

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY  
Mills River, North Carolina

The Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 10, 2026

Sacred Place +++ Sacred Space



Please observe silence after the Altar candles are lit

PRELUDE *Rejoice, the Lord is King*

Arr. Dan Forrest

*A bell rings three times; the people stand.*

*Hymns and service music are found in the blue 1982 Hymnals (H) and the purple Glory to God hymnals (GTG) They are in the racks under the chairs.*

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE HYMN

*H# 405 All things bright and beautiful*

*Descant*



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea - tures great and small,

*Refrain*



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,  
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,  
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,  
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

*Repeat Refrain*

he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.  
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky,  
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.  
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* 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.**

**SONG OF PRAISE**

**LEVAS #13 My Lord, What a Morning**

*Refrain*

My Lord, what a morn-ing, My Lord what a morn-ing, O  
 my Lord, what a morn - ing, When the stars be - gin to fall.  
 3. You'll hear the Chris - tian shout, To wake the na - tions un - der - ground.  
*To Refrain*  
 Look - ing to my God's right hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*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 READING: Acts 17:22-31**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.**

**PSALM 66:7-18**

<sup>7</sup>Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
    make the voice of his praise to be heard,

<sup>8</sup>**Who holds our souls in life, \***  
    **and will not allow our feet to slip.**

<sup>9</sup>For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
    you have tried us just as silver is tried.

<sup>10</sup>**You brought us into the snare; \***

**you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

<sup>11</sup>You let enemies ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and water; \*  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

<sup>12</sup>**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.**

<sup>13</sup>I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
with the smoke of rams; \*  
I will give you oxen and goats.

<sup>14</sup>**Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

<sup>15</sup>I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
and his praise was on my tongue.

<sup>16</sup>**If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
the Lord would not have heard me;**

<sup>17</sup>But in truth God has heard me; \*  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

<sup>18</sup>**Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
nor withheld his love from me.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

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.

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

*H# 694 God be in my head*



God be in my head, and in my un - der - stand - ing;

God be in mine eyes, and in my look - ing;

God be in my mouth, and in my speak - ing;

God be in my heart, and in my think - ing;

God be at mine end, and at my de - part - ing.

**GOSPEL: John 14:15-21**

*Deacon*            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.”

*Deacon*            The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**THE SERMON**    *The Rev. Amy Huacani*

### **THE NICENE CREED**

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.

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Brothers and sisters, grace to you and peace from Jesus Christ. The Lord has redeemed us; let us rejoice and be glad, saying, “You are our God; ... and we thank you.”

*Celebrant* Receive these prayers, O God, and transform us through them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do so that your realm will come to fruition in glory. **Amen.**

### THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

### GATHERING

*GTG# 413 Come Into God's Presence*

Come into God's presence singing "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."

Come into God's presence singing "Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord."

Praise the Lord together singing "Worthy the Lamb, worthy the Lamb, worthy the Lamb."

Praise the Lord together singing "Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God."

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* *Arr. Lloyd Larson*

#### PRESENTATION HYMN

*GTG* *# 608 Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all  
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -  
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*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.**

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:

## SANCTUS

*S 128 Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

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 for ever. **AMEN.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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, forever and ever. Amen.

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD  
FRACTION ANTHEM**

*S 154 Christ our Passover*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
 there - fore let us keep the feast.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**COMMUNION INVITATION**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*(The bread and wine are given to the people. Please indicate that you would prefer a gluten-free wafer by placing your hands with palms together when you come up to receive Communion.)*

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*WLP #812 I, the Lord of sea and sky*

*Unison*  
 1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my  
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my  
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the

peo - ple cry. All who dwell in deep - est sin My hand will  
 peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn a -  
 poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, My hand will

save. I who made the stars of night,  
 way. I will break their hearts of stone,  
 save. Fin - est bread I will pro - vide

I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my  
 Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my  
 Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my

light to them? Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_  
 word to them. Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_  
 life to them. Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_

*Refrain*

Here I am, Lord. \_\_\_\_\_ Is it I, Lord? \_\_\_\_\_ I have

heard you call - ing in the night. \_\_\_\_\_ I will go, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ if you lead me, \_\_\_\_\_ I will hold your peo - ple in my

[1. 2.

|| 3.

heart. \_\_\_\_\_ heart. \_\_\_\_\_

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

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.

## BLESSING

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

*GTG# 815 Give to the Winds Thy Fears*

Give to the winds thy fears; hope, and be undismayed.  
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears;  
God shall lift up thy head.

Through waves and clouds and storms God gently clears the way.  
Wait patiently; so shall this night  
soon end in joyous day.

Leave to God's sovereign sway to choose and to command.  
So shalt thou, wondering own  
God's way, how wise, how strong God's hand!

Let us in life, in death, thy steadfast truth declare,  
and publish with our final breath  
thy love and guardian care.

## DISMISSAL/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Gentle Yoga with Kelly, Fri. 9am, May 15, 22, and 29  
Choir Practice, Sun. May 17, 9:30 am  
Vestry Meeting, Sun. May 17, 12:15pm  
Grill and Chill, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 5:00 pm at the Heck's

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