

YOU MAKE KNOWN TO ME THE PATH OF LIFE;
IN YOUR PRESENCE THERE IS FULLNESS OF JOY.
PSALM 16:11



EASTER MYSTERY (MYSTÈRE DE PÂQUES) | MAURICE DENIS | OIL ON CANVAS | 1891



THE CHURCH OF THE
INCARNATION

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 5, 2024

Welcome To
The CHURCH of the INCARNATION

*To all who are spiritually weary and desire rest,
To all who are mourning and long for comfort,
To all who struggle and desire victory,
To all who sin and need a Savior,
To all who are hungry and thirst for righteousness,
And to whomever will come,
This church opens her doors,
Offering welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

God calls us out of the world and welcomes us into his presence.
Opening our hearts to him in love, we respond by confessing our
sins, receiving his forgiveness, and fully devoting our lives to him in
praise and adoration.

Congregational responses are indicated in **boldface**.

Please stand.

*Alleluia, sometimes spelled *hallelujah*, is a Hebrew command to praise God. To say or sing this word is to command those around you to praise God.

Alleluia!* Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PRaise TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

Joachim Neander (1680) Trans. Catherine Winkworth; Public domain.

Praise to the Lord the Almighty the King of creation
O my soul praise him for he is thy health and salvation
All ye who hear now to his temple draw near
Joining in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord over
all things he wondrously reigneth
Shelters thee under his wings and so gently sustaineth
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what he ordaineth

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Praise to the Lord who doth
prosper thy work and defend thee
Surely his goodness and mercy shall ever attend thee
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
Who with his love doth befriend thee

Praise to the Lord O let all that is in me adore him
All that hath life and breath come now with
Praises before him
Let the "Amen" sound from his people again
Gladly forever adore him

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

I was glad when they said to me:

“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Praise the Lord!

The name of the Lord be praised!

PRAYER FOR PURITY

Almighty God, you bring to light things hidden in darkness, and know the shadows of our hearts; cleanse and renew us by your Spirit, that we may walk in the light and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

*When we confess our sins to God we are not groveling in guilt; we are dealing with our guilt. If we deny our sins, we will never be free from them.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN*

...

Please kneel and silently confess your sins against God and your neighbor.

Almighty God, creator of all, you marvelously made us in your image; but we have corrupted ourselves and damaged your likeness by rejecting your love and hurting our neighbors. We have done wrong and neglected to do right. We are sincerely sorry and heartily repent of our sins. Cleanse us and forgive us by the sacrifice of your Son; remake us and lead us by your Spirit, the Comforter. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Only God can forgive sins. In announcing God's forgiveness, pastors obey Christ's command to his ministers to pronounce Christ's forgiveness on his behalf (John 20:23).

°Psalm 51:15

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS*

...

Please stand.

THE PSALM

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.°

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.

O come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

Psalm 16:1 Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

² I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.”

*When LORD is printed in small capital letters, it is the personal name for the one true God, the creator of heaven and earth and all things. In the original language it was likely pronounced yahweh.

³ As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.

⁴ The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips.

⁵ The LORD* is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

⁶ The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

⁷ I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸ I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.

¹⁰ For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.

¹¹ You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy;

At your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.

O come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

*The collect is a prayer that goes with the scripture readings, summarizing the theme of this particular worship service.

Children grades 1–5 are dismissed for Children’s Ministry.

Please be seated.

HEARING GOD’S WORD

We encounter our risen Lord in Scripture. As a people defined by God’s Word, we respond to God through confession of faith, corporate prayer, and a demonstration of our reconciliation with one another in passing the peace of Christ.

DEUTERONOMY 6:1–9

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 JOHN 4:13—5:5

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

JOHN 21:20–25

Before the Scripture is read:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Scripture is read:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

*The Nicene Creed has been prayed and recited since AD 325. It is the most widely used encapsulation of the essential and unifying beliefs of Christianity.

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.

*Catholic here means that every local church founded on the gospel is part of the one universal church founded by God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*We close with a prayer for mission from the Book of Common Prayer.

*This ancient tradition is rooted in Luke 24:36-49. In these words we hear the promise that the dark side of life in the world and in us will not prevail. The power of the evil one has been overcome.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The leader will invite us to pray.

• • •

Almighty and everlasting God, who alone works great marvels: Send down upon our clergy and the congregations committed to their charge the life-giving Spirit of your grace, shower them with the continual dew of your blessing, and ignite in them a zealous love of your Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of our Lord.

Greet those around you with some version of these words:
"The peace of Christ be with you."

Parents pick up infants & toddlers from upstairs at this time.

Please be seated.

*Galatians 6:10

THE OFFERING*

JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN

Words: Henry Lyte, Music: Bill Moore © 2001 Bill Moore Music. CCLI License 11069486.

Jesus, I my cross have taken
All to leave and follow thee
Destitute despised forsaken
Thou from hence my all shall be
Perish every fond ambition
All I've sought or hoped or known
Yet how rich is my condition
God and heaven are still my own

Let the world despise and leave me
They have left my Savior too
Human hearts and looks deceive me
Thou art not like them untrue
O while thou dost smile upon me
God of wisdom love and might
Foes may hate and friends disown me
Show thy face and all is bright

Soul then know thy full salvation
Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station
Something still to do or bear
Think what Spirit dwells within thee
Think what Father's smiles are thine
Think that Jesus died to win thee
Child of heaven canst thou repine

Please stand.

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Words: Thomas Ken, *lasst uns erfreuen*. 1674; Public domain.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise him, all creatures here below
Alleluia Alleluia!

Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

God welcomes his people to feast at his table. This meal, a means of grace for all who receive by faith, is a rehearsal of the central act of the Christian faith: Christ's death on the cross — his body broken and his blood shed as a sacrifice for our sins.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Is the Father with us? **He is!**

Is Christ among us? **He is!**

Is the Spirit here? **He is!**

This is our God.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We are his people. **We are redeemed!**

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.

...

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord**

**Hosanna,* hosanna, in the highest
Hosanna, hosanna, in the highest**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory**

*Hosanna is a Hebrew word that carries a twofold meaning: to praise Jesus as the Son of God sent to save us and to cry out to Jesus for that salvation.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

...

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We are brothers and sisters through his blood.

We have died together.

We will rise together.

We will live together.

...

This is the feast of victory:

The Lamb who was slain has begun to reign.

Hallelujah!

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

I am because we are:

We are because he is.

We are one body:

We share one bread.

Draw near with faith:

Christ is the host and we are his guests.

THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who come with faith in Christ and repentance for sin are welcome to share in this feast. If for any reason you would prefer to abstain, cross your arms over your chest, and one of the servers will pray a blessing for you.

Come forward to receive communion row by row. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, take a small cup at the front of the aisle as you go forward. When arriving at the front of the communion line, place your hands in front of you to receive a piece of bread, and consume it. After receiving the bread, proceed to the first server to take a drink from the common cup (please do not dip your bread) or to the second server with your plastic cup to receive a pour of wine. Grape juice is available at the far right station and is available poured only

HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE YOUR NAME

Ignace Franz & Clarence Walworth; © 1987 CRC Publications; CCLI 11069486

Holy God we praise your name
Lord of all we bow before you
All on earth your scepter claim
All in heaven above adore you
Infinite your vast domain
Everlasting is your reign

Hark! The glad celestial song
Angel choirs above are raising
Prophets martyrs join the throng
In unceasing chorus praising
With the church in one accord
Holy holy holy Lord!

Blest Redeemer virgin's son
Over death his victory claiming
Now ascended to his throne
Judge and king his grace proclaiming
Opens heaven to all his own
Praise and thanks to God alone

Holy Father holy Son
Holy Spirit three we name you
Though in essence only one
Undivided God we claim you
Then adoring bend the knee
And confess the mystery

BUILD MY LIFE

*Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kable, Pat Barrett, Matt Redman. ©
SaidAndDone Music. CCLI License 11069486.*

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Jesus the name above every other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for you
We live for you

Holy there is no one like you
There is none beside you
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who you are and fill me
With your heart and lead me
In your love to those around me

I will build my life upon your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in you alone
And I will not be shaken

O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO

George Matheson. © 1982. CCLI License 11069486.

O love that will not let me go
I rest my weary soul in thee
I give thee back the life I owe
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer fuller be

O light that followest all my way
I yield my flickering torch to thee
My heart restores its borrowed ray
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be

O joy that seekest me through pain
I cannot close my heart to thee
I trace the rainbow through the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be

O cross that liftest up my head
I dare not ask to fly from thee
I lay in dust life's glory dead
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, eternal Father, we have sat at your feet, learned from your word, and eaten from your table. We give you thanks and praise for accepting us into your family. Send us out with your blessing, to live and to witness for you in the power of your

Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead. Amen.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING AND COMMISSIONING

Please stand.

All our problems:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All our difficulties:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All the devil's works:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All our hopes:

We set on the risen Christ!

...

We are raised to new life with Christ. Go in his peace.
Alleluia. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Nursery: Staffed by trained and screened volunteers. Also open for parents/caretakers and infants, anytime during the service for fussy babies. Located upstairs, midway down the hall to your left. Available throughout the service. Pickup is at the Peace.

Toddler Room: For steady walkers up to 3 years old. Located upstairs; last classroom on the right. Check-in located outside the classroom. You can bring your child prior to the service. Pickup is at the Peace.

Preschool: 3–6 year olds. Upstairs; check-in located outside the classroom before the service begins. Pickup is at the Peace.

Elementary: 1st–5th grade. After the Collect, children will be dismissed to their class upstairs. Prior to the Lord's Supper, they will return to the service. 3rd–5th graders go to small multipurpose room (204).

NEWS AND EVENTS

Youth Group

All 6th–12th graders are welcome to join us this afternoon from 4–6pm. Invite a friend! Enter through the Mason Street entrance.

Special Offering for Diocese of Kadugli, Sudan - May 19

On May 19, we will collect a special offering in support of The Diocese of Kadugli. This Diocese has been our partner in mission in Sudan's Nuba Mountains since 2016. Info: pd4n.org (Pax Dei for Nuba)

Confirmation - May 12

Please join us next Sunday for Confirmation (during the worship service). This is a wonderful and joyous occasion when five of our young people will publicly commit their lives to Christ and receive prayer.

Support Group: Families of LGBTQ+ Loved Ones - May 24

Aubrey and Janielle Spears are hosting a monthly gathering on 4th Fridays at their home for parents and adult siblings of LGBTQ+ loved ones. Next meeting is **May 24, from 6:30pm–8pm**. Light refreshments provided. Email Aubrey* if you are interested in attending.

Pentecost Party - May 19 (5–7pm)

Potluck picnic & BBQ competition at the church building. Games, fun activities. Bring lawn chairs, outdoor games, blankets, BYOB (wine, beer, soda, special drinks). Childcare available for 0–5yr olds.

Last names:

- A–M, main dish & dessert.
- N–Z, main dish & side. (BBQ counts as your main dish.)

Baptism on Trinity Sunday - May 26

We will celebrate baptisms on Sunday, May 26. If you are seeking baptism for yourself or your child, email Beth*.

Arts Incarnate

Arts Incarnate is an outreach arm of the church, for the purpose of engaging in the local community arts scene. To learn more about upcoming concerts and events, or how you can get involved, check out the website: artsincarnate.com.



ARTS
INCARNATE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 19 Joint service with Kush

May 19 Pentecost Party

May 25 Women's connector

The **CHURCH** *of the* **INCARNATION**

*seeks the glory of God and the good of the city
through the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Gospel

We gather around the magnetic center of Jesus Christ. Through his life, death, and resurrection, God's kingdom has arrived on earth to renew all things—our relationship with God, ourselves, others, and the world.

Personal Transformation

We help people to respond in faith to the new reality that the Kingdom of God has arrived in Jesus and to learn the practices of spiritual formation: renewing minds, reordering priorities, reshaping habits, and redirecting work.

Community Formation

We live with one another as a community of friends—across generational, ethnic, and cultural lines—extending personal care to one another.

Public Faith

In being honest and transparent about our faith, we endeavor to be relationally winsome, accessible, respectful, humble, and loving, even when it requires courage for us to announce the gospel.

City Vision

With all the resources of our faith and life, we work sacrificially with others to build a great, flourishing city for all people.

Mercy and Justice

We seek to protect the weak and vulnerable, to take up their injustice, and to show compassion while also seeking remedies for structural evil and institutional injustice.

Cultural Renewal

We equip people in their various vocations to enter into culture as faithful stewards of the world because we share in God's yearning for all of culture to be redeemed and renewed.

Church Planting

We use resources that God has given us to start and support new churches because the local church is the primary agent of God's kingdom.

Gospel Movement

We want to be a catalyst for a movement of the gospel in our city and region that is a dynamic set of interactive relationships among gospel-centered churches, a variety of specialist ministries, and many other institutions, non-profits, organizations, and companies that are united by a common vision and a spirit of cooperation.



Office hours: 9 to 5, Monday through Friday
Ring bell at Federal Street entrance

www.theincarnation.org

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