

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Mills River, North Carolina

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2026

Sacred Place +++ Sacred Space



Please observe silence after the Altar candles are lit

PRE-SERVICE *I Need Thee Every Hour* Arr. Jodi Ann Tolman

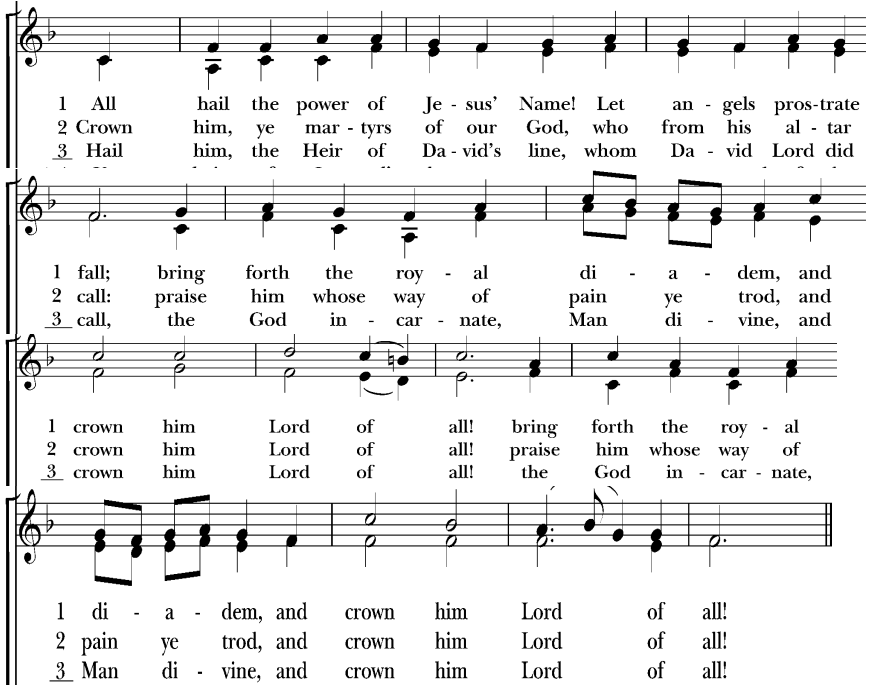
PRELUDE *I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord* Patti Drennan

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# 450 All hail the power of Jesus' Name Vs. 1-3*



1 All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels pros - trate
2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, who from his al - tar
3 Hail him, the Heir of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did

1 fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and
2 call: praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and
3 call, the God in - car - nate, Man di - vine, and

1 crown him Lord of all! bring forth the roy - al
2 crown him Lord of all! praise him whose way of
3 crown him Lord of all! the God in - car - nate,

1 di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
2 pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!
3 Man di - vine, and crown him Lord of all!

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 image shows four staves of musical notation in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first staff is the Refrain, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: 'My Lord, what a morn-ing, My Lord what a morn-ing, O'. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: 'my Lord, what a morn - ing, When the stars be - gin to fall.'. The third staff has lyrics: '3. You'll hear the Chris - tian shout, To wake the na - tions un - der - ground.'. The fourth staff is labeled 'To Refrain' and has lyrics: 'Look - ing to my God's right hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.'. The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 68:1-10, 33-36

¹Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.

²**Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; ***
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence
of God.

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴**Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;**
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his name, rejoice before him!

⁵Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!

⁶**God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; ***
but the rebels shall live in dry places.

⁷O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
⁸The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
⁹You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
¹⁰Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
³³Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.
³⁴He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
³⁵Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.
³⁶How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

GTG #407 Spirit Divine Attend our Prayers

Spirit divine, attend our prayers, and make this house your home.

Descend with all your gracious powers. O come, great Spirit, come!

Come as the light. To us reveal our emptiness and woe.

And lead us in those paths of life where all the righteous go.

Come as the fire and purge our hearts like sacrificial flame.

Let our whole soul and offering be to our Redeemer's name.

Come as the dove and spread your wings, the wings of peaceful love.

And let the church on earth become blest as the church above.

Spirit divine, attend our prayers. Make a lost world your home.

Descend with all your gracious powers. O come, great Spirit, come.

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

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

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

[Jesus] looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them

in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Tracey Kelly

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 *Where He Leads Me*

Patti Drennan

PRESENTATION HYMN

GTG #608 Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and half notes. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -". The third staff concludes the phrase with lyrics: "more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore." The notation includes rests, beams, and a double bar line at the end.

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.

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

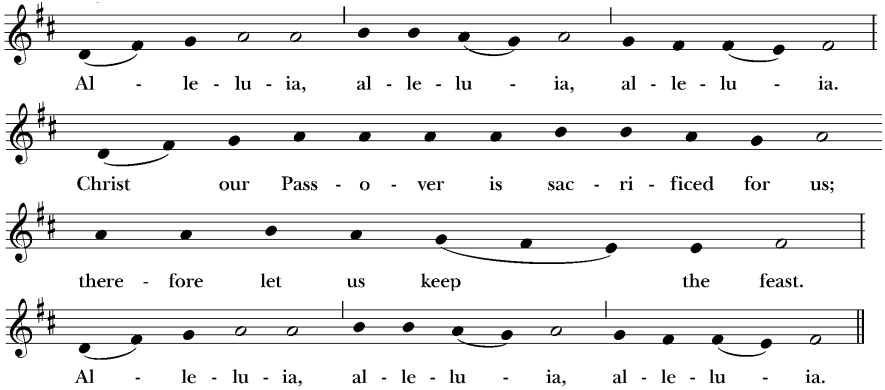
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

H# 516 Come down, O Love divine



1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,
 and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;
 O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place
 and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

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# 733 We are All One Mission

We are all one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

A single, great commission compels us from above
to plan and word together that all may know Christ's love.

We all are called for service to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,
so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

DISMISSAL/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

From riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2026 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. Hymns and service music are from *The Hymnal 1982* (Church Publishing Inc.), *Wonder, Love and Praise* (Church Publishing Inc.), and *Glory to God* hymnal GTG (Presbyterian Publishing Corp). Music is reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-730051. All rights reserved.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gentle Yoga with Kelly, Fri. May, 22, and 29

Vestry Meeting, Sun. May 17th, 12:15 pm

Women's Group trip to NC Arboretum, Sat. May 23rd 11:30-1:30pm

Grill and Chill, May 21st, 5:00 pm at the Heck's

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rev. Tracey Kelly, Rector, tracey@ourholyfamily.org

Rev. Tammy Bales, Preaching Associate, pastortam12@gmail.com

Ryan Singleton, Music Director, singletonryan97@gmail.com

Jeanne Mason, Parish Administrator, secretary@ourholyfamily.org

Liz Spahr, Pastoral Care Coordinator, liz@ourholyfamily.org

Jodi Harbin, Youth Ministry Coordinator, jodi@vetonthego.com

VESTRY

Greg Harbin, Sr. Warden, greg@ourholyfamily.org

Kelly Brown, Jr. Warden, KALB266@gmail.com

Jeffery Heck, Treasurer, jeffery.heck@gmail.com

Kelly Beaty, Secretary, ktsb@icloud.com

Laura Phipps, Vestry Liaison for Congregational Vitality,

Ljphipps1128@gmail.com

Paulette Rempfel, Vestry Liaison for Christian Formation,

lette813@icloud.com