

**Church of the divine love**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**JUNE 1, 2025 9:00 AM**

**HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II**

A Morning Prayer – on insert

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn #

Opening Acclamation page 355

Gloria page 356

Collect of the Day - lectionary sheet insert

First Lesson: **Acts 16:16-34**

Psalm 97

Second Lesson: **Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21**

Gradual Hymn #

Gospel: **John 17:20-26**

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze

The Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, Form VI page 392

The Confession page 393

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn #

Doxology (sung)

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer B page 367

Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal)

The Lord's Prayer page 364

The Breaking of the Bread, Anthem & Prayer page 337

The Communion of the People

Communion Hymn #

Post Communion Prayer page 365

Prayer for Peace (on insert)

Prayer for the Parish page 817

Prayer of St. Francis page 833

Dismissal Hymn #

Dismissal

### **Sermon Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

Acts 16: 16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21; John 17:20-26

**Sisters and brothers in Christ,** Be good. Take care of yourself. Have fun. Mind your manners. Work hard. Make good decisions. Learn a lot. Be careful. Call if you need something. Remember, I love you.

Those are the kind of things we say when we are leaving, departing. We give our last-minute instructions for what the other should do after we have left. When I was growing up, I heard some of these from my parents. I remember saying some of these to my friends before leaving them at the airport for their flight to another country. I suspect each of you has said and heard these or similar words. They are our departing instructions to one we love. With those words we entrust the future well-being of that loved one to himself or herself.

Jesus is praying to the Father. It is the night of the last supper. Jesus has shared a meal with his disciples, washed their feet, given them a new commandment to love as he loves, and told them of his leaving. Now he prays. In today's gospel we overhear a portion of his prayer to his Father and our Father. He

prays for us. Three times he asks our Father that we would all become one as he and the Father are one. If Jesus is praying for our oneness, then he is also recognizing and rejecting the boundaries and differences that divide us. There are divisions within ourselves, our families, our churches, our nation. We live in a world full of divisions – male or female; rich or poor; gay or straight; Hispanic or Anglo; Christian or Muslim; conservative or liberal; educated or uneducated; young or old; heaven or earth; divine or human; sinner or saved; orthodox or heretic. We could go on and on listing the boundaries that we encounter and all too often establish or promote. They are not just divisions they have become oppositions. These divisions exist not only out there in the world but primarily and first in the human heart. We project onto the world our fragmented lives. For every boundary we establish there is a human being. Ultimately, boundaries and differences are not about issues. They are about real people, with names, lives, joys, sorrows, concerns, and needs just like us. I think we sometimes forget or ignore this. It is easier to deal with an issue than a real person. Whether or not we admit it the boundaries we establish and enforce are usually done in such a way as to favor us; to make us feel ok, to reassure us that we are right and in control, chosen and desired, seen and recognized, approved of and accepted. In order for me to win someone must lose, in order for me to be included someone must be excluded otherwise winning and being included mean nothing. The divisions of our lives in some way become self-perpetuating. We often deal with the boundaries and differences that divide us by writing agreements, covenants, treaties, and legislation that govern how we will get along with each other and behave in the midst of our differences. But that is not Jesus' prayer.

Jesus does not pray for our tolerance, our getting along, or just being nice to each other. He does not even pray that our differences would be eliminated. Instead, he prays for our oneness. He prays that we would be one as he and the Father are one so that our oneness would be the revelation of God's presence to the world. Oneness in the midst of difference becomes a sacramental presence of God's life in the world. That does not mean, however, that we lose our identity or individuality. Jesus does not stop being Jesus and the Father stop being the Father because they are one. Oneness is less about numbers and quantity and more qualitative. Jesus and the Father are one because they love and give themselves to each other. Oneness is a quality of life – God's life. Jesus' prayer for oneness is ultimately that we would be and live like God. Oneness is not about eliminating differences. It is about love. Love is the only thing that can ever overcome division. Over and over Jesus tells us that. Love God. Love your neighbor. Love yourself. Love your enemy. Our love for God, neighbor, self, and enemy reveals our oneness, and the measure of our oneness, our God-likeness, is love. In love there may be differences but there is no division. This unity is not, however, something we do or create. Jesus does not tell the disciples to be nice to each other, to get along, to eliminate their differences, or to agree upon a common plan or purpose. He doesn't prescribe tolerance, uniformity, unanimity, or consensus. We are not the recipients of instructions but the subject and beneficiary of Jesus' prayer. Jesus prays three times for oneness. "That they may all be one." "That they may be one." "That they may become completely one." The oneness for which he prays is modeled on the unity of the Father and Jesus, their shared life. He prays that we would be completely one as he and the Father are one. Jesus' prayer echoes the ancient Jewish

prayer, Shema Yisrael, “Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God, the LORD is one (Deut. 6:4). That Jesus is praying to the Father for our oneness, rather than giving instructions, means that unity is of and from God. It is not something we do or create. It is the very life and being of God. We do not establish unity; we participate in and manifest to the world the already existing oneness that is God. God’s love knows no boundaries. God loves male and female, rich and poor, gay and straight, Hispanic and Anglo. God loves Christian and Muslim, conservative and liberal, educated and uneducated. God loves young and old, heaven and earth, divine and human. God loves sinner and saved, orthodox and heretic. All are loved fully, completely, and uniquely as each need.

God does not even draw boundaries between Jesus and us. If we think God loves Jesus more than anyone else, we have missed the point of the Gospel. God loves you the same as he loves Jesus. God loves your neighbor the same as he loves Jesus. God loves your enemy the same as he loves Jesus. If that is how God loves how can we do anything less and still call ourselves Christians? The core message of today’s Gospel is about Jesus’ prayer for his followers, emphasizing unity, love, and the power of the Holy Spirit to guide believers into the truth and experience God’s love. This unity, fostered by God’s love, becomes a witness to the world about the Son’s mission and God’s love for all. The prayer also highlights the importance of recognizing the presence of the Holy Spirit and the guidance it provides, particularly during times of silence and uncertainty. For far too long we have dealt with each other through our boundaries, differences, and divisions. You can see where that has gotten us. You need only look at the world, read the newspaper, or watch the news. When we deal with others through our divisions we label, do violence, and hunker down to defend our position. There is no oneness in that.

Though Jesus is praying to the Father you and I will in large part be the ones to answer Jesus’ prayer. We answer his prayer every time we choose how to love, who to love, where to love. It is time we answer Jesus’ prayer and deal with one another in love. So, I wonder, who are the boundaries that await our love? What we hold in common is that the love within us is the love within the Trinity. This love is deeper than any division and stronger than any hate. This is the love that makes us one even, as our Triune God is one. **Amen.**

***All baptized Christians, regardless of age, are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church.***

7 EASTER/THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY

	9:00 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
		COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS
MONDAY	8:00 PM	AA MEETING
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM	AL-ANON MEETING
THURSDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP
SATURDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP

#### THE DAY OF PENTECOST/WHITSUNDAY

9:00 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
	COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWS
1:00 PM	BROWNIE TROOP MEETING

	Today	Next Week
Eucharistic Minister	Dana Kenn	Anthony Giordano
Coffee Hour	Giordanos	Erika Febres

SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY – DROP-OFF IN THE KITCHEN

### PARISH PRAYER LIST

Loving God, 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. Especially we remember before you:

Barbara Curran	Betty Curley	Jess
Bob Curley	Steve Curley	Joseph
Chris Dickson	John Roccoo	Deb P.

John Mulligan	Marjorie Guerrier	Bobby
Manetta Family	Robert Hosey	Ryan
Sister Eddie	Bernie Walther	Celeste
Beverly Noel	Phil Ryder	Warren
Anthony Paribello	Jonathan	Del
Donna Amundsen	Kate Jones	Aidan
Shannon & Family	Vincent & Barbara	Ciara
Mary & Family	Wendy	Jan
Nathan Treadwell	Gladys Hadija	Sophia
Michael & Family	Kristen	Mo
Michelle & Family	Christopher	Annie
Timothy Treasure	Donna A.	Aika
Moises Parra	Misael Varas	

All people and countries suffering from violence, hatred and natural disaster.

The homeless and food insecure.

Help us to speak word of encouragement and offer deeds of kindness to them.

Bring us, with them, into the unending joy of your kingdom. Amen.

To add or make changes to prayer list during the week, email

Janet Croft at [jmc220@optonline.net](mailto:jmc220@optonline.net).

### A Morning Prayer

Father in heaven, I stand ready to receive Your wisdom and guidance. In each decision, big or small, lead me to discern your will and to act accordingly. Help me to understand the depth of Your wisdom, finding guidance in Your word and through prayer. Teach me to be patient as I wait for Your direction, trusting that Your timing is perfect. May I navigate this day with the assurance that Your wisdom is a treasure far greater than any earthly knowledge. Guide my thoughts and actions, that they may be a reflection of Your discernment and love. In Your guidance, I find the path to a life of purpose and peace.

Amen

Hymn to be sung during the consecration:

Father, I adore you,  
Lay my life before you,  
How I love you.

Repeat twice with second verse starting with Jesus  
And third verse starting with Spirit.

## Prayer for Peace

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn  
but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So  
mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that  
all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince  
of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominions  
and glory, now and forever. Amen











