

Seventh Saturday of Easter
The Holy Eucharist Rite Two Eucharistic Prayer A
Saturday, May 16, 2026, 5:15 p.m.

Opening Acclamation (BCP p. 355)

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Collect for Purity (BCP p. 355)

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.*

Opening Anthem (BCP p. 356)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day (BCP p. 226)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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 Reading:

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:6-14).

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They 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.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³When 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. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Sing to God, who rides upon the heavens. (Ps. 68:4)

- 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!**
- Sing to God, who rides upon the heavens. (Ps. 684)**

Second Reading:

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter (4:12-14, 5:6-11).

¹²Beloved, 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. ¹³But 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. ¹⁴If 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.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel:

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

(Glory to you, Lord Christ).

¹[Jesus] looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to

all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶“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. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for 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. ⁹I 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. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And 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.”

Sermon

The Rev. Canon Melinda M. Artman

The Nicene Creed (BCP p. 358)

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 (*from "Hear Our Prayer" pg. 59*)

Lord God who guides us and beckons us ever forward, hear now our prayers as we say, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Uphold and strengthen your church, reform what is amiss, bolster what is good, and keep us ever mindful of your charge to reflect your love for us into the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant wisdom and patience to those in authority in our lives, guide them to always put human life and wellness as their priority. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us courage to be engaged with, and working for, the welfare of our neighbors and the places we call home; help us to see more clearly how to be Christ to one another. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open our eyes to the challenges and opportunities in dealing with global issues; give us perseverance and urgency as we develop new and more sustainable ways of being. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the parents and Godparents of Holden and Cecilia Davenport, as they prepare to support these children in their life in Christ when they receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism next week. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Be present to all who suffer and all who serve them; bring your healing powers to bear and let them know peace and wholeness. Especially we lift up those who have sought our prayers, for Brenda, Hildegard, Brandon, Zach, Dawn, Bobby, Janice, Jason, Kelly, Kaitlyn, Denise, Bruce, Kristina, Debbie, Berry, Jake, Walt, and Kim. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up the prayers from our prayer wall.....for what else shall we pray? Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcome the dying, comfort the grieving, and let the hope of your promises be our consolation and inspiration. We remember especially Wanda, Wilma, Lela, Sallie, Ronald, Fred, and Kathryn. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Concluding Collect: Loving God, you have given us the example of Christ's life as the template for our own, and you have shown us, in his death and resurrection, the power of your promises to us. Be with us now and always as we strive to live in your kingdom every moment. All this we ask through our Lord and advocate, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(During the Great 40 Days of Easter the confession and absolution are omitted from this part of the service.)

The Peace (BCP p. 360)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda (BCP p. 361)

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.**

Proper Preface (BCP p. 361)

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 (BCP p. 362)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution (BCP p. 362)

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.*

The Lord's Prayer (BCP p. 364)

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

Fraction Anthem (BCP p. 364)

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

Invitation (BCP p. 364)

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Distribution (BCP p. 365)

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

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

Post-Communion Prayer (BCP p. 365)

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.**

Easter Blessing (*Book of Occasional Services p. 26*)

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 his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Dismissal (BCP p. 366)

The service is done, but our work continues. Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

From riteplanning.com.
Copyright © 2026 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.