



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 24, 2020

Welcome to our Sunday virtual service. You can join in on your cell phone by calling 1-646-558-8656. When you are connected, enter the access code when prompted - 715 310 766 followed by the # sign. Then, when prompted, you will enter the password 014954#.

You can also join us by landline by dialing 1-301-715-8592. When asked, dial in the Meeting ID - 715 310 766, and then the password - 014954.

Opening Hymn (Please hum along)

Celebrant: The Lord is risen

People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ our Passover (*Pascha nostrum*)

Celebrant 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.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

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 Lessons

A Reading from the Books of the Early Church

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.

The Reader may say

This is the resurrection message

People God's spirit resists containment in tombs and walks among us.

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

- 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!

A Reading from the Epistles of the Early Church

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.

The Reader may say

You sprinkle words of peace and hope upon us like flowers

People What are we still afraid of? You are with us.

Gradual

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (17: 1 - 11)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Ken Phelps, Jr.

An Easter Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant: We are not alone, we live in God's world.

People: *We believe in God: Who has created and is creating,*

Who has come in Jesus, The Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

Who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:

To celebrate God's presence,

To love and to serve others,

To seek justice and resist evil,

To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

The Prayers of the People

In this Eastertide we celebrate and proclaim the resurrection of Jesus and the triumph of Love, that all might trust in God, and in so doing, enjoy authentic life in his name. That everyone may experience the new life in Christ, even in the midst of the old life of fear and despair, let us pray for all God's people, and for all people everywhere according to their needs, saying: Lord, have mercy.

That amid all the fears which seize us on our road to becoming disciples, Christ's peace may unlock doors and be shared and experienced for the

strengthening of faith, *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord,
have mercy.

That all who have come to new birth in holy baptism may live in peace with each other. Especially we pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our Bishops; and for our brothers and sisters who serve the Gospel at All Saints', Reisterstown; Ascension, Westminster; and Epiphany, Timonium; and for Brian K. McDonnell, Schelly Reid-Levy and Elizabeth D. Siciliano. We pray for Ken and Lisa, our clergy, Betsy, our clergy emeritus, Kip, Patrick, Tom, Deb and Barbara, our Wardens, Steve, our Treasurer, our Vestry, and other mission leaders. *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy

That those who guide the course of nations may be led to wise decisions and right actions for those whom they serve. Especially we pray for Donald, President of the United States, Larry, Governor of the State of Maryland, and all who serve us in our County and State *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy

That your peace may truly reign. We pray for those impacted by war everywhere, friend and foe alike; for the safe return of all those who stand in harm's way, especially those known to us, and for the triumph of reconciling love, *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy

That the sick, the infirm, and disturbed might experience the healing power of the Spirit of the risen Christ, especially those we now name before you

(Members are encouraged to pray silently or aloud for those known and unknown to our community. Names of those for whom our prayers have been asked may be found on the Prayer list at the end of the bulletin)

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

That all who have died in the faith, especially, Blaun Brewton, Johnny Guy, and Ben Smith+, may serve as examples to us who continue in our pilgrimage on earth, *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

O God of compassion, giver of life and health, we pray your healing mercies upon all who are in any way affected by the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Comfort and sustain those who have been stricken; relieve their pain and restore to them your gifts of gladness and strength. Grant to all in authority the courage to make wise decisions that are essential for the common good and strengthen them to lead institutions that care for those whom they serve. Watch over all first responders and those in the medical professions whose duty it is to care for the sick; guard them from all danger, and keep them safe in the knowledge that is through their sacrifice and service that the health of the whole community is promoted, *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

The celebrant continues

Lord, we do trust you and want to respond to your call. Help us in our moments of confusion and despair, and lead us into acts of kindness, compassion and reconciliation, for the sake of the one who died and lives again, even Jesus Christ, the first and the last, the living one, in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People
And also with you.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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 God thanks and praise.*

The Celebrant continues

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true, loving and ever living God; through Jesus Christ, embodiment of your eternal Word. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all that you create stands as a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you sent Jesus to be among us, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, even offering his life. Through Jesus, you have freed us from the grip of sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you and each other, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, and longing for Christ's coming to us, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People:

Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Celebrant continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love. Giver of Life draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your blessed people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. *Amen.* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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

Celebrant: We are one people; one body in Christ, for we eat of
one

loaf and drink from one cup.

People: *Thank you, gracious God, for the food that makes us one with
you,*

and one with each other

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen

Benediction

Closing Hymn

Dismissal