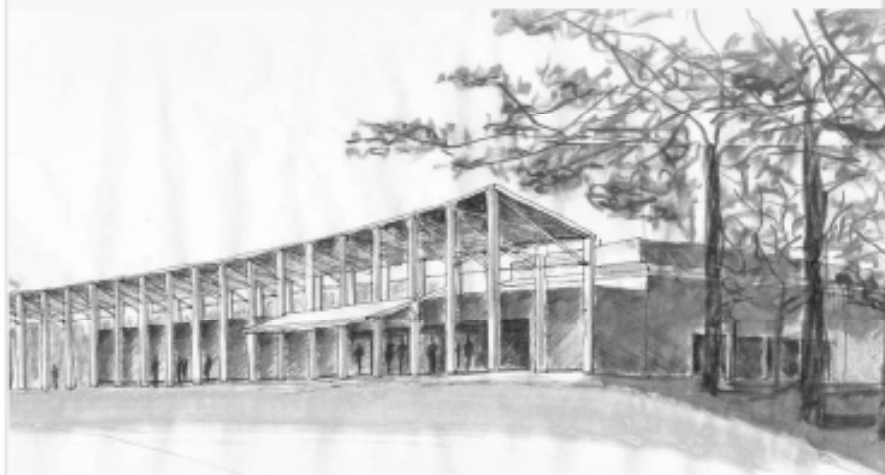


✠ St. Nicholas Church

A member of the Anglican Communion



Welcome

*The Love of Christ
Changing Lives*

April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter

PENTECOST

Christ was crucified, rose again, spent forty days with his Disciples, and then ascended to heaven. Pentecost immediately followed, 50 days after Easter Sunday.

Believed to be the oldest feast in the Church, Pentecost dates back to the first century A.D. The Feast of Pentecost coincided with the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which occurs 50 days after the Passover (Deuteronomy 16:10). According to Jewish tradition, the Ten Commandments were given to Moses 50 days after the first Passover, which freed the Hebrews from their bondage in Egypt. As the Hebrews settled into Canaan, the feast became a time to honor the Lord for blessing the fruits of their labors. At the time of Jesus, the festival focused on rabbinical law and traditions. Since this Jewish holiday took place at the same time of the Pentecost, many Jewish Christians appropriated its celebration into their Christian commemoration of the coming of the Spirit.

According to the book of Acts, the Church came into being on the day of Pentecost. As 120 worshipers, including the Disciples, were fasting and praying in an upper room in Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit descended upon them in a violent rushing wind that was heard throughout the city. Small flames of fire rested upon their heads, and they began to speak in other languages. As crowds came to investigate the commotion, the Apostle Peter spoke to them about Jesus and exhorted them to repent. From the crowd of Jews and converts, 3,000 realized the truth of his words and became followers of Jesus. The church of Jesus is born! The book of Acts tells the story!

ASCENSION DAY

Ascension Day, also known as the Feast of Ascension, occurs on the Thursday 40 days after Easter, commemorates the ascension of Christ into Heaven.

According to the accounts in the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus appeared to many of his disciples during the 40 days following his resurrection. On the 40th day, he came again to the Apostles and led them out to the Mount of Olives where he instructed them to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Holy Spirit. Then, as they were watching, he ascended into clouds. As they continued to watch, two angels appeared and declared to them that, just as he ascended, Jesus would return in glory.

According to Augustine of Hippo, one of the early church fathers, the Feast of Ascension originated with the Apostles. John Chrysostom and Gregory of Nyssa, contemporaries of Augustine, refer to it as being one of the oldest feasts practiced by the Church, possibly going as far back as 68 AD. There is no written evidence, however, of the Church honoring Ascension Day until Augustine's time in the fourth century.

For many Christians, Ascension Day's meaning provides a sense of hope that the glorious and triumphant return of Christ is near. It is a reminder of the Kingdom of God within their hearts and of the ever-present Spirit of God watching over and protecting them as they spread the light of Jesus' truth throughout the world.

ONE HOLY CATHOLIC & APOSTOLIC CHURCH

One holy catholic and apostolic church...

As far as we know, Ignatius of Antioch was the first person to use the word catholic in relation to the church. In his letter to the Smyrnaeans, written around A.D. 112, he wrote, "Where Jesus Christ is, there is the universal church." Early Christian writers believed in the catholic church—that Christians everywhere trusted in one God, confessed one faith, received one baptism, and shared one mission. In that sense, catholic meant "real" or "authentic."

From the third century on, the word became synonymous with orthodoxy. Thus, "the catholic church" was in contrast to heretics and schismatics. By the middle of the fourth century, the word came to mean more than authentic and orthodox. It was also used to connote the church's extensive reach to every land and every class of people. So from the early church until the modern period, the word catholic has been used to distinguish the church from that which is irregular or erroneous, much like conservative American Christians use evangelical in opposition to cult.

While the term catholic never appears in the Bible, the ideas behind it are found throughout Scripture. For example, Paul says in Galatians that anyone—no matter who they are, where they live, or what time period they live in—can have a relationship with God, so long as they have faith in Christ. And in Ephesians, Paul practically gives a theological treatise on the universal nature of the church: "This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus" (3:6). According to Scripture, the church is a universal entity, and anyone can be a part of it.

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER (BCP)

St. Nicholas is a liturgical church. We use the Anglican Book of Common Prayer in our gatherings of worship. The Anglican Book of Common Prayer is a collection of ancient and modern prayers and worship services for occasions when the church community gathers. The use of a printed liturgy gives opportunity for all members to participate in worship. Scripture is the foundation of the Anglican Book of Common Prayer. Two-thirds of the Anglican Book of Common Prayer comes directly from the Old and New Testaments. The Anglican Book of Common Prayer is not meant to eliminate spontaneity or personal prayers. Every service in the book has opportunities for personal prayers and thanksgivings. The Anglican book of Common Prayer is also a great guide for personal devotions.

STANDING OR KNEELING

It has been a customary posture since worship in the temple of David that the people either stand or kneel during times of prayer, worship, and during the words the priest speaks over the bread and wine before receiving Communion. It is also fitting to receive the bread and wine either standing or kneeling.

THE PEACE

The Peace is the exchange of the Peace of Christ. It follows immediately after the confession of sin and the absolution. It is fitting that this physical symbol of love, an embrace or a handshake, be given to express the peace of Christ received after confessing our sins to the Lord and receiving His forgiveness. The Peace is not merely to be a visiting time among the members. It is an outward and visible sign of Christ's love and peace given to one another.

Bold Type indicates words people are encouraged to speak.

✠ PRELUDE

✠ PROCESSIONAL SONG

stand

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

1. The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord
She is His new creation
By water and the Word
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died

2. Elect from every nation
Yet one o'er all the earth
Her charter of salvation
One Lord one faith one birth
One holy name she blesses
Partakes one holy food
And to one hope she presses
With every grace endued

3. Though with a scornful wonder
Men see her sore oppressed
By schisms rent asunder
By heresies distressed
Yet saints their watch are keeping
Their cry goes up how long
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song

✠ *Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

✠ *Celebrant* Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✠ COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), Pg. 222

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

✠ THE LESSONS

sit

Acts 4:32-35

Layreader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

1John 1:1-2:2

Layreader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SPEAK O LORD

1. Speak O Lord as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy word
Take Your truth plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory

2. Teach us Lord full obedience
Holy reverence true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise
Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of power that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

✠ THE HOLY GOSPEL

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

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

John 20:19-31

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

✠ GOSPEL SONG, CONTINUED

Speak O Lord and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
Speak O Lord till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory

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✠ SERMON

CAROL HOBSON, DEACON

✠ THE NICENE CREED

stand

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 - FORM VI

BCP, Pg. 392

After the silence people are encouraged to offer prayers.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

(Silence then audible prayers)

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

(Silence then audible prayers)

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

(Silence then audible prayers)

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble,

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy. Especially those we name...

(Silence then audible prayers)

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

(Silence then audible prayers)

For the Anglican Primates and our presiding bishop Michael, our bishop George, our priest Mark, our guest priest Charles, our guest deacon, Carol, and for all other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

(Silence then audible prayers)

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own prayers.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

✠ CONFESSION OF SIN

stand or kneel

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

✠ THE PEACE

stand

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ BIRTHDAY & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS

Heavenly Father, bless your children that they may grow in grace as they grow in years, and lead them to know you, to love you, and to serve you all the days of their lives. Amen.

PRAYER FOR WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and His Church. Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

✠ OFFERTORY MUSIC- INSTRUMENTAL

✠ PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

stand

CELEBRANT: ALL THINGS COME OF THEE OH LORD

PEOPLE: **AND OF THINE OWN HAVE WE GIVEN THEE.**

✠ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER A

BCP, Pg. 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.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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

Celebrant continues

stand or kneel

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 pray,
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.

✠ THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

✠ PRESENTATION OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him on your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

BREAD/HOST

On Saturdays from 5:00pm-6:00pm, Fr. Mark will be in front of the church building with hosts that have been blessed on the previous Sunday to distribute in individual plastic bags. On Sundays at 11:00am as you enter you will receive a Host in a plastic bag.

On Sunday morning at 11:00am, during the Facebook Live service, and in church for those attending, we will all consume the bread at the appointed time in the worship service.

The appointed time is after the Presentation of the Bread and Wine and before the singing of the first Communion Song.

✠ MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

You Are My King (Amazing Love)

1. I'm forgiven
Because You were forsaken
I'm accepted
You were condemned
I'm alive and well
Your Spirit is within me
Because You died
And rose again

(Chorus) Amazing love
How can it be
That You my King
Would die for me
Amazing love
I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You

You are my King
You are my King
Jesus You are my King
Jesus You are my King

✠ AT THE CLOSE OF COMMUNION

stand

BECAUSE HE LIVES

1. I believe in the Son, I believe in the Risen One
I believe I overcome by the power of His blood

(Chorus) Amen , Amen , I'm alive, I'm Alive
Because He lives
Amen , Amen , let my song join the One that never ends
Because He lives

2. I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away

(Chorus)

(Bridge) Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives every fear is gone
I know He holds my life
my future in His hands

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✠ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP pg 365

Celebrant 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.

✠ THE FINAL BLESSING

“Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong” (1 Corinthians 16:13). Let everything you do be done in love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you today and forever. **Amen.**

✠ CLOSING SONG

10,000 REASONS

(Chorus) Bless the Lord O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

1. The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

2. You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

3. And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

CCLI Song # 3798438 Beth Redman | Matt Redman © 2002 Thankyou Music

✠ THE DISMISSAL

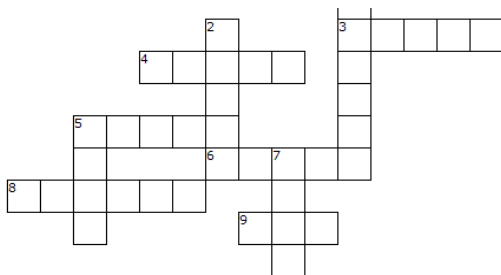
Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Believe It or Not!

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)



C
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D

ACROSS

3. To be in a state of pleasure, satisfaction, joy or delight
4. Free from conflict; getting along with others; opposite of war
5. To be undecided or unbelieving that something is true
6. The body parts at the end of the arms
8. Not open
9. To break God's law

DOWN

1. The disciple who would not believe without seeing
2. To believe in something for which there is no proof
5. An entrance into a building or room
7. A thin piece of metal with one pointed end and one flat end which you hit with a hammer

PEACE	DOOR	HANDS	FAITH	HAPPY
NAIL	THOMAS	CLOSED	SIN	DOUBT

S
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H

Y J M N P S M B J D J Y D J S
C X I T A T F M L H O Y W A X
W X R K N Y G X P O F O M E D
X M A D V Y G E A X C O R E H
R X C C J V D R L X H K V S A
T L L U V E D A E T N E E D M
T K E S H E H I R C I N S D S
O X S C W B A S S L O C Y N T
G R U O L K N Z E C L R G D N
E O H D Q Z D B H J I I D E P
T S I U J J S A S R S P F E Z
H N T F E K D P I A M I L B D
E T W U S N K D D U L G E E E
R S R N U K P S E S L V H N S
R P T V S V D O U B T I N G B

JESUS	TOGETHER	DOUBTING	RECORDED
MIRACLES	SIGNS	SHOWED	BELIEVED
DOORS	LIFE	HANDS	DISCIPLES
TOUCHED	THOMAS	SIDE	LOCKED

On the Sunday that Jesus rose from the grave, he appeared to a group of his disciples. One of the disciples, whose name was Thomas, was not with them. When the disciples told Thomas that they had seen Jesus and that he was alive, Thomas said, "I won't believe it until I see it with my own eyes."

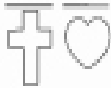
A week later, Thomas saw Jesus. Jesus invited Thomas to touch his hands where the nails had been. He told Thomas to put his hand in the wound in his side. Then Thomas believed! Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

You and I have never seen Jesus, we have to accept him by faith.

Dear Jesus, help us to accept by faith that you have risen from the grave and that you are alive. Amen.

Match the letters to the pictures. Then, write the letters on the lines to complete the words and find out what Jesus wants us to do.

HAVE F _ _ T H



AND

B _ L _ _ V _



IN HIM.

A	E	I

Match

It

Complete the dot-to-dot to see the man Jesus is talking with.



Dot
to

Our Bible says, "Thomas said to Jesus, 'My Lord and my God!'" (John 20:28.) We can be glad that Jesus is alive, too. We can tell others the good news.

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972-318-7070

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Matt Stroud, Youth Minister
Debby Swackhamer, Children's Ministry Director
Joyce Neth, Pastoral Care Minister
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