

All Angels Episcopal Church
Sixth Sunday of Easter
9:15 a.m.

*In God
we live, move,
and have our being.*

Acts 17:28



May 17, 2020

Prelude

Dale Hooey

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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. The Lord is risen indeed:

Come let us adore him. Alleluia!

Venite

BCP 83/Hymnal S39

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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 psalm for this morning is Psalm 66, verses 7 through 18. It can be found in your bulletin and, in your prayer books on page 673-675. Let us read it responsively by half verse; please respond after the asterisk.

Psalm 66:7-18

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

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

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

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

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

12 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.

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *

I will give you oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *

and I will tell you what he has done for me.

15 I called out to him with my mouth, *

and his praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had found evil in my heart, *

the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; *

he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *

nor withheld his love from me.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 17:16-34

While Paul waited for Silas and Timothy in Athens, he was deeply distressed to find that the city was flooded with idols. He began to interact with the Jews and Gentile God-worshippers in the synagogue. He also addressed whoever happened to be in the marketplace each day. Certain Epicurean and Stoic philosophers engaged him in discussion too. Some said, “What an amateur! What’s he trying to say?” Others remarked, “He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods.” (They said this because he was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) They took him into custody and brought him to the council on Mars Hill. “What is this new teaching? Can we learn what you are talking about? You’ve told us some strange things and we want to know what they mean.” (They said this because all Athenians as well as the foreigners who live in Athens used to spend their time doing nothing but talking about or listening to the newest thing.)

Paul stood up in the middle of the council on Mars Hill and said, “People of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. As I was walking through town and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: ‘To an unknown God.’ What you worship as unknown, I now proclaim to you. God, who made the world and everything in it, is Lord of heaven and earth. He doesn’t live in temples made with human hands. Nor is God served by human hands, as though he needed something, since he is the one who gives life, breath, and everything else. From one person God created every human nation to live on the whole earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands. God made the nations so they would seek him, perhaps even reach out to him and find him. In fact, God isn’t far away from any of us. In God we live, move, and have our being. As some of your own poets said, ‘We are his offspring.’”

“Therefore, as God’s offspring, we have no need to imagine that the divine being is like a gold, silver, or stone image made by human skill and thought. God overlooks ignorance of these things in times past, but now directs everyone everywhere to change their hearts and lives. This is because God has set a day when he intends to judge the world justly by a man he has appointed. God has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

When they heard about the resurrection from the dead, some began to ridicule Paul. However, others said, “We’ll hear from you about this again.” At that, Paul left the council. Some people joined him and came to believe, including Dionysius, a member of the council on Mars Hill, a woman named Damaris, and several others.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A reading from John.

John 14:15-21

Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. I will ask the Father, and he will send another Companion, who will be with you forever. This Companion is the Spirit of Truth, whom the world can’t receive because it neither sees him nor recognizes him. You

know him, because he lives with you and will be with you.

“I won’t leave you as orphans. I will come to you. Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Because I live, you will live too. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them loves me. Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be God.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dave Marshall

Musical Reflection *Peace Before Us*

Joyce Hooey, Soloist

The Apostles' Creed

BCP 96

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 universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

BCP 97

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed by 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.

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

A Collect for Sunday

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of petition with thanksgiving

You are invited and encouraged to say out loud those things that weigh on your heart and the blessings for which you give thanks to God.

Jesus said, “Do not be afraid. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

We pray for those who are sick, those who suffer; we pray for all who protect us both here and abroad, and for those on our prayer list; especially, Downs IV, Holden, Ruth, Timothy, Lynne, Don, Bill, Dorothy Jo, Valerie, Sue, Elizabeth, Kay, Vicki, Jim, Barbara, Ward, Krista, John, Cynthia, Alex, Linda, Andres, Jonathan, Ginny, Mary Ann, Ed, Carling, Sofia and Victoria.

We pray for John Maxheim who is recovering from surgery for tongue cancer, we pray that Tom Thomas will continue in his recovery from hip surgery.

We pray that the Holy Spirit comfort those who cannot visit their loved ones, and for those who cannot be visited, and we pray that the wisdom and love of the Holy Spirit descend upon those who care for those who sick.

We pray for those we name now either silently or aloud.

Silence

We pray for those who have died, especially for the repose of the soul of Jonathan Detwiler. May light perpetual shine upon him.

We pray for Gloria, and for all who mourn, especially those we name now.

Silence

Bring us the Living Bread that is broken and shared for the world; Lord God, help us find peace in you. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

O God, I am sorry that I have sinned against you; for all the wrongs I have done and for the good I have not done. Especially I confess these things now... Forgive me for Jesus' sake, and grant me strength and wisdom to amend my life. Amen.

Blessed Jesus, in union with the faithful gathered around the world today, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

And particularly for the blessings given me that I name now ...

I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot receive communion at this time, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom in me, in my family, and in my community, let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart; be my wisdom and guide me along the right pathways; and, conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

And may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep my heart and mind in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ my Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with me now and always. Amen.

Reflective Hymn *You Raise Me Up* soloist, Joyce Hooey, accompanist Dale Hooey

Concluding prayer

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.

Greetings and Announcements

Closing *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* Hymnal #460

- 1 Alleluia! sing to Jesus! his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood.
- 2 Alleluia! not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?
- 3 Alleluia! bread of Heaven, Thou on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to thee from day to day;
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Let us Bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

Dale Hooey

Announcements

Thank You of the Week: To all the faithful gardeners who work to keep All Angels an inviting and beautiful place to pray and worship.

Centering Prayer Centering Prayer invites you to pray with them, every day, at 8 am, wherever you are. When you enter into prayer at 8 am (Eastern), you will know that others are praying at the same time.

Discussion Group, the article for discussion with the Men's and Women's group is available on our website: www.allangelslbk.org. All discussion groups are currently on Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/5955701807> Meeting ID: 595 570 1807

Food Bank Barrel Please bring non-perishable items for the Food Bank. The yellow barrel is next to the angel fountain.

Leave a Puzzle, Take a Puzzle During this puzzling time, the Marshalls are working on a variety of puzzles to have a quiet moment away from a busy household. We'd like to share puzzles with you. Near the Food Bank barrel, let's have a leave-a-puzzle/take-a-puzzle for anyone who'd like to try a new puzzle.

Birthdays & Anniversaries If you have a birthday or anniversary coming up next month, please email Linn Torres at lt@allangelslbk.org

Tidings If you are not receiving our electronic newsletter, Tidings, or if you have changed your email address, please email marialove@allangelslbk.org to be added.

Video The service today will be recorded and made available on YouTube and on our website: www.allangelslbk.org.

Reflection

Jerks

American cartoonist, and creator of the single-panel comic strip *Far Side*, Gary Larson, created a cartoon pictured below. It is a caricature of God who is cooking up the earth in his kitchen. On the shelf are various ingredients – humans, insects, birds, trees. Like a master baker, God has one last ingredient to put onto his masterpiece. Over the earth, he has a shaker and the ingredient is labeled, “Jerks”. God is pictured saying, “And just to make it interesting...”

It made me laugh – yet, it is also true. There are jerks on every continent, every business and government, and, may I dare add, even in religious organizations. Whether or not God placed them on every continent is a different reflection altogether.

The discussion groups this week read three articles that focused on the intersections of government, the pandemic, and religion. One article quoted Christian religious leaders in the U.S. who claimed the Coronavirus was politically motivated, it was propaganda, and an illusion or mirage. The second article highlighted how leaders of Islam were reacting to the pandemic. I found it interesting that some Islamic leaders said things similar to what the U.S. Christian leaders said about the virus. I would like to point out, however, that just like most Christians leaders, the majority of Islamic leaders worldwide are working with public health officials and are modifying their practices to keep their people safe. Moderate voices, nevertheless, do not seem to make it into the press as much. Take for example how the local media reports on a public school board meeting. Considerate and well-thought out arguments rarely make the news. The voices we hear on the evening news are usually, if you don't mind me saying, jerks. Maybe God did give us jerks to make things more interesting.

So, how about this for a new spiritual practice: next time I'm at Publix and I encounter a jerk, or I get passed while driving the speed limit on GMD Drive, instead of getting angry, maybe I should see the encounter as God making life interesting.

- Fr. Dave

