

**Church of the Messiah
Woods Hole, Massachusetts**

A Liturgy of Morning Prayer

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2020**



Welcome

Opening Hymn 505 "O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God" (vs. 1&3)

O heiliger Geist

1 O Spi - rit of Life, O Spi - rit of God, in
 2 O Spi - rit of Life, O Spi - rit of God, in -
 3 O Spi - rit of Life, O Spi - rit of God, make
 4 O Spi - rit of Life, O Spi - rit of God, en -

ev - ery need thou bring - est aid; thou com - est
 cease our faith in our dear Lord; un - less thy
 us to love thy sa - cred word; the ho - ly
 light - en us by that same word; teach us to

forth from God's great throne, from God, the Fa - ther and the
 grace the power should give, none can be - lieve in Christ and
 flame of love im - part, that char - i - ty may warm each
 know the Fa - ther's love, and his dear Son, who reigns a -

Son; O Spi - rit of Life, O Spi - rit of God.
 live; O Spi - rit of Life, O Spi - rit of God.
 heart; O Spi - rit of Life, O Spi - rit of God.
 bove; O Spi - rit of Life, O Spi - rit of God.

Opening Sentences

Love one another,
 for love is of God,
 and whoever loves is born of God and knows God.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Peace for the Nations

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house:
will be established as the highest of the mountains.

It will be raised above the hills:
and all the nations will flock to it.

Many peoples will come and they will say:
'Let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,

that we may be taught the ways of the Lord:
and may walk in the right paths.

From the mountain of the Lord shall go forth the law:
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

The Lord will judge between the nations:
and settle disputes for many peoples.

They shall beat their swords into ploughshares:
and their spears into pruning hooks.

Come O house of Jacob:
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

— *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988) p. 90

Isaiah 2:2-5

Psalm 119:105-112

105 Your word is a lantern to my feet *
and a light upon my path.

106 I have sworn and am determined *
to keep your righteous judgments.

107 I am deeply troubled; *
preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.

108 Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips, *
and teach me your judgments.

109 My life is always in my hand, *
yet I do not forget your law.

110 The wicked have set a trap for me, *
but I have not strayed from your commandments.

111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; *
truly, they are the joy of my heart.

112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes *
for ever and to the end.

First Reading

Genesis 25:19-34

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Second Reading

"Radical Amazement"

Life moves at a deeper level than the objective and the data of our senses. We are most alive when we are brought face to face with the response of the deepest thing in us to the deepest thing in life. Consider the hackneyed illustration of the beautiful sunset! We see the sunset, we recognize color, shape, the general quality of the atmosphere—to these we respond. Then when in the midst of all of this something else emerges—the sunset opens a door in and to us, to another dimension, timeless in quality, that can be described only as ineffable, awe-inspiring—then we know radical amazement. This we know in prayer at its best and highest. Then we pass through all the external aspects of our situation and need, then the walls of our pretensions are swept away, and we are literally catapulted out of the narrow walls that shut us in. We experience radical amazement. Spirit is met by Spirit and we are whole again!"

Howard Thurman, *The Inward Journey*, pg. 19-20 taken
from the website: www.inwardoutward.org, July 6, 2020

Third Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Jesus went out and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen! Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Silence

The Prayers

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

Collect for the Day

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *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. *Amen.*

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

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.*

- *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979) p. 830

For those who are sick

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever it may be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. And if I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. *Amen.*

- *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979) p. 461

Prayer

“We return thanks”

We return thanks to our mother, the earth,
 which sustains us.
We return thanks to the rivers and streams,
 which supply us with water.
We return thanks to all herbs,
 which furnish medicines for the cure of our diseases
We return thanks to the moon and stars,
 which have given to us their light when the sun was gone.
We return thanks to the sun,
 that has looked upon the earth with a beneficent eye.
Lastly, we return thanks to the Great Spirit,
 in Whom is embodied all goodness,
and Who directs all things for the good of Her children.

- Iroquois Prayer (adapted) from *Earth Prayers*. Edited by Elizabeth Roberts and Elisa Amidon. NY: Harper Collins. 1991. p. 238.

A Prayer for this Day

Eternal Creator,
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.*

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

Concluding Sentences

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

Sermon

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Music “My Master Hath a Garden”
(Dicky Allison & Helen Gordon, duet)

by Randall Thompson

A Litany of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all of God’s gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.
We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, boys and girls revealing the image of Christ,
We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,
We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,
We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,
We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,
We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,
We thank you, Lord.

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.

- *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988) p. 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 302

“Father, we thank thee who hast planted ”

Rendez à Dieu


1 Fa - ther, we thank thee who hast plant - ed thy ho - ly Name with -
 2 Watch o'er thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,

in our hearts. Know - ledge and faith and life im - mor - tal Je - sus thy
 guard it still, per - fect it in thy love, u - nite it, cleansed and con -

Son to us im - parts. Thou, Lord, didst make all for thy plea - sure,
 formed un - to thy will. As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,

didst give us food for all our days, giv - ing in Christ the
 was in this bro - ken bread made one, so from all lands thy

Bread e - ter - nal; thine is the power, be thine the praise.
 Church be gath - ered in - to thy king - dom by thy Son.

Postlude

“Allegro from Sonata in F Major”
(Michael Winer, violin)*by G. F. Handel*

Liturgical Leaders

Officiant and Preacher

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Organist

Brittany Lord

Violin soloist

Michael Winer

Virtual Choir

Members of the choir

Musicians and Readers

Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon

Technology

Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon

Altar Guild

Tammy Amon

Flowers

**Lovingly offered by
Parishioners**