

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 17, 2020

The Service of Morning Prayer

OPENING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!
* 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee:
cast - ing down their gold-en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the sin - ful hu-man eye thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,
cher-u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.
which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in power, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

Please note that BCP refers to The Book of Common Prayer should you wish to refer to the prayer book.

Officiant: You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

BCP 80

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

CHRIST OUR PASSOVER *Pascha nostrum*

BCP 83

Officiant and People

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, *

so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Officiant: Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:

People: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Lectors: The Psalm appointed for today is Psalm 66, to be read in unison.

***Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;***

***Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.***

***For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.***

***You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.***

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

***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.***

***I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.***

***Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.***

***I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.***

***If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;***

***But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.***

***Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.***

A Reading from the Book of Acts

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.”

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

THE SECOND LESSON

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.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL HYMN

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied –
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine –
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

A Reading from the Gospel According to St. John

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will pray to the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more, but you will see me; because I live, you will live also. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me; and he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

HOMILY

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor

The Mission of Holy Comforter

Love God, Love Others

Serve God, Serve Others

Officiant and People together

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People

***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.***

Officiant: Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

People: Govern and uphold them, now and always.

Officiant: Day by day we bless you;

People: We praise your Name for ever.

Officiant: Lord, keep us from all sin today;

People: Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

Officiant: Lord, show us your love and mercy;

People: For we put our trust in you.

Officiant: In you, Lord, is our hope;

People: And we shall never hope in vain.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 225

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.**

A COLLECT FOR THE RENEWAL OF LIFE

BCP 99

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our Lord lives, for death has no more power over him. And so we, God's holy church, proclaim the resurrection, saying, Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed.

God of life, in gratitude and great joy, we thank you for the gifts of Christ's resurrection. We especially give thanks for those celebrating birthdays: *Carly Garrison, Amy Stratton, Lorraine Banks, Natalie Belair, and Bailey Garrison.* For those celebrating anniversaries: *Bobby and Lorraine Banks.* We give thanks for our partnership with Martinez Elementary School and The Claiborne at West Lake. On this day, give us hope, for Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

Honoring the gift of Christ's risen body, may we rise to serve all those whose needs keep them from seeing themselves as the image of God; for Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

For all who have need of the gift of Easter; for all who journey from illness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to consolation, from loneliness to love; for all our brothers and sisters, that death may have no more power over us. We especially pray for those in need of healing: *Linda Jewell and Pat Sells*. For Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

For all who suffer and all who mourn, that today the Lord God will wipe away all tears. For the departed: *Grayson Brown*. For Christ is Risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

May we have the persistent faith of Mary Magdalene and the surprised belief of Peter and John. May we long to be God's sign of life in our world. For Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

Officiant: God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. We praise you for the dying which saves us from death and for the rising which brings us life. We pray, as we live, through Jesus the Risen One, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. ***Amen.***

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

BCP 102

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.***

1. I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to fol - low
 2. I want to see the bright - ness of God; I want to look at
 3. I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ; I want to be with

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world; the
 Je - sus. Clear Sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
 Je - sus. When we have run with pa - tience the race, we

Refrain

star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark - ness at
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.

all; the night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

light of the cit - y of God: Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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. Ephesians 3:20,21*

BLESSING

Always remember how short life is and how little time we have to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the rich and abundant blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all, evermore. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Officiant: Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People (Especially children): Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

SERVING TODAY

Officiant	The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor
Lector	Dr. Dave Blake
Musicians	Drs. Brad and Lucy Green
Live stream	Thomas Saunders
Readers	Robert, Cheryl and Emily Spessert, Molly and Ben John

VESTRY

Fred Hoogland, Sr. Warden, Dave Blake, Jr. Warden
Mallory Halterman , Steven Hahn,
Tab Carter , Bill Leibel