



The Parson's Postings  
Jesus' high-priestly prayer

**The Seventh Sunday of Easter  
May 24, 2020  
10:30 a.m.**

Grace Episcopal Church  
123 W. Washington Street  
Lexington, VA 24450

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Lexington Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

May 24, 2020

## The Seventh Sunday of Easter The Holy Eucharist: Rite II The Word of God

10:30 a.m.

Prelude: *Fanfare on Melita* “Eternal Father/Almighty Father Strong to Save”

**Hymn 579** Almighty Father, strong to save

Words: Sts. 1 and 4, William Whiting (1825-1878), alt.; sts. 2-3, Robert Nelson Spencer (1877-1961), alt.

Music: *Melita*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

88. 88. 88

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ has risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.*

## Hymn Glory to God in the highest

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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

### The Collect of the Day

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 Lessons

Acts 1:6-14

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.

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

read by Steve & Peggy Riethmiller accompanied by Demmanuel Gonzalez

- 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!

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

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.

**Hymn 439** What wondrous love is this      David Gates, accompanist and singer; Bonnie Gates, clarinetist

*Unison*

1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to  
 3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that  
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll

caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my  
 is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835    Music: *Wondrous Love*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835

John 17:1-11

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.”

**The Sermon**

Fr. Tuck

## **The Nicene Creed**

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.

## **The Prayers of the People**

*Please pray for the wider Church and intercessions requested by our congregants: Pray for the Church of England, The Most Rev. and Right Hon. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury.*

*Pray for the people of Good Shepherd, Blue Grass and their rector, the Rev. Helen Beasley. Pray for the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Haiti as they search for their new Bishop, the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines, the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Justin Badi Arama.*

*Pray for Jeanne Eichelberger, Carolyn West-Willette, Bettie Cadden, Rev. Susan Bentley, Lynda DeMaria, Bob DeMaria, Mary Craighill, Lori Sadler, Pam Holsten, Jordan (friend of David Cox), Lynne Johnson, Melissa Hays-Smith, Pat Gibson, Polly Lawrence, Greg Lemmer, Kent Wilson, Myra Brush, Susan Williams, Eddie Hawkins, Holt Merchant, Ned Glenn (Brother of Elizabeth Harralson), Daniel Keane (nephew of James Keane), and Mary Froehlich.*

*Pray for those who have died, especially Anne Trinkle Oberndorfer.*

*Pray for those affected by unsafe living conditions, poverty, disease, especially Covid-19, violence and oppression.*

*Pray for Martha Burford as she discerns her call to the diaconate.*

*In thanksgiving for birthdays for this week and next of Anne Tyler McCabe (5/31) Ellie Mastin (5/31) Paula Cushman (6/1) Ed Dooley (6/1) Bill Stearns (6/2) Philip Brooke (6/2) Sophie Brown (6/4) Grigg Mullen (6/5) Bill Luton (6/7)*

**Lector:** Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

***Heal us.***

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

***Forgive us.***

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

***Inspire us.***

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

***Enlighten us.***

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

***Renew us.***

We remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country, especially those of Grace Church in Lexington who offered their lives in the service of our country, who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines.

***In their memory.***

**Priest:** Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. *Amen.*

**The Peace**

**The Holy Communion**

**Anthem: *Beati Mortui***

F. Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth:  
Yea, saith the Spirit,  
That they may rest from their labours;  
And their works do follow them.

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Celebrant	The Lord be with you
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus:**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior

Christ has taught us,

we are bold to say,

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.

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

The Gifts of God for the people of God.

Though we cannot share in the Bread and Wine we believe that Christ is ever present with us through the indwelling Holy Spirit given to us in Baptism. We who are many are One Body because we share in the One Spirit. Together then let us join in thanking God for the grace of our unending communion.

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn 718** God of our fathers

1 God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y  
2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the  
3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -  
4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
past, in this free land by thee our lot is cast;  
lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;  
way, lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,  
be thou our ru - ler, guard - ian, guide, and stay  
thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease,  
fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.  
thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.  
thy bount - eous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

Words: Daniel Crane Roberts (1841-1907) Music: *National Hymn*, George William Warren (1828-1902)

**Blessing & Dismissal**

**Postlude** My Country Tis of Thee *America*

Music largely recorded remotely and assembled. Musicians include: Joanna Armstrong, Alex Brown, Martha Burford, Jonathan Clawson, Mary Doyle, Anne Hershbell, Tim Price, Anne Sauder, Levi Lebsack, Robin and Doug Lebsack, David and Bonnie Gates, Jennifer Byrnes, Elisabeth Gruner.

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