

Welcome to

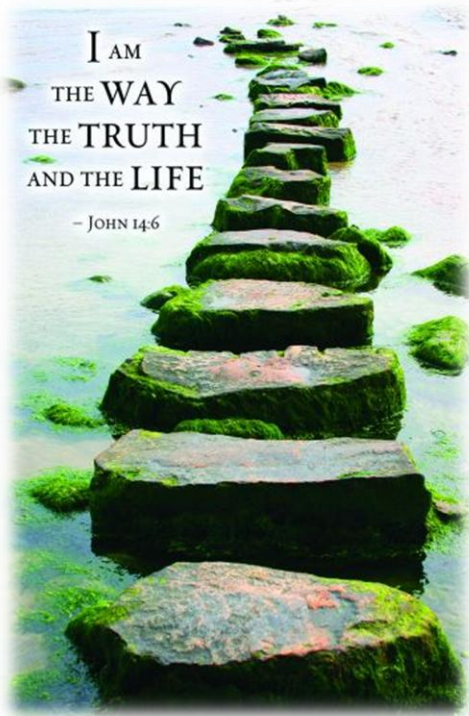
St. John's Episcopal Church

Chula Vista, CA

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

9:00 am



*No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey,
you are welcome here*

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* Hymnal 518



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er



bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter



help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

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.**

The Gloria *Gloria in Excelsis*

Hymnal S-280

***Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.***

***Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.***

***For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.***

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

My times are in your hand;
***rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.***

Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me.

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

***"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."***

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

***"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner",***

and

***"A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."***

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Thou Art the Way to Thee Alone

Hymnal 457



1 Thou art the Way, to thee a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 Thou art the Truth, thy word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 Thou art the Life, the rend - ing tomb pro - claims thy con - quering arm;
4 Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: grant us that way to know,



and all who would the Fa - ther seek, must seek him, Lord, by thee.
thou on - ly canst in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in thee nor death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

The Gospel

John 14:1-14

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

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

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Susanna DesMarais

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

Presider Empowered by the Lord's promise that he will do whatever we ask in his name, let us pray, saying: We ask this in Jesus' name.

For the church of God and for its leaders, that our lives may be for the glory of God alone, let us pray:

We ask this in Jesus' name.

For more vigorous efforts to unite all Christian peoples, lest factions and jealousies prevent the spread of the gospel, let us pray:

We ask this in Jesus' name.

For all who exercise the ministry of preaching, that their words may be full of the Spirit and of wisdom, let us pray:

We ask this in Jesus' name.

For those among us whose hearts are troubled and anxious, that they may find support in our care, let us pray:

We ask this in Jesus' name.

For this local community, that our belief in God will be deepened by the word and sacrament we share, let us pray :

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Together let us pray for those serving our country and their families

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces, first responders, and their families. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and challenges; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presider God of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bring these and all our needs to you, filled with confidence in the power of Jesus' name. Hear us and answer our prayers in your great wisdom and love. We ask this through Christ who is our risen Lord now and forever. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

***Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Offertory

Your generous offering helps us to continue the mission and ministry of the parish. You may give here or online by using the "Give Now" button on our St. John's website: www.saint-johns.org or by scanning the QR code.



Offertory Anthem

The St. John's Choir

The Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***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 our 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. 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 St. John and 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.**

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People ***therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little; you who have been here often and you who have not been here for a long time; you who have tried to follow and you who have failed; come, not because the Church invites you; it is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

The Iona Community Worship Book

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion

Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table. After receiving the bread, indicate to the Chalice Bearer if you prefer drinking from the cup or having your host dipped by the Chalice Bearer. You are invited to come forward for a blessing if you would prefer; indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

Spiritual Communion

I invite all who are watching our liturgy online to receive Christ spiritually. Let us pray together:

Lord Jesus, we believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of bread and wine, body and blood. Unite my heart with those of my family of faith gathered to celebrate the great meal of Holy Communion this day and make us all one with you today and every day. May this strengthen our faith and grant us confidence in your loving care now and forever. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Presider 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.***

Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

A Celebration of Heather Wallace's Continuing Ministry to the Children of St. John's

Let us pray in joyful thanksgiving for the ministry of Heather.

God of Creation, you have gifted Heather with teaching skills, creativity, and curiosity. We pray you would continue to fill her with the power and compassion of your Holy Spirit. Continue to bless her with energy and insight into your Word, the story of Your faithful heart and your son, Jesus Christ. We pray this in the name of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

The Blessing

Presider The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Recessional Hymn

O Praise Ye the Lord

Hymnal 432



1 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
2 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him up - on earth,
4 O praise ye the Lord! Thanks - giv - ing and song



re - joice in his word, ye an - gels of light;
in tune - ful ac - cord, all ye of new birth;
to him be out - poured all a - ges a - long!



ye hea - vens, a - dore him by whom ye were made,
praise him who hath brought you his grace from a - bove,
For love in cre - a - tion, for hea - ven re - stored,



and wor - ship be - fore him, in bright - ness ar - rayed.
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.
for grace of sal - va - tion, O praise ye the Lord!

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

Liturgical Ministers

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Presider/Preacher | Rev. Susanna DesMarais |
| Organist | Cheryl Seppala |
| Reader/Intercessions | Karen Duignan, Jim Lindshield |
| Ushers | Gregg and Elizabeth King |

St. John's Prayer Lists

*Today and every day include some time for prayer, for yourself,
for your church family, and for those in need.*

For Our Military

Chariti Paden, Mark Stanfield, Sean Robinson, Jonathan Martinez, TK
Nguyen, Christopher Lindshield, Timothy Lindshield, Jeremy Colton,
David Sanchez, Jonathan Baldera, Nick Wyatt, Jamal Warner,
Matt Hernandez, Daniel Getreu, Devon Strunk, Taylor Harrold,
Jorge Zuazua, Roberto Chavez, Ryan Lothspeich, Andrew C. Dugger,
Dan and Chelsey Nyaradi, Gen. G.C. Heinrich, Pedro Bonilla, Patrick King,
Connor Feeny, Sebastian Morales, and Isaiah Faue.

For Strength in Time of Need

Gary and Shirley McCarren, Alec Hauer, Karen Polk, Bob Milam,
Bill Rogers, James Kellogg Burnham III, Linda Longoria-Neff, Lynn Young,
Fr. George Keith, Jeff M., Steve Magill and Heather Wallace,
Terri Valdez, Walt Kennedy, Dawn Andrews, and Janie Burchartz.

*(Names are kept on the Prayers List for 4 weeks and should be submitted by Wednesday.
If you wish to add a name, please email Maria Love at: info@saint-johns.org.)*

St. John's Mission Statement

St. John's is a Christian community that intentionally gathers
to experience God's love through Episcopal worship, education,
fellowship, and ministry to the wider community.

Announcements

Celebrating Heather Wallace

Today is Heather Wallace Day! Join us in honoring Heather, who has provided Sunday Christian Education for the children of St. John's for over 30 years. And with no duplication of projects!! Now, that's impressive! May God bless you, Heather, as you have blessed us for so many years.

To celebrate, let us join together in saying thank you to Heather and break out the cake after our worship!

Book Signing

CPR-Courage, Perseverance and Resilience:

Breathe New Life and Resuscitate Your Life

Book Signing by our own David Naranjo
and co-author Ted Parsons

Join the authors for a conversation and book signing
on **Sunday, May 17**, after the 9 am worship service.

Books will be available for a reduced price of \$10 (almost \$3 less than online.) If you have already purchased the book you are encouraged to bring it with you for the signing.

Sip & Paint

The Members of St. John's are sponsoring a Sip & Paint fundraiser on Saturday, May 30, in Nale Hall, beginning at 4 p.m.

Lucy and Larry Ferguson, our leaders for this event, will provide all the paints, brushes, and canvases. Lucy will guide us in our artistic endeavors. Our completed pictures will dry overnight in Nale Hall and be available for display and pickup on Sunday morning.

We are asking you to provide wine and non-alcoholic drinks along with snacks. Tickets will be \$30/person, and we are considering a reduced family rate (Yes! Bring the kids to this!)

St. John's Clergy

The Rev. Susanna DesMarais, *Interim Priest-in-Charge*

St. John's Vestry

Bob Dunn, *Senior Warden*

619-913-5580

robert@saint-johns.org

David Dennehy, *Junior Warden*

619-840-9994

masterfrog@att.net

Bill Cheney, *Treasurer*

Diane Gustafson, *Clerk*

Iris Atkins

Pamela Brittain

Karen Duignan

Bill Gustafson

Alejandra Valdez-Ber

Lynn Young



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