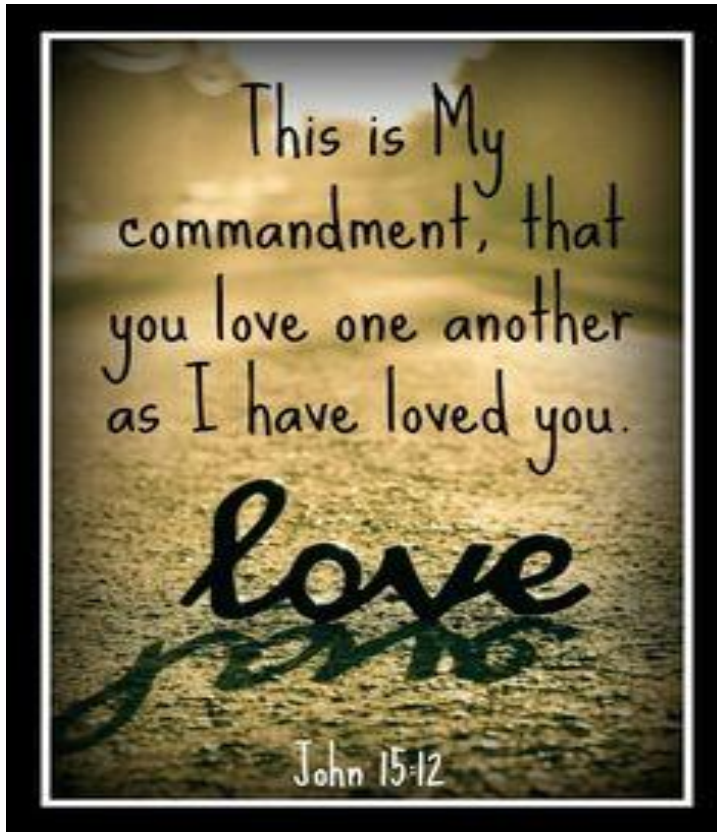


# The Sixth Sunday of Easter

## May 6, 2018



<http://www.heraldmalaysia.com/news/this-is-my-commandment-love-one-another/23472/11>

10:00 AM  
Christ Episcopal Church  
Montpelier, VT

Christ Church is a Christian faith community that welcomes all, worships together, transforms lives, and engages in God's work in greater Montpelier and beyond.

## **The Holy Eucharist – Rite II – 10:00 am**

*Worship in the Episcopal Church involves body mind and spirit. We stand to praise and pray. We sit to listen and learn. We sometimes kneel in silent meditation. No matter which prayer posture you choose, we want you to feel comfortable in your own style of worship here at Christ Episcopal Church.*

Prelude: “*Concerto*”

Blamr, arr. Walther

Processional Hymn: #409, “*The spacious firmament*”

Words from the 1833 prayer book and hymnal

Salutation and response

BCP 355

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

Collect for Purity

**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 - See pew card

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

BCP 225

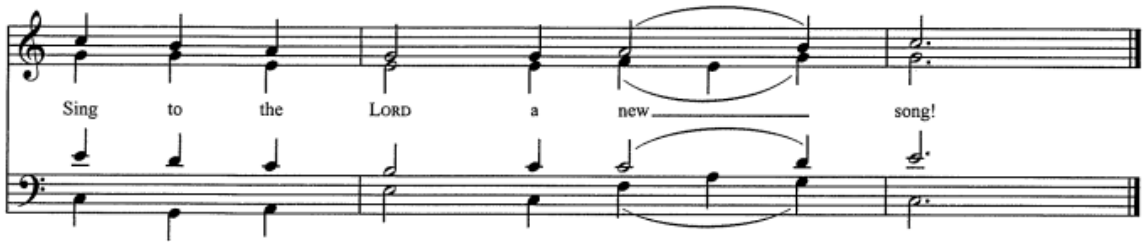
O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **The Word of God**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

10:44-48



Sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm  
has he won for himself the victory.

Antiphon

The LORD has made known his victory;  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Antiphon

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

Antiphon

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,  
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world  
and the peoples with equity.

Antiphon

A reading from the 1<sup>st</sup> Letter of John

5:1-6

Sequence Hymn #577, "God is love"

Verses 1&2

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

15:9-17

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sequence Hymn #577, "God is love"

Verse 3

Sermon

Rev. Bob Meyers

### **South African Affirmation of Faith**

It is not true that this world and its inhabitants are doomed to die and be lost;

**This is true: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him shall not die but have everlasting life.** (John 3:16)

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction;

**This is true; I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.** (John 10:10)

It is not true that violence and hatred shall have the last word, and that war and destruction have come to stay forever;

**This is true; For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given in whom authority will rest and whose name will be Prince of Peace.** (Isaiah 9:6)

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil that seek to rule the world;

**This is true: To Me is given all authority in Heaven and on Earth, and lo, I am with you always to the end of the world.** (Matthew 28:18)

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the church, before we can do anything;

**This is true: I will pour out My Spirit on all people, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young people shall see visions, and your old folk shall dream dreams.** (Acts 2:17)

It is not true that our dreams for the liberation of humankind, our dreams of justice, of human dignity, of peace, are not meant for this earth and this history;

**This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that true worshippers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.** (John 4:23)

Prayers of the People – *A short pause is given after each prayer for you to offer your own prayer either silently or aloud.*

Let us pray for the church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks O Lord, for the safe arrival of Ivy to Eric and Stephanie Kucinskas and her big sister Tess.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit: give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Today we pray for: Ernest, Charlotte, Mary Helen, Evan, Maria, Mary Irish, Dodge, Janet, Debbie Sabens, Craig, Tom and for those whom you wish to name either silently or aloud.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For those who rest in Christ, for all the dead, and for those persons you wish to remember either silently or aloud.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

And in conclusion, let us together pray the prayer to end homelessness.

**An open door,  
A roof above,  
Safe homes for all,  
In the power of love.**

The Concluding Collect

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*We encourage you to offer your neighbor a sign of peace!*



## **The Holy Communion**

*All are welcome to receive communion at our Lord's table!*

*In addition to traditional consecrated bread and wine,  
consecrated gluten free hosts and grape juice are available upon request.*

The Offertory

Offertory Anthem: "Awake thou wintry earth"

J.S Bach

Doxology – See pew card

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 369

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 God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us.**

**By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus – See pew card

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Mothers and Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world

about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem – See pew card

Distribution of Communion

Communion Anthem: “Acadia”

Megan Henderson

Communion Hymn: “*Standing in the need of prayer*” (see insert)

The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 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.**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: #493, “*O for a thousand tongues to sing*”

The Dismissal

Organ Postlude : “*Allegro*”

Giuglio Taglietti, arr. Walther

**Welcome!**

*Thank you for worshipping with us today!*

*Sarah Baker is the Lay Eucharistic Minister this morning.*

*Our Lectors this morning are Jody Pettersen and Frank Shiner.*

*Christ Episcopal Church's team of preachers reflects a variety of styles by bringing the Word of God to life in unique and relevant ways.*



*Your direct feedback is always welcomed and appreciated.*

## **Christ Church Staff and Leadership**

Paul Habersang, *Priest-in-Partnership*

Beth Ann Maier, *Regional Deacon*

Lynnette Combs, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Bruce Story, *Senior Warden*

Ted Long, *Junior Warden*

Denise Womer, *Youth and Families Director*

Kathy Preis, *Administrator*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**5/6/2018 ALL PARISH MEETING:** There will be an all-Parish meeting TODAY immediately after church to provide an update on our planned housing development, and to provide information on the range of issues involving the hotel and parking garage planned by the Capitol Plaza behind our building.

Although this is all a work in progress, we felt it important to update everyone. It is particularly important since the Montpelier Design Review Board will likely be completing its process for the hotel and parking garage at a meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>!

We want you to know that the Housing Committee and the Vestry have been paying close attention to all of these issues. We are making sure that the hotel construction project will not negatively impact the current building and parking, but also will not prevent us from moving forward with our housing project, should we decide to proceed with that effort over the next two years. We look forward to seeing you in the Parish Hall immediately after church on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Steve Dale & Shawn Bryan

**Finance Committee:** There will be a meeting of the Finance Committee on Monday, May 7, 2018 at 6:30PM in the administrative offices.

**Worship Committee:** There will be a meeting of the Worship Committee on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 6:30PM in the administrative offices.

### **Celebrating 150 Years in Montpelier Christ Episcopal Church Celebratory Weekend of Scheduled Events June 1-3, 2018**

All events are free and open to the public!

Friday, June 1, 2018, 7:30PM.

Jennifer Bower, Organ Recital

Jennifer is the 2018 artist of the year for the Vermont Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Saturday, June 2, 2018, 5:00-7:00PM.

Celebratory Community Dinner – All Are Welcome!

Sponsored by Youth & Family Ministry of Christ Episcopal Church

Saturday, June 2, 2018, 7:30PM.

*“The Vermont Civil War Songbook”*

Featuring Linda Radtke & Arthur Zorn

Singer and researcher Linda Radtke, dressed in period costume and joined by pianist Arthur Zorn, shares songs popular in Vermont during the Civil War as well as letters from Vermonters from the era. Linda will also integrate the history of Christ Church into the program. This program is made possible by the Vermont Humanities Council.

Sunday, June 3, 2018, 10:00AM.

Festive & Celebratory Service of Holy Eucharist with full choir and special instrumentalists.

Ice Cream Social Reception and burial of a time capsule will take place immediately following the service.

**Friends of Christ Church?** Do you know someone who may have been part of our community but has moved away? Do you think they would like to receive an invitation to our celebrations? If so, please send us their names and addresses and we will send them a formal invitation. Please send us this information to the church office via email at: [administrator@christchurchvt.org](mailto:administrator@christchurchvt.org) Thank you!

**Memorial Service for Ida Lange:** Ida’s memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 1:00PM followed by a pot luck luncheon in the Parish Hall. Please join us to give thanks to God for the life and ministry of Ida.

### **Youth & Family Ministry Coming Events**

**Time Capsule!** Again, as we celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> year in Christ Church, the Youth & Family Ministry is preparing to bury a time capsule on the morning of June 3, 2018 when we will officially celebrate our sesquicentennial anniversary. If you have suggestions as to what might be included in this time capsule, please see Denise Womer, Director of Youth & Family Ministry at Christ Church.

### **Other Ministry News, Social Justice Initiatives and Community Events**

**Washington County Youth Service Bureau:** Do you have space in your home and heart to house a teen in need? We are seeking host homes for teens who are experiencing stressful times with their families. Host homes will typically house a youth one or two times per year for no more than two weeks at a time, often limited to a few nights only. We provide a \$30/night stipend and the universe provides the good karma that can impact our world in a positive way! Contact Melaine @ WCYSB at 802-229-9151.

**“Blessed Be” Montpelier Community Gospel Choir:** Joined by guest artist Lloyd Dugger, the Montpelier Community Gospel Choir (MCGC) will perform a benefit concert today at Bethany United Church of Christ in Montpelier. The concert begins at 7:00PM, with admission by suggested donation of \$10 per person or \$25 for families. For more information, call (802) 778-0881 or visit via Facebook or at [www.vtgospel.com](http://www.vtgospel.com)

**Racial Justice Series:** Next Sunday, May 13, 2018 as part of our series on racial justice, our own Allen Gilbert, former head of the ACLU in Vermont, will speak about his faith and how it intersects with his work for social justice, especially as it pertains to racial profiling in Vermont. This will be followed by a film and discussion about racial justice presented by the Social Justice Committee on Tuesday, May 15 at 6:00PM.

**Poor People's Campaign:** When Martin Luther King was assassinated in Memphis 50 years ago, he was working on the Poor People's Campaign, an effort to link racial justice work and economic justice work as the next phase of the civil rights movement. A new Poor People's Campaign is emerging. On Mother's Day, the Campaign kicks off 40 days of moral action to challenge systemic poverty, racism and ecologic devastation in our country. Moral direct actions are planned during the 40 days. A training for these actions will be held on Sunday, May 13, 2018 at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Barre. For more information, see <http://www.poorpeoplescampaignvt.org>

### **Christ Church Connections (CCC)**

Christ Church Connections is a ministry of mutual caring within this faith community. We promote connections by helping members in health or other challenging personal situations; e.g., through visits, meals, cards, prayers, errands, home Eucharist. For the month of May, if your family or someone you know could use a visit or other kind of support, please contact Kate Montross. Kate may be reached via phone at: 802-272-6434 or via email: [ktandme@gmail.com](mailto:ktandme@gmail.com)

## **The Missions & Ministries of Christ Episcopal Church, Montpelier**

<b>Altar Guild</b>	Liz Slayton (802-229-0164)
<b>Choir/Music</b>	Lynnette Combs (802-371-5066)
<b>Christ Church Connections</b>	Rev. Beth Ann Maier (802-793-4234)
<b>Communications Team</b>	Kathy Preis (802-522-8219)
<b>Diocesan Representatives</b>	Maggie Thompson (802-454-4635) Deb Barnwell (802-476-7859)
<b>Discretionary Fund for Community Outreach</b>	Virginia Catone (802-229-9898)
<b>Fellowship Ministry</b>	Stephen Dale (802-229-4686)
<b>Finance Committee</b>	John Jaworski (802-476-4942)
<b>Food Shelf</b>	Sharon Wilson (802-244-8037)
<b>Full Ladle Soup Kitchen</b>	Sharon Wilson (802-244-8037)
<b>Hospitality Committee</b>	Aldora Chamberlin (802-461-5527)
<b>Lay Eucharistic Ministers/Chalice Bearers/Lectors</b>	Steamer Walke (802-223-3632)
<b>Prayer Chain</b>	Rev. Beth Ann Maier (802-793-4234)
<b>Prayer Shawl Ministry</b>	Maggie Thompson (802-454-4635) Rilla Murray (802-272-2663)
<b>Social Justice Committee</b>	Marty Roberts –(802-223-5506)
<b>Stewardship Committee</b>	Bruce Story (802-225-6343)
<b>Sudan Communion</b>	Deb Jerard (802-223-0531) Martha Holden 802-229-9036)
<b>Youth and Families Ministry</b>	Denise Womer (603-545-9488)
<b>Vestry (elected leadership team)</b>	Bruce Story (802-225-6343)
<b>Usher/Greeter Ministry</b>	Jody Pettersen (802-522-6171)
<b>Worship Committee</b>	Rev. Paul Habersang (802- 223-3631)

*Would you like to get involved or learn more about these ministries? If so, please contact the persons listed so you can become active in our ministries.*