

Morning Prayer  
The Seventh Sunday of Easter  
May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Grace Episcopal Church

**Opening**

*Officiant* Christ has no body on earth now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on the world; yours are the feet with which he walks to do good; yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world. *Theresa of Avila*

**Prelude**

*Trio Sonata I, Allegro*

J.S. Bach

**Opening Sentences**

*Officiant* Alleluia, Christ is risen.

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

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*

**The Peace**

*Officiant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**The Invitatory and Psalter**

**BCP 80**

*All stand*

*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.

*Officiant* Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:

**People** **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover, *Pascha nostrum***

**BCP 83**

*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

*Officiant and People*

**Alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \***

**therefore let us keep the feast,**

**Not with the 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 also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

*Officiant* Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:  
*People* Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

**Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36**

*(Spoken in unison)*

- 1** Let 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.
- 3** But 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!
- 5** Father 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.
- 7** O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8** The 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.
- 9** You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance;  
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10** Your people found their home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 33** Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;  
sing praises to the Lord.
- 34** He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;  
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

**35 Ascribe power to God; his majesty is over Israel;  
his strength is in the skies.**

**36 How wonderful is God in his holy places!  
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!**

**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.**

## **The Lessons**

### **The First Lesson: Acts 1:6-14**

*Lector* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, “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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**Canticle 6, A Song of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 36:24-28)**

**EOW 34**

*Officiant and People*

**I will take you from among all nations; \***  
**and gather you from all lands to bring you home.**  
**I will sprinkle clean water upon you; \***  
**and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.**  
**A new heart I will give you \***  
**and a new spirit put within you.**  
**I will take the stone heart from your chest \***  
**and give you a heart of flesh.**  
**I will help you walk in my laws \***  
**and cherish my commandments and do them.**  
**You shall be my people, \***  
**and I will be your God.**

## The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

*Lector* 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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle E, A Song of Jerusalem, our Mother** (*Isaiah 66: 10-14*)

*Officiant and People*

**EOW 32**

**Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her \***  
all you who love her,  
**Rejoice, rejoice with her, \***  
all you who mourn over her,  
**That you may drink deeply with delight \***  
from her comforting breast.  
**For thus says our God, \***  
“I will extend peace to her like a river,  
the wealth of nations like an overflowing stream.  
“You shall nurse and be carried on her arm,  
and you shall nestle in her lap.  
“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; \*  
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.  
“You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice, \*  
you shall flourish like the grass of the fields.”

**Anthem**

*Ascendit Deus*

Peter Phillips

## The Gospel Lesson: John 17:1-11

*Lector* A reading from the Gospel of John.

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.”

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Sermon

The Rev. David Burman

BCP 96

## The Apostles' Creed

*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.**

## Hymn 214

Hail the day that sees him rise

## The Prayers

*The People stand or kneel*

BCP 97

*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

*Officiant* O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other, in suffering and in joy, that all your children may be drawn into your bountiful dwelling. **Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

*Intercessor* In the power of the resurrection let us pray to the Living God saying: Raise us to new life in Christ.  
  
For the whole bright earth, lovingly created and compassionately redeemed, that it may speak again of your glory and majesty, we pray:  
O Living God,  
**People** **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

*Intercessor* For all peoples and all nations of the earth, that we may be transformed by mercy and live together in hope.  
O Living God,  
**People** **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

*Intercessor* For the holy church, that in this bright season which brings joy to believers, we may commit ourselves to work toward the unity of the church, that Christ's body may be one, we pray:  
O Living God,  
**People** **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

*Intercessor* For all in authority, that they may govern with equity and justice, and work to bring life to those in the shadow of death, we pray:  
O Living God,  
**People** **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

*Intercessor* For all who seek to honor the gift of Christ's resurrected body, that we may rise up to serve a broken and hurting world.  
O Living God,  
**People** **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

*Intercessor* For all who live in poverty, sickness, loneliness and grief, that you will wipe the tears from their faces, we pray especially for: Jeanette, Jane, James and Barbara, Kathleen and Caroline, Bo and Mary Minor, Helen, Nancy, David, Charlotte, Tyler, Jeff, Rebecca, J.R., Marcia, Major, Peggy, Jean, William, Timothy, Donald, Robert, Cooper, Sally, Charles, Jonathan, Steven, John, Libby, Rebecca, Elaine, Jean, Barbara, Elizabeth, John, Joyce, Jim, Mary Ruth, and Ann;

We pray for Wil, Jake, Jordan, Kevin, Tripp, Mike, Alexander, Russel, Logan, Jim, Sean, Evan, and all of our Armed Forces, here and abroad;

We pray for Janine, Emily, and Kerry, who are with child.

We give thanks for the birth last week of Virginia Marie, son of Lizzy and Matt and grand-daughter of Nan and David, and for Piper Zadie, daughter of Shannon and David.

We pray for all who are treating the sick, staffing health care facilities, stocking shelves, transporting supplies, providing transit, suffering from illness, grieving those who have died, and adjusting to new ways of living in the midst of the current pandemic, we pray:

*Intercessor*    O Living God,  
*People*            **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

*Intercessor*    For all who have died, that they may share in Christ's Resurrection, redeemed and restored to everlasting life, we pray:  
O Living God,

*People*            **Raise us to new life in Christ.**

*Intercessor*    O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ endured the cross and ascended to your right hand.  
Empower us by your spirit to keep your commandments and walk in his way, that we may show forth your love with gentle word and reverent deed to all your people. **Amen.**

## A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP 102

*Officiant and People*

**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.**

*Then may be said*

*Officiant*    Let us bless the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**   *Ephesians 3:20,21*

## Announcements

## Postlude

### Worship Leaders

Officiants	The Rev. April Berends, The Rev. David Burman
Preacher	The Rev. David Burman
Lector	Bill Boren
Organist	Patrick Rice
Director of Music	David Long
Singers	Steven Hinkle, David Long, Megan Long, Elizabeth Schrock, Janelle Wagoner, Trevor Wagoner
Video	Richard Lanham

## Announcements

### Join Us for Online Worship at 9am & 10:45am Sundays

During this time of Social Distancing, we will continue to stream videos for Morning Prayer worship on our [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) at 9am and again at 10:45am. Bulletins for each week's service will be sent along with the Grace Notes weekend issue, and will be posted on the website alongside the video for the service. If you miss the 9am or 10:45am video streams, you can always go back and watch later.

## Christian Formation Opportunities

### “Dream, Think, Be, Do” Sundays at 10am

Beginning on Sunday, May 24th, we will begin a course produced by *Living the Questions*. “Dream, Think, Be, Do” provides an overview of progressive Christianity featuring the insights of over twenty-five theologians and teachers at the top of their game. With sessions covering a broad range of theological topics, this series invites us into a process of re-visioning Christianity that is translating what it means to follow Jesus in today’s world. Videos will be made available the week prior to each week’s session, and we will gather on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. via Zoom for discussion of the topics presented. Links to the video for each week, as well as the link for the Zoom Meeting will go out via GraceNotes. Please email Sean McEwen at [seanjmc ewen@gmail.com](mailto:seanjmc ewen@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining.

### Parenting in Pandemic, Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30pm

Rev. April and Grace’s director of children’s ministry, Maria Hurt, invite all parents and grandparents who have children home during the pandemic to join us for a conversation via Zoom on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30pm. We’ll share challenges and wisdom, have the opportunity to pray for one another, and discern ways that we can support one another and our kids during this difficult time.

### Queer Theology, Wednesdays at 7pm

The community of Grace has long maintained a commitment of embracing and affirming the gifts and the belovedness of all persons, including LGBTQ+ persons. Beginning May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, the Rev. April Berends and Sean McEwen will be leading a Queer Theology class so that we might explore these commitments more deeply. We are still compiling the reading list for this class, but we expect that it will involve shorter articles, videos and podcasts. Material and content will be structured around the questions that participants bring to the class. Possible topics might include questions about heaven, hell and salvation, how we see God’s story reflected in our own stories (and vice versa), how we might wrestle faithfully with doubts and questions, and how queerness and Christianity intersect and inform one another. Sound interesting? Email April at [aberends@saygrace.net](mailto:aberends@saygrace.net) if you would like to join this conversation, and be sure to send along any questions or issues you might like to explore.

## Community Care in Anxious Times

As has been the case throughout the pandemic, should you have an urgent pastoral need, please call the parish office at (423)243-3250 and leave a message on the **main line**. We will be checking these messages regularly even if we aren’t in the office.