



# **PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter May 15, 2022**

**Worship in the Episcopal Tradition**

*Connecting with the Community,  
Growing Disciples, and Serving Jesus Christ*

*Our Worship can be viewed on our website*

*[PantherValleyChurch.org](http://PantherValleyChurch.org)*

**FRIENDS ~ FAMILY ~ FAITH**

## PRELUDE

*We invite you to begin your personal preparation at the beginning of the prelude.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**ALL: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

ONE: On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

**ALL: Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

## COLLECT

**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.**

## HYMN

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

UMH #62

All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,

O praise ye! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,

O sister moon with silver gleam!

O praise ye! O praise ye!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind, air, clouds, and rain,  
by which all creatures ye sustain,

O praise ye! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
ye lights of evening, find a voice!

O praise ye! O praise ye!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother fire who lights the night,  
providing warmth, enhancing sight,  
O praise ye! O praise ye!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,  
let them God's glory also show!  
O praise ye! O praise ye!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All ye who are of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
O praise ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God and on him cast your care!  
O praise ye! O praise ye!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**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.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

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.

**SCRIPTURE** Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

**MESSAGE** *Making All things New*

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *Gather Us In*

**LORD’S PRAYER**

*We invite you to pray the prayer in the language you are used to speaking.*

*Today we are highlighting the prayer in the Traditional text written in the 16<sup>th</sup>*

*century for the Book of Common Prayer. This prayer is utilized by the Episcopal Church and the United Methodist Church.*

**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. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

ONE: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**ALL: And grant us your salvation.**

ONE: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**ALL: Let your people sing with joy.**

ONE: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**ALL: For only in you can we live in safety.**

ONE: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**ALL: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

ONE: Let your way be known upon earth;

**ALL: Your saving health among all nations.**

ONE: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**ALL: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

ONE: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**ALL: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## **THE OFFERING**

We invite you to take this time to express your gratitude to God for all that you have been given by dedicating your time, talents, witness, service, and resources. The gifts you give are helping God build the community of love in this place and in our world. We offer several ways that you can give your fiscal pledge: dropping it into the “church” located in the Narthex, by mail, through our website, or add PVEC to your online bill pay. Thank you for your generosity.

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Gracious God, through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, you have given immeasurable grace to us. May our offerings reflect the grace we have received, and symbolize lives committed to the service of our risen Lord. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING**

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

## **A MOMENT OF WITNESS**

### **A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

**ONE:** Let us bless the Lord.

**ALL:** **Thanks be to God.**

### **BENEDICTION** Ephesians 3:20,21

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

## **POSTLUDE**

*Today after worship join us for coffee hour fundraiser for the Fish & Chips Dinner*

*Also the Discernment Team is meeting for Retreat #2!*

### **Stewardship Snippet(5th Sunday of Easter - Year C)**

**May 15, 2022, Revelation 21: 3-6**

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said,

"See, I am making all things new."

Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Then he said to me,

"It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Yes, we are the mortals...

How can we keep from inadvertently forgetting who we belong to? Here are a few suggestions. We could start by changing our vocabulary. We could refer to our possessions as God's car, God's home, God's children, God's retirement account, God's business and God's time. Maybe we could write on the cover of our check book or on our credit cards, God's Money...think about this!

~ Donna Weinberg, Stewardship Chair

*Credits:* Today's liturgy is adapted from *The Book of Common Prayer*

Hymn: All Creatures of Our God and King. CCLI #1503. Public Domain

Image: Ninabeth Metcalf

### **Announcements & Upcoming Events**

#### **Please pray for:**

The Ukrainian People & Our World, Refugees Everywhere, Henry, Betty Schultheis,

**Don't forget the mandatory Fish & Chips meeting on Friday, May 20th @ 6:30pm at church or via Zoom.**

Reminder that **Nikki will be on vacation** from May 11-27. There will be office coverage.

**Pastor Ninabeth** will be away from May 21st - 28th for the service of death and resurrection, interment, and celebration of her parents. Dan Ledwith will be leading worship on Sunday, May 22nd.

**Tickets on sale now** for "Tastefully British" Fish & Chips Dinner \$15 per ticket Sat. June 18<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm. Reserve or pick up tickets in the office. M – F 9am – 2pm

## **PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH**

1490 Route 517 Hackettstown, NJ 07840

~Welcome—we were built for you!~

Panther Valley Ecumenical Church is a multi-denominational church serving northwest New Jersey since 1969. We are formally affiliated with:

The Episcopal Church, The United Church of Christ,  
The Presbyterian Church USA, and The United Methodist Church.

We are a congregation of many Christian traditions who worship together in accordance with Christ's prayer: "that they may all be one."

May God's Blessing go with you this week.

**Pastor:** Ninabeth Metcalf

Email: [pvecpastor@gmail.com](mailto:pvecpastor@gmail.com)

**Music Director:** Diane Van Dongen

**Church Administrator:** Nikki Nicinski

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