



Sunday May 14, 2023 –Confirmation Sunday

Processional **We plow the fields and scatter** **H291**

1. We plow the fields, and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand; he sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain, the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain: All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.

2. He only is the Maker of all things near and far; he paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star; the winds and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed; much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread. (Refrain)

3. We thank thee, then, O Father, for all things bright and good, the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food: the gifts we have to offer are what thy love imparts, but chiefly thou desirest our humble thankful hearts. (Refrain)

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen. **People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**
There is one Body and one Spirit; **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism; **One God and Father of all.**

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. S 277

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

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.**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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."

The Word of the Lord. **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.

A Reading from the First letter of 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.

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

Gospel Hymn

All creatures of our God and King

H400

*1. All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voices, let us sing: Alleluia, alleluia!
Bright burning sun with golden beams, pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

14:15-21

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Right Reverend Elizabeth Gardner

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Bishop: The Candidates will now be presented.

Presenter: I present these persons for Confirmation or to be received into this Communion.

Bishop: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil? Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidates: I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

Bishop: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ? **People We will.**

Bishop: Let us join with *those* who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

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.**

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Leader: Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

For Confirmation: Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him* for your service; and sustain *him* all the days of *his* life. **Amen.**

For Reception: *N.*, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Offertory Anthem

Prayer of St. Francis

Pote

The Epiphanyes

Offering Hymn

This little light of mine, O be careful little eyes

Epiphany Youth

The Holy Communion

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Pascal 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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.

S124

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from

evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, 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 to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. **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

S154

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ

died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn:

I come with joy

H304

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free, in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.

2. I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ's communion bread.

3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends. That love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends.

4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near, is in such friendship better known: we see, and praise him here.

5. Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways, and as his people in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

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.

The Blessing

Recessional

All things bright and beautiful

H405

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, he made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings. (Refrain)

2. The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky, (Refrain)

3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, he made them every one. (Refrain)

4. He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. (Refrain)

Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia

Calendar		
Monday	6:30 PM	Al-Anon – Support for those affected by the disease of addiction
Tuesday	9 AM	Tuesday Tune-up – Scripture reflections from our clergy on Facebook and YouTube
Wednesday	10:45 AM	Alzheimer’s / Dementia Support Group at St. Timothy’s – Contact Gary Hails at 702-884-7050
Thursday	6:30 PM	Centering Prayer (<i>Zoom – an oasis of quiet contemplation done together with time for silent reflection</i>) Contact lauracanon@yahoo.com
Friday	10 AM	Morning Prayer (<i>live in our chapel– led by Daughters of the King</i>)
	10:30 AM	Alzheimer’s / Dementia Support Group starting June 19 at Epiphany. Contact Gary Hails 702-884-7050
Sunday	8 AM	Holy Eucharist (Live – spoken, contemplative)
	9 AM	Faith Matters (Live and Facebook)
	9:45 AM	Church School for youth, nursery care is available as well
	10 AM	Holy Eucharist (Live and livestream) A lively, family friendly service with music

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Painting at Epiphany May 14 at 2:30 pm

Fun for all ages and all skill levels (or no skill)

Al-Anon Every Monday

Al-Anon is a group of friends and families affected by the disease of addiction. Any in need of this wonderful program is encouraged to attend.

Alzheimer/Dementia Support Group June 19

We recognize a need for a second Alzheimer’s / Dementia support group. This is open to caregivers and care receivers Beginning June 19 at 10:30 am to 12 pm at Epiphany. If you are in need or know anyone in need of the love, support and help this group offers please call or have them call Gary Hails at 702-884-7050

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are Needed to assist with the Alzheimer/Dementia Support Group. This is a rewarding ministry that has or will touch many of us or our loved ones. See Gary Hails (702-884-7050) Fr, Rick or Fr Peter for details.

Friends in the Desert

Friends in the Desert is in need of men's Denim Jeans (may be used but clean), 8 ounce Styrofoam cups, and Men's Shorts (outer shorts – Again used but clean is good so if you are getting new shorts consider giving the used shorts to the homeless.) Any questions contact Gary Hails 702-884-7050. Thank you for your support.

Refugee Resettlement Needs

Won't you help with our newest Outreach Program? Each month Epiphany will have a bin for Refugee Resettlement items. May needs are Shampoo, toothbrushes, tooth paste, deodorant (\$ store items)! See Betty-Jeanne and Kristen for more details or Questions

St. Jude's Ranch Collection

For April, St Jude's is collecting baby things. Some new babies have arrived on campus so diapers, nursery items, wipes. etc.



*Our mission is to create and nurture disciples to share our journey to know and to love
Jesus Christ*

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