

St. James' Episcopal Church

May 21, 2017

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Our mission is “*to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.*”

**A warm welcome to visitors, tourists, seekers and doubters,
immigrants, refugees, the lost and the found...and you!**

We are glad you are here.

Rite II, The Book of Common Prayer
BCP= Book of Common Prayer (red), found in the Pew Rack
Words are found either in the BCP, or are printed in this bulletin.
Music is found either in the 1982 Hymnal (blue), or is printed in this bulletin.
Music with an S- is found in the Service Music in the front of the hymnal
Please sit, stand or kneel as you are able.

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

For the Beauty of the Earth

**Myron Casner
1908**

Opening Hymn

I sing the almighty power of God

**Hymnal 398
Bulletin page 11**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Celebrant: 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.**

Gloria

**Hymnal S-278
Bulletin page 12**

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 Lesson

Acts 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 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: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66: 7-18

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The Epistle

I 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: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Alleluia

Sung 2 times before and after the Gospel reading.

The Gospel

John 14: 15-21

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

People: 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Carol A. Mader

The Nicene Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

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

Celebrant: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the
Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God,
and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church
of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Wendell, our Bishop,
and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city of Dexter, for the communities in which we live, for every city and
community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the
wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air or through outer space,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and
for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives,
and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for
all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For _____, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of St. James and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

Doxology *(please stand as you are able)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise God all creatures here below,
praise God above all heavenly host,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Celebrant 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 him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing

Sanctus

LEVAS 255

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The Celebrant continues

(the people may stand or kneel)

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.

You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation
this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit

and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints,
past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor,
glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal S-149

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The Breaking of the Bread *A period of silence is kept*

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Ministration of Communion

The Celebrant receives the Sacrament, and then immediately delivers it to the people. All baptized persons of any denomination are welcome to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the people with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

The ushers will direct you to the altar area. You may receive both bread and wine or elect to receive the bread alone. Rice wafers are available for people with allergies. Receive the bread in your hand and guide the cup to your mouth. Or, you can dip the bread into the wine, or receive the bread by itself. Place your arms across your chest if you do not wish to receive but would like to accompany your family. A blessing will be given.

Communion Hymn

That Easter day with joy

Hymnal 193

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After Communion, the Celebrant says:

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 Easter Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,
the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
be with you, and those you love, this day and for ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

People's Response :

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Closing Hymn

*All creatures of our God and King
(vs. 1-4,7)*

Hymnal 400

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Postlude

Allegro in F Major

William Boyc

I sing the almighty power of God

Hymnal 398

Gloria

Hymnal S-278

Psalm 66: 7-18

Sanctus

Levas 255

That Easter day with joy

Hymnal 193

All creatures of our God and King
(vs. 1,2,4,7)

Hymnal 400