



Sixth Sunday of Easter May 10, 2026

**Rejoice
in Christ the
Victor**

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Libby Pender
in loving memory of her beloved son, John Salem.*

ST. JOHN'S CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Ripp Hardaway, Rector *on sabbatical*
The Rev. Matthew Bloss, Associate Priest
Riva Heron, Seminarian
Jenny Montgomery, Executive Assistant to the Rector
Desiree Moultrie, Director of Finance & Operations
Grace Symmons, Director of Communications
Valerie Thompson, Director of Music & Organist
Ben Sykora, AV Tech Lead

Kelly Jackson, Family Ministry & Parish Life
Emily Lehmuth, Children's & Nursery Ministries
Lauren Koops, Assistant Youth Minister
Cade Norman, Youth Intern
Mishi Turlapati, Youth Intern
Art Gonzales, Sexton
James Bangert, Assistant Sexton

WORSHIP MINISTERS

8:45 a.m. Service
Collin & Ashley Rodriguez, Jacob Meier
Altar Guild Val Felger, Alice Jewell
Greeters Marianne Harkrider, Glenn Ross
Eucharistic Ministers Becky Huff, Tracey Koast
Ushers Kathy Simmons, Will Brown
Flower Guild Ann Amoroso
Children's Chapel

11 a.m. Service
Nate, Ethan, & Zeke Eckmann-Rivera
Marie Fedrick, Veronica Crolley
Jack & Lynn Jones
Paul Anthony, Kay Geurin
Ram Meredith, Jeffrey Bloss
Ann Amoroso
Emily Lehmuth, Volunteer Crucifer

PRELUDE | All Those Living Are but Mortal (tune: *Salzburg*) – Johann Pachelbel
Lord God, We All to Thee Give Praise (tune: *Old Hundredth*) – Johann Pachelbel

OPENING HYMN | I Sing the Almighty Power of God Hymn 398

EASTER ACCLAMATION BCP p. 355

Celebrant ALLELUIA! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. ALLELUIA!**

COLLECT FOR PURITY BCP p. 355

Together 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.**

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL (*11 a.m. service*)

Preschool - 3rd graders are invited to follow the Child Crucifer to Children's Chapel during the Gloria.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS | Glory to God – Robert Powell Hymn S 280

**Hymn numbers beginning with an S indicate Service Music, found at the front of The Hymnal 1982*

COLLECT BCP p. 225

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN | Come Down, O Love Divine (v 1-2)

Hymn 516

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

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

People **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.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Ben Nelson

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

written by The Rev. Matthew Bloss

Good people of God, let this day be a reminder to us all that sin, death, and evil have been overthrown and put to flight. Our ancient enemy holds no authority here any longer, for God has won the battle, and offered his victory, freely, to us all. Let us pray then, in celebration, for the ongoing triumph of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Almighty God, we pray for your church, for all the communities of Christians spread across the earth. Inspire us all by your glorious resurrection, give your church the courage and conviction to overthrow the remaining vestiges of sin and evil and invite all of humanity to rest in the joy of your kingdom.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray also for the United States of America, and for all her people. Let us all marvel together at the triumph of Jesus. Let his victory over sin and death be the catalyst for us to put away the enmity and bitterness that divide us from each other. Let the love that inspired your son's saving acts inspire us to act with charity and grace toward all the people of this land.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And we pray not only for our nation, but for the whole world. That your hard-won peace over the greatest of evils would take root in this and every land. Help us to no longer look towards human strength or violence to keep peace between your children. Show us instead, your cross and resurrection. Let your peace become our peace.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray especially for this community of New Braunfels, and all the communities that the people of St. John's call home. Though your victory was won on behalf of the whole world, help us never forget to share that victory first and foremost with those closest to us.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Keep us mindful, dear Lord, that evil was not willingly overthrown by your Son, and that elements of pain, fear, and deceit still linger upon the earth. Give us the will and the determination to bring health, peace, and truth to all who are in any need or trouble. Let your resurrection victory be the light O Lord, even in the darkest of nights.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And lastly Lord, we pray for those whose mortal strife is over, and who rest in peace with your Son. Help us remember and give thanks, that the sting of death is no more, that even though the body may die, the soul is preserved until that blessed day when the last traces of evil are overcome, and death itself will be no more.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Celebrant Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP p. 376

Celebrant Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

The plate offering collected today will support the Honduras Mission Team and their upcoming ministry work.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM | Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring – Johann Sebastian Bach

Worship Choir

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, Holy wisdom, Love most bright,

Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, Soar to uncreated light.

Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, With the fire of life impassioned.

Striving still to Truth unknown, Soaring, dying round Thy throne.

EASTER DOXOLOGY | Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (tune: *Lasst uns Erfreuen*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A; 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 God 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.

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:

**Hymn numbers beginning with an S indicate Service Music, found at the front of The Hymnal 1982*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 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.*

(The people 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 forever and ever. Amen.

**Hymn numbers beginning with an S indicate Service Music, found at the front of The Hymnal 1982*

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
 Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
 Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
 Give us your peace, give us your peace.*

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

BCP p. 365

*All baptized Christian persons are welcome to receive communion at this the Lord's Table. To receive Communion, place one hand over with palms facing upward. To receive the wine, hold the chalice on the bottom and sip, or intinct - dip the bread into the wine. *Parents of small children, please help them when they intinct; try to ensure that only the bread is dipped and not tiny fingers. To receive communion from your seat please notify an usher, if you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know during communion.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

This Is the Hour of Banquet and of Song

Hymn 316

In the Quiet Consecration (For the Bread Which You Have Broken) – Louie L. White

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP p. 365

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.

SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITOR(S)

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that [N. and] all those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

All We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

THE BLESSING

Let us all take heart! The battle is over. The victory is won. And though the victory was won by God alone, it is not for God alone. It is for each and every one of us. So let God's victory, be our victory. Let God's peace, be our peace. And may the blessing of God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you, and inspire you all the days of your life.

CLOSING HYMN | O Jesus, Crowned with All Renown

Hymn 292

THE DISMISSAL

BCP p. 366

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

People Thanks be to God. ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

POSTLUDE | Toccata in E Minor – Johann Pachelbel

Valerie Thompson, Organist

St. John's Worship Choir is a dedicated group of volunteer singers who serve our church with their time and talents. We thank these members for a year of leading our worship on Sundays and Holy Days, as well as our cantata and requiem:

George Allen, Anne Denison, Alan Hanks, Becky Luft, Denise Marshall, Carrie Martin, Erica Mason, Jean McLane, Sue McLane, Susan Morgan, Jaime Pruna, Bill Reeves, Atlas Thompson, Vickie Varteressian, Fran Velich, Linda Williams, Jeannette Yue, Sing Yue

Worship Choir always welcomes new members – no experience necessary.
Please contact Valerie if you are interested.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



- visitor connection card
- event info and sign ups
- latest eNews
- worship bulletin PDF
- ...and more!

All Things New: Summer Worship Series | Saturdays at 4 p.m. beginning May 30 | Sanctuary

This summer, St. John's is offering a new opportunity for worship with a Saturday evening Eucharist with music led by our new Worship Team. The service will be equivalent to Sunday worship, with a formation hour beforehand in the Parish Hall. Come check it out as we continue exploring new ways to make more room at the table!

Office Angel Ministry at St. John's

St. John's is launching a new Office Angel Ministry to support the growing needs of our church office. Volunteers are needed to serve a couple of hours each week answering phones, greeting visitors, and assisting with light office tasks. Training is provided, and no experience is required. If you're interested in serving, please contact Rachel Brown at rachelbbrown63@gmail.com or 678-549-1975.

Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, May 13 at 11 a.m. | Gristmill Restaurant

Join us for the final Lunch Bunch gathering of the Spring! Come enjoy good food and great company as we wrap up the season together. For more information, contact Sarah Hawkins at (541) 999-9257 or sdf4angels@gmail.com.

Men of St. John's at Sip-N-Putt | Thursday, May 14 at 8 p.m. | 7420 I-35 N Frontage Rd, New Braunfels

Join the Men of St. John's for a round of mini golf and fellowship at Sip-N-Putt. Cost is \$15 per person. RSVP in Church Center if you plan to attend. While this is a Men of St. John's gathering, women & families are welcome to join.

Bingo and Recipe Swap | May 17 at 12:15 PM | Parish Hall *More details and RSVP in the Church Center app.*

Women of St. John's are invited for an afternoon of Bingo and a recipe swap. Bring a favorite dish and copies of the recipe to share as we taste, connect, and play together. Not a cook? A favorite grocery store find works too.

Upcoming Baptism Date: Pentecost Sunday (May 24) *Contact Jenny (jenny@stjohnsnb.com) if you are interested.*

Wear Red, Orange, or Yellow on Pentecost | Sunday, May 24

On Pentecost Sunday, you're invited to wear red, orange, or yellow to worship as a visual reminder of the flames of the Holy Spirit poured out on the first believers, celebrating the birth and ongoing life of the Church.

Ordination of Dr. Riva Heron to the Sacred Order of Deacons

Thursday, May 28 at 6 p.m. | All Saints Chapel, TMI Episcopal (San Antonio)

You are invited to join the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas for the ordination of Dr. Riva Heron to the Sacred Order of Deacons, ordained by The Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read. The service will be held at All Saints Chapel at TMI Episcopal, hosted by Grace Episcopal Church, with a reception to follow.

Potluck & Foster Care Fair | Sunday, May 31 | Potluck at 10 a.m. in Parish Hall, Fair before and after on front lawn

May is Foster Care Awareness Month, and St. John's is launching a new Foster Ministry. Join us for a parish potluck and Foster Care Fair featuring local organizations serving children and families in foster care here in New Braunfels. Representatives will have tables on the front lawn before and after the potluck and briefly share during the meal about ways to support children in care. Please bring a dish large enough to feed your family based on your last name: A-F dessert, G-L main dish, M-R drinks, S-Z side dish.

Camp Outreach for Rising Pre-K through Rising 5th Graders | June 1 - 4 *Registration is open in Church Center!*

Camp Outreach is St. John's annual summer program that combines hands-on service with meaningful fellowship. Children take part in creating projects that bless our local community, while youth serve in leadership roles and help guide the week. It's a fun, purposeful way for kids and students to grow in faith while making a real impact.

Beauty from Ashes 5K Run & Walk | Saturday, June 6 at 7:30 a.m. | Landa Park Founders' Oak

Support local widows through Beauty from Ashes, a nonprofit helping women navigate grief and life after loss. Join us for the third annual 5K Run & Walk and register on St. John's team to save \$5. Register at beautyfromashesministry.com.