

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
11:00 a.m., Sunday, May 10, 2026
The Episcopal Church of the Advent
Kennett Square, Pennsylvania



Welcome to the Church of the Advent! If you are a guest with us this morning, please know we are honored by your presence! We invite you to complete a guest card, which will allow us to remain in contact with you and provide you with additional information. You may place your completed card in the offering plate, or you may give it to our priest as you are leaving. On our website (www.adventks.org), you will find an up-to-date calendar of all church ministries and activities, and you may sign up to receive our weekly email. If you are interested in learning more about the Church of the Advent, the Episcopal Church, or the Christian faith, please contact our priest (Tim Johnson) at (610) 444-4624 or rector@adventks.org. **Again, welcome!**

Elementary Sunday School begins at 9:45 am, in the Children's Chapel.

Jr/Sr High Sunday School begins at 10:00 am, in the new Youth Room (St. Jude Room).

Adult Formation begins at 9:45 am, in the St. Nicholas Room. Our parish chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King will lead a workshop in developing a rule of life. Next Sunday, **May 17th**, our Renewal Works Team will present our completed strategic plan (all parishioners are encouraged to attend).

Midweek Eucharist on Thursday, May 14th (Feast of the Ascension), at 8:00 am in the chapel.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

*Variations on
All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Rebecca te Velde

OPENING HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful
#405 in **The Hymnal 1982** (the blue hymnal)

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA #S-280 in the front of **The Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal) Powell

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant & People

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 17:22-31

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."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:7-18

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 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.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

THE SECOND LESSON: 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand for the sequence hymn and the reading of the Gospel.)

SEQUENCE HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

#488, v. 1-2 in **The Hymnal 1982** (the blue hymnal)

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

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

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

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

SEQUENCE HYMN *Be Thou My Vision*
#488, v. 3 in **The Hymnal 1982** (the blue hymnal)

HOMILY

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

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

(Please kneel or be seated for the prayers of the people.)

THE PEACE

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

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION

(Eucharistic Prayer B from the Book of Common Prayer)

THE OFFERTORY SOLO *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*
Leon Spencer, Bass



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PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

(Please stand as you are able. Sung to hymn tune #400 in the Hymnal 1982 – the blue hymnal.)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere...
...sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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

(You may remain standing, kneel, or sit for the remainder of the prayer.)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love...
 ...Therefore according to his command, O Father:

**We remember his death; we proclaim his resurrection;
 we await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving...
 ...all honor and glory is your, 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. 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.
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Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us!
People **Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

COMMUNION HYMN *This is My Father's World*
 #651 in **The Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

The Spacious Firmament on High
 #409 in **The Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray

**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.

WE RETURN TO THE WORLD

THE EASTER BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

Come Down, O Love Divine
#516 in **The Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Come Down, O Love Divine

Douglas E. Wagner

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***The Altar Flowers today are sponsored by
Abby Carlino and Andrew Sarre in celebration of
their wedding on Friday, May 8, in our sanctuary.***

WORSHIP SUPPORT

Lector: Ellen Struble

Sub Deacon: Pete Peterson

Eucharistic Minister: Deb Peterson

Director of Music: Wilson G. Somers

Guest Organist: Dr. William Robinson