

Church of the Messiah
Woods Hole, Massachusetts

A Liturgy of Morning Prayer for the Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2020

Prelude

“Little Prelude and Fugue in G Major”

by J. S. Bach

Welcome

Opening Hymn 427 “When morning gilds the skies” vss.1, 2 and 5 *Laudes Domini*



Opening Sentences

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

On this day the Lord has acted;

we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Love one another,

for love is of God,

and whoever loves is born of God and knows God.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

- from *A New Zealand Prayer Book (1988)* , p. 37

Benedicite Aotearoa

O give thanks to our God who is good;
whose love endures for ever.

You sun and moon, you stars of the southern sky:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

Sunrise and sunset, night and day:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

All mountains and valleys, grassland and scree,
glacier, avalanche, mist and snow:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

You kauri and pine, rata and kowhai, mosses and ferns:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

Dolphins and kahawai, sealion and crab,
coral, anemone, pipi and shrimp:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

Rabbits and cattle, moths and dogs,
kiwi and sparrow and tui and hawk:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

All who inhabit the long white cloud:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

All prophets and priests, all cleaners and clerks,
professors, shop workers, typists and teachers,
job-seekers, invalids, drivers and doctors:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

All sweepers and diplomats, writers and artists,
grocers, carpenters, students and stock-agents,
seafarers, farmers, bakers and mystics:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

All children and infants, all people who play:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

- adapted from *A New Zealand Prayer Book (1988)* p. 63

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.
- 15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.”

First Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Reading

Jalaluddin Rumi

- translated by Coleman Banks

"The Guest House"

This being human is a guest house.
Every morning a new arrival.

A joy, a depression, a meanness,
some momentary awareness comes
as an unexpected visitor.

Welcome and entertain them all!
Even if they are a crowd of sorrows,
who violently sweep your house
empty of its furniture,
still, treat each guest honorably.
He may be clearing you out
for some new delight.

The dark thought, the shame, the malice.
meet them at the door laughing and invite them in.

Be grateful for whatever comes.
because each has been sent
as a guide from beyond.

Second Reading

John 14:1-14

Jesus told his disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father

except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Silence

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer (*said by all – with microphones muted*)

Collect for the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Sundays

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 Prayer for the morning

God,
you are our beginning and you will be our end;
we are made in your image and likeness.
We praise and thank you for this day.
This is the day on which you created light
and saw that it was good.
This is the day in whose early morning light
we discovered the tomb was empty,
and encountered Christ, the world's true light.
This is the day you have made;
we shall rejoice and be glad in it.

– from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988) p. 106

A Prayer for this day

Eternal Father,
through the resurrection of your Son,
help us to face the future
with courage and assurance,
knowing that nothing in death or life
can ever separate us from your love.

This we ask through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

- from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988) p. 595

A Prayer from the Ute people (*adapted*)

O God of the earth teach us stillness
as the grasses are stilled with light.

teach us suffering
as old stones suffer with memory.

teach us humility
as blossoms are humble with beginning.

teach us caring
as the mother who secures her young.

teach us courage
as the tree which stands alone.

teach us limitation
as the ant which crawls on the ground.

teach us freedom
as the osprey which soars in the sky.

teach us resignation
as the leaves which die in the fall.

teach us regeneration
as the seed which rises in the spring.

teach us to forget ourselves
as melted snow forgets its life.

teach us to remember kindness
as dry fields weep in the rain.

A Prayer for the absent

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth: We pray that you graciously behold and bless those whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you, may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A General Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

Concluding Sentences

Let us bless the Lord. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia

Sermon

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Hymn 517 "How lovely is thy dwelling place"

Brother James' Air

1 How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to
 2 Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a
 3 They who go through the des - ert vale will find it filled with
 4 One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou-sand spent a -

me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with -
 nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and
 springs, and they shall climb from height to height till
 way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor

in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and
 praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose
 Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in
 from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly

flesh cry out, O liv - ing God, for thee.
 hearts are set up - on the pil - grim's quest.
 glo - ry throned, Lord God, great King of kings.
 bless all those who live the words they pray.

Litany

A Closing Prayer of Offering

Almighty God;
you give seed for us to sow,
and bread for us to eat;
make us thankful for what we have received;
make us rich to do those generous things
which supply your people's needs;
so all the world may give you thanks and glory.

- from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988), page 141

A Prayer for Our Future

O God, Giver of all good gifts, we thank You for the grace of serving You by serving our neighbors. May our hearts be kind and generous. May our ministry be rooted in love and bold in imagination. Having transformed the Parish and Community Center, may our lives and the lives of all who join us, continue to be renewed by Your love and the power of the Spirit. Amen.

Benediction

Greeting

Hymn 390

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Lobe den Herren

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

Postlude

“*Lobe den Herren*”

by Johann Gottfried Walther

CCLI # 11052833

*The wheat on the altar represents a donation
to the Easter offering
in honor of
all mothers and grandmothers.*

Liturgical Leaders

Officiant and Preacher

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Organist

Brittany Lord

Musicians and Readers

Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon

Technology

Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon

Altar Guild

Tammy Amon

Flowers

Members of the Altar Guild
Terry Soares

