at this time, and more details are always available on our website.

Closing Hymn # 405

All Things Bright & Beautiful

Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

**All are invited to listen to the postlude,
and then to join us for a time of fellowship in Riverside Hall.**

Gloria Dei Clergy and Staff

Rev. Dr. Chris Micklewright, Rector
440-865-1490, rector@old-swedes.org

Christine McBride, Parish Administrator
215-389-1513, info@old-swedes.org

Adam Haines, Organist
MobileMusicPhilly.com

Jim and Paula Minacci, Sextons
@SextonSideshow

Gloria Dei Vestry

Gabrielle Barbour, Wayne Dietrich, Angel Guido, Carol Jenkins (Rector's Warden), Matt Mahler, Christine Pickup, Candace Roberts (Accounting Warden), Seamus Stimpson, Cathy Ufheil (Secretary), Jeanette Woehr

Online Giving Available

It is possible to give to Gloria Dei on our website,
www.old-swedes.org/give, or using the QR code:

