

Welcome to Saint Mary's Episcopal Church

Easter 7—May 29, 2022, 10am

Zoom Only

Adapted Morning Prayer with Gospel Based Discipleship

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude *Instrumental*

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Officiant Blessed be the One Holy and Living God.

People **Glory to God forever and ever.**

Song of Praise Holy, Holy, Holy

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

Alt. Music: Nicaea, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

Opening Collect

Prayers for an Inclusive Church, Steven Shakespeare

Officiant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Living God, Mystery of Love, given and received before all foundations, you heal our hearts, hardened into divisions and indifference: deepen our yearning for unity and enrich our love for diversity that the whole creation might share in your communion; through Jesus Christ, who makes known your love.

People **Amen.**

The Lessons

Reader Let us prepare ourselves to hear the Word of God as it comes to use from the Rev. Dr. Michael K. Marsh.

(from "That They May All Be One", sermon by Rev. Dr. Michael Marsh, rector of St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Uvalde, Texas.)

People **Our hearts and minds are open.**

Reader Jesus does not pray for our tolerance, our getting along, or just being nice to each other. He does not even pray that our differences would be eliminated. Instead he prays for our oneness. He prays that we would be one as he and the Creator are one so that our oneness would be the revelation of God's presence to the world. Oneness in the midst of difference becomes a sacramental presence of God's life in the world.

That does not mean, however, that we lose our identity or individuality. Jesus does not stop being Jesus *and* the Creator because they are one. Oneness is less about numbers and quantity and more qualitative. Jesus and the Creator are one because they love and give themselves to each other. Oneness is a quality of life – God's life. Jesus' prayer for oneness is ultimately that we would be and live like God.

Oneness is not about eliminating differences. It is about love. Love is the only thing that can ever overcome division. Over and over Jesus tells us that.

- Love God.
- Love your neighbor.
- Love yourself.
- Love your enemy.

Reader
People Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Officiant
People A reading from John. *John 17: 20-26*
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Officiant Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Officiant
People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Based Discipleship discussion

Questions: "What is God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit Doing in these readings?"
"Where do you see yourself?"
"What does this reading say about the journey you're on?"

Affirmation of Faith

A New Zealand Prayer Book

Officiant Let us affirm our faith.
People **You, O God, are supreme and holy.**
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.
You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved Your love for us in Jesus Christ,
Who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.

You are God.
You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God.
We worship You. Amen.

Baptismal Promises

The Book of Common Prayer

Officiant And now we join together with members of the worldwide Anglican/Episcopal Communion in translating the beliefs in our hearts into action in our lives, in these baptismal questions.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Officiant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers of the People

St. Mary's Worship and Music Teams

Officiant Dearest Jesus, even death cannot entrap you. Risen from the tomb, you are with us still; we see you everywhere.

In the golden sun rising from the east,
In the tenderness of a newborn's grip,
In the transformation of things old becoming new,

People **You rise again in a spirit of Justice,
You rise again in a spirit of Love,
We rise anew in your spirit of Justice,
We rise anew in your spirit of love.**

Officiant In flashes of insight and leaps of imagination,
In challenges that demand our best selves,
In time spent in the service of others,

People **You rise again...(etc)**

Officiant In perfume of lilacs and newly tilled gardens,
In works of art that stir our souls,
In warming embers of faithful friendships,

People **You rise again...**

Officiant In those who risk much for the common good,
In passion to bring peace to the world,
In wealth released to bring dignity to all,

People **You rise again...**

Officiant In courage mustered to do a hard thing,
In the open door beckoning a better way,
In confessions offered and forgiveness given,

People **You rise again...**

Officiant In relief from suffering,
In restoring of health and hope,
In your embrace extended to those who die,

People **You rise again...**

Saint Mary's Community Prayers: Concerns and Thanksgivings

Everyone is invited to offer blessings, concerns and thanksgivings, either out loud or in the chat.

Concluding Collect

Officiant Hear the prayers of your people, O God; look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Creator, Risen Christ and Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Peace

Officiant The peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Prayer

People **God be in my head and in my thinking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
God be in my heart and in my loving.
God be in my hands and in my giving. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

People **Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your Name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Prayer of Chrysostom

Officiant 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 everlasting life.

People **Amen.**

Blessing/Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Closing Song “For Everyone Born”

Words/music: Murray & Mann

Virtual Social Time in breakout groups