

**The Liturgy of the Word**  
**The Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
**May 16, 2021**  
**Grace Episcopal Church**

**The Easter Acclamation**

Celebrant      Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
People         **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**The Collect for Purity**

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 Song of God's Love** *(spoken by all)*

I John 4:7-11

Beloved, let us love one another, \*  
for love is of God.  
Whoever does not love does not know God, \*  
for God is Love.  
In this the love of God was revealed among us, \*  
that God sent his only Son into the world,  
so that we might live through Jesus Christ.  
In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us \*  
and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.  
Beloved, since God loved us so much, \*  
we ought also to love one another.  
For if we love one another, God abides in us, \*  
and God's love will be perfected in us.

**Collect of the Day**

Celebrant      The Lord be with you.  
People         **And also with you.**  
Celebrant      Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

**The First Lesson** Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Reader         A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus -- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord

Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us -- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader           The Word of the Lord.  
People           **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 1

Reader           Let us read together this portion of Psalm 1.

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of  
the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

## The Second Lesson

1 John 5:9-13

Reader           A reading from the first book of John.

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Reader           The Word of the Lord.  
People           **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

*See the conqueror mounts in triumph*

*Hymnal 215*

## The Gospel

John 17:6-19

Jesus prayed for his disciples, "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. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

**Reader**            **The Word of the Lord.**  
**People**            **Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

Sarah Hess, Seminarian

## **The Nicene Creed**

BCP 358

**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.**

## **Anthem**

*O Clap Your Hands*

*Gibbons*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **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: *Silence*

O Living God,

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

Intercessor For all peoples and all nations of the earth, that they may be transformed by mercy and live together in hope. *Silence*

O Living God,

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

Intercessor For the holy church, that on this feast day 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: *Silence*

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: *Silence*

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. *Silence*

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 Virginia, Gerry, Andrea, Jennifer, June, Al, Amy, Deborah, Ann, the Hale family, Patty, Reba, Niysah, Daniel, Valorie, Terrie, Alex, Andrea, Steve, Angela, Dwight, James and Barbara, Doris, Rebecca, J.R., Charlotte, Libby, Jean, Barbara, Elizabeth, Joyce, and Ann;

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

We pray for Bren who is deployed as a nurse in the pandemic.

We pray for Alice and Ali, who are with child.

We pray for all whose homes are in peril or uprooted because of climate change, for all displaced because of hurricanes, fires or other disasters.

We pray for all who remain on the front lines of this pandemic, for all suffering from illness, those who have died, and all who grieve as a result of COVID-19. *Silence*

O Living God,

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

Intercessor For all who have died, especially James Dooley, father of Gail Dooley, that they may share in Christ's Resurrection, redeemed and restored to everlasting life, we pray: *Silence*

O Living God,

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

Celebrant Gracious God, in the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you have given us eternal life and glorified your name in all the world. Refresh our souls with the living streams of your truth, that in our unity, your joy may be complete. **Amen.**

## The Peace

Celebrant    The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People        **And also with you.**

## The Blessing

## Postlude

## Worship Leaders

Officiantst	The Rev. April Berends, The Rev. David Burman
Preacher	Sarah Hess, Seminarian
Lectors	Jim Milburn, Dick McGee
Intercessor	Andy Belcher
Organists	John Wigal
Director of Music	David Long
Singers	James Harr, Steven Hinkle, Cynthia Johnson, David Long, Meredith Ogle, Elisabeth Schrock, Janelle Wagoner, Trevor Wagoner, John Wigal
Video	Richard Lanham, Janelle Wagoner

## 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. 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 video streams, you can always go back and watch later.

### Clergy Outdoor Office Hours

The April Berends will be in the courtyard for outdoor office hours on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-10:30am. The Rev. David Burman will be there on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00am-noon. As always, our priests would be happy to connect with you, either by phone or video call or socially-distanced in person. Feel free to call, text, or email April ([aberends@saygrace.net](mailto:aberends@saygrace.net)) or David ([dburman@saygrace.net](mailto:dburman@saygrace.net)) to set up a time to meet.

### Morning Prayer and Compline

All are invited to escape from the madness and rest your mind and soul via Morning Prayer on weekdays and Saturday at 9:00 a.m., and services of Compline at 8:00 p.m. each evening. We all need reminders of essential realities that transcend the medical and political context in which we find ourselves.

Here are the links for Daily Morning Prayer and Compline:

[Weekday Morning Prayer](#)

[Weekday Compline](#)

### Community Care in Anxious Times

Grace check-in team leaders are continuing to contact parishioners via phone, text and/ or email. Please take a moment to pick up or write back to let them know if you're okay and/or if you need help, pastorally or physically.

The leaders of these groups will be in close communication with our priests and our network of volunteers. If you are a new member of Grace and we do not have your information in the directory, please fill out the New Member form [here](#) and let us know if you would like to be added to a check-in group. If 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.