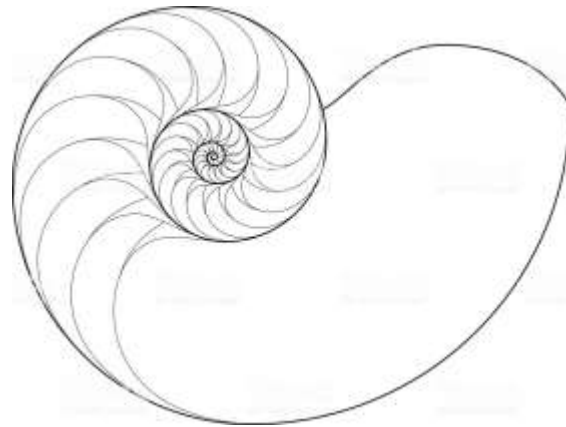


**Church of the Messiah
Woods Hole, Massachusetts**

A Liturgy of Morning Prayer

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
in the Season of Creation
October 11, 2020**



Prelude

“O God, Thou faithful God”

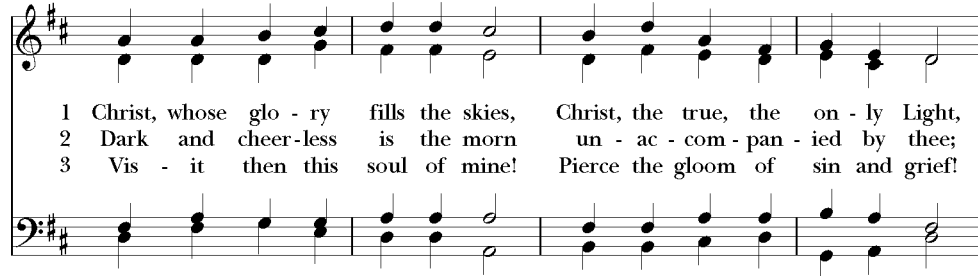
by Flor Peeters

Welcome

Opening Hymn 7

“Christ, whose glory fills the skies”

Ratisbon



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!



Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Opening Sentences

We gather in the name of the Triune God: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of the Earth and all its creatures.

Praise be to the Holy Trinity! God is sound and life, Creator of the Universe, Source of all life, whom the angels sing; wonderous Light of all mysteries known and unknown to humankind, and life that lives in all.

- Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century.

A Song of Creation

I The Cosmic Order

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, *
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.
Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, *
all winds and fire and heat.
Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, *
drops of dew and flakes of snow.
Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, *
O shining light and enfolding dark.
Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

II The Earth and its Creatures

Let the earth glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,
and all that grows upon the earth, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, *
O whales and all that move in the waters.
All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, *
and all you flocks and herds.
O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

- 1 Hallelujah!
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Who can declare the mighty acts of the LORD*
or show forth all his praise?
- 3 Happy are those who act with justice *
and always do what is right!
- 4 Remember me, O LORD, with the favor you have
for your people, *
and visit me with your saving help;
- 5 That I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
that I may glory with your inheritance.
- 6 We have sinned as our forebears did; *
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.
- 19 Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb *
and worshiped a molten image;
- 20 And so they exchanged their Glory *
for the image of an ox that feeds on grass.
- 21 They forgot God their Savior, *
who had done great things in Egypt,
- 22 Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, *
and fearful things at the Red Sea.
- 23 So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, *
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.

First Reading

Exodus 32:1-14

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"

When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel. The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation." But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Second Reading

"Folding the Clothes"

Gunilla Norris

Out of the dryer the clothes come
smelling of soap and fabric softener.
The underpants cling to the nightshirt.
The towels crackle.
Everything is mixed up with everything else.

I want to turn this heap
of electrical excitement
into some kind of order.
I want it to become
a means of prayer, a litany.

The hand towels come first.
Each day a new one goes on the hook.
Let the folding of these towels
be an invocation. I think of the hands
that have been dried on them.
Tentative, strong, confused, determined hands.
Grant that our hands will find ways
to do Your will. Keep us in Your love.

Now the sheets.
My friends slept in them last night.
Let the folding of these sheets
be an intercession. Fold my friends
into Your tenderness. Keep us in Your love.

Then the personal clothes.
One sock is rolled together with its mate.
One sweater sleeve goes over the other,
an image of repose.
Let the folding of these garments
be a confession. Help me to surrender,
to give up all those false excitements,
clinging attachments, static insitencies.
Help me instead to be folded into You.
Help me to be clothed by You, to dwell in You
to make my life and obedience.
Keep us in Your Love.

Let the completed tasked be offered...
Such a small thing...yet let it be offered
as thanksgiving. Your amazing mystery is here
even now receiving this smallness.
Keep us in Your love.

- *Gunilla Norris, Being Home: A Book of
Meditations. New York: Bell Tower. 1991.
Pp. 54-55.*

Third Reading

Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Profession of faith

Leader We belong to the Creator in whose image we are all made.

All In God we are breathing, in God we are living, in God we share the life of all creation.

Leader We belong to Jesus Christ, the true icon of God and humanity.

All In Christ God is breathing, in Christ God is living, through Christ we are reconciled.

Leader We belong to the Holy Spirit, who gives us new life and strengthens our faith.

All In the Spirit love is breathing, in the Spirit truth is living, the breath of God always moves us.

Leader We belong to the Holy Trinity, who is one in all and Three-in-One.

All In God we are all made, in Christ we are all saved, in the Spirit we are all united.

- *written Per Harling, adapted by DMW*

The Prayers

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

Collect for the Day

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; 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

For the President of the United States and all in Civil Authority

O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to your merciful care, that, being guided by your Providence, we may dwell secure in your peace.

Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of this Commonwealth, and to all in authority or seeking election in the Presidency, the Congress or state legislatures, wisdom and strength to know and to do your will. Fill them and all who serve in the judicial branch with a love of truth and righteousness no matter the cost.

May each of these officials and all civil servants be ever mindful of their calling to serve all people with justice, compassion and fairness. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit, are one God. *Amen.*

- adapted by DMW from *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979) p. 820f.

Litany for Justice and Peace

Just and merciful God,
We glimpse your presence in the world you have created,
Its power and its beauty, music and poetry,

**Its diversity, fertility, the possibility of food for everyone,
The dream of fullness of life for all children:
Yes, God, you are with us in the world.**

Yet we see that power misused, beauty marred,
Discord and lies dividing humankind,
Failure to share,
Causing many to go hungry or die.
Where are you, God?

We heard the Good News that Jesus brought,
The affirmation of the value of every human life,

**The Gospel that commands us to seek peace with justice;
We understand that costly reconciliation is at its hearts:
Yes, God, you are with us in the world.**

Yet we see that good news denied by apathy,
Mocked by prejudice, hatred and refusal to forgive,
And we feel helpless in the face of suffering.
Where are you God?

You are present where women and men, girls and boys, of good will
Still choose to live in your way,
Caring for creation and for each other,
Courageously speaking truth to power.

**You are there when elderly people share their wisdom.
You are there when children who live on the street and those who don't dance in the rain.
You are present wherever, in this broken world,
Hope is alive.**

**Thank you, God, for being present with us now.
Amen.**

- *adapted by DWM from the Iona Abbey
Worship Book. Glasgow: Wild Goose
Publications. 2017. Pp. 94-95*

Concluding Collect

God of peace,
let us your people know,
that at the heart of turbulence
there is an inner calm that comes
from faith in you.
Keep us from being content with things as they are,
that from this central peace
there may come a creative compassion,
a thirst for justice,
and a willingness to give of ourselves
in the spirit of Christ.
Amen.

- *A New Zealand Prayer Book (1988) p. 464*

Concluding Sentences

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

Sermon

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Anthem “Lord, for thy tender mercy’s sake” *by Richard Farrant*

Thanksgiving for the Diversity of Races and Cultures

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all children. This, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

- *Adapted by DMW from the Book of Common Prayer (1979) p. 840.*

Thanksgiving for the Beauty of the Earth

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for generations to come. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment and stewardship of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. *Amen.*

- *Ibid*

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

May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives
To reflect God's glory in creation.

- *Adapted from the CTBI Eco-Congregation
Programme by DMW*

Greeting

Hymn 556

“Rejoice, ye pure in heart!” (vs. 1-2; 4-5)

Marion

1 Re - joi - ce, ye pure in heart! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing! Your
 2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour
 3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud; while
 4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go, from
 5 Still lift your stand - ard high, still march in firm ar - ray, as

1 glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 2 out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 3 an - swer - ing ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
 4 youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
 5 war - riors through the dark - ness toil, till dawns the gold - en day.

Refrain

Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing.
 re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce,

*6 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their Father's house,
 Jerusalem the blest.

Refrain

*7 Then on, ye pure in heart!
 Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
 Your glorious banner wave on high
 the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain

Postlude

“Chorale Prelude on ‘Ellers’”

by Healy Willan

Dismissal

Note on today's service: Unless otherwise cited, the following parts of our service are taken from Jubilee for the Earth: 2020 Celebration Guide for Season of Creation published by the World Council of Churches in 2020. These parts are: Opening Sentences, Profession of Faith, Prayers for the Season of Creation and the Benediction. The "Season of Creation" runs from September 6th – October 4th 2020

One License: A-735723

CCLI # 11052833

*The wheat on the altar represents a donation
to the
Falmouth Service Center
in memory of
Cynthia Caboon Smith.*

Liturgical Leaders

Officiant	Jean Taft
Preacher	The Rev. Deborah Warner
Organist	Brittany Lord
Musicians and Readers	Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon
Technology	Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon
Altar Guild	Laura Kelly, Mary Heard
Flowers	Lovingly offered by Parishioners

Church of the Messiah

2020 Vestry

The Rev. Deborah M. Warner	<i>Rector</i>
Jean Taft	<i>Warden</i>
Nancy Rea	<i>Warden</i>
Winifred Dick	<i>Clerk</i>
John Nolan	<i>Treasurer</i>

Susan Morse	2021	Mary Fran Buckley	2021
Don Aukamp	2022	Paul Graney	2022
Charles Mann	2023	Peg Nicholson	2023

Deanery Representatives

Dicky Allison	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Helen Gordon	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Carol Casey	Deanery Representative

Staff

The Rev. Deborah Warner	<i>Rector</i>
Brittany Lord	<i>Music Director, Organist</i>
Nancy McDonald	<i>Parish Administrator</i>
Jennifer Kelly	<i>Bookkeeper & Financial Recorder</i>
Bruce Bagley	<i>Church Sexton</i>
Doug Amon	<i>Cemetery Sexton</i>
Jessica Morrison	<i>Webmaster</i>

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