This morning’s worship for the Sixth Sunday of Easter is offered by Trinity Episcopal Church in Muscatine, Iowa.

PRELUDE

There is a Balm in Gilead

arr. John Leavitt

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe

ENTRANCE HYMN 400 v 1, 4, 5, 7

All Creatures of Our God and King

1 All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voices, let us
2 Great rushing winds and breezes soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a-
3 Swift flowing water, pure and clear, make music for your Lord to
4 Dear mother earth, you day by day unfold your blessings on our
5 All you with mercy in your heart, forgiving others, take your
6 And even you, most gentle death, waiting to hush our final
7 Let all things their creator bless, and worship him in humble-

1 sing: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Bright burning
2 loft, O___ praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! Fair rising
3 hear, Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Fire, so in-
4 way, O___ praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! All flowers and
5 part, O___ sing now: Al-le-lu-ia! All you that
6 breath, O___ praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! You lead back
7 ness, O___ praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! Praise God the

1 sun with golden beams, pale silver moon that gently gleams,
2 morn, with praise rejoicing, stars nightly shining, find a voice,
3 tense and fiercely bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glory also show:
5 pain and sorrow bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
7 Fa-ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi-rit, Three in One:
The Episcopal Diocese of Iowa

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

The refrains may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Title: All creatures of our God and King  Meter: 88. 44. 88 with Refrain  Words: St. Francis of Assisi (1882-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt.  Music: Lasst uns erfreuen, melody from Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)  Copyright: Music: By permission of Oxford University Press. Permission to reprint and podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-709426.

Celebrant:  Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People:  The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Celebrant and people
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 following is sung,
The Episcopal Diocese of Iowa

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 17:22-31

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all

Title: Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis
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mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:7-18

The Psalm is spoken in unison.

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 First Letter of Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Response: Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN 383 Fairest Lord Jesus

1 Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of thy will I cherish,
blooming garb of spring: Jesus is fairer,
twinkling, starry host: Jesus shines brighter,

2 Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the thee will I honor, thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.

3 Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.
The Gospel

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  

Response: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Cn. Kathleen Milligan

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 Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.
Silence
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.
Silence
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.
Silence
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.
Silence
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.
Silence
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.
Silence
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
The people are invited to add your own prayers, silently, aloud or typed in the comments.
The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

THE PEACE
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.
The people exchange a sign of peace.
Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High

OFFERTORY HYMN #705 As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought

Unison or harmony

1 As those of old their first fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and
2 A world in need now summons us to labor, love, and
3 With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to

field to God, the giver of all good, the
give; to make our life an offering to
thee to serve thy cause and share thy love with

source of bounteous yield; so we today our
God that all may live; the Church of Christ is

all humanity. O thou who gavest

first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land, of
calling us to make the dream come true; a
us thyself in Jesus Christ thy Son, help
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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 S125

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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

FRACTION ANTHEM S164

Setting: From Deutsce Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b.1937) Permission to reprint and podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-709426.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.
An Act of Spiritual Communion

As those who are physically present receive the Bread and Wine, those who are digitally present are invited to say the following prayer for communion with Christ, from A Prayer Book for the Armed Services (2008):

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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: 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, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. 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.

THE BLESSING

The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe

SENDING HYMN 292

O Jesus, Crowned with All Renown

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The Episcopal Diocese of Iowa

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE The Church’s One Foundation arr. Mark Hayes

We invite you to join us online next week for worship offered by St. Paul’s in Durant, Iowa at 10:00am. To learn more about and support the mission and ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church in Muscatine, visit:

https://www.muscatine-trinity.org