

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER: ROGATION SUNDAY

MAY 17, 2020; 8:45 A.M.

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

Congregational participation in bold

Service from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

OPENING HYMN

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

HYMN 199

*Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness:
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.*

*'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ hath burst his prison,
And from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen;
All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
From his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.*

*Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.*

*Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,
Nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal:
But today amidst thine own thou didst stand, bestowing
That thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.*

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

BCP p. 355

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.

KYRIE

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

BCP p. 356

People: *Christ, have mercy.*

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP p. 225

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, forever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: A READING FROM 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.*

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard;*
8 Who holds our souls in life, and will not allow our feet to slip.
9 For you, O God, have proved us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.
10 You brought us into the snare; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
12 I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows, which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.
14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for me.
15 I called out to him with my mouth, and his praise was on my tongue.
16 If I had found evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;
17 But in truth God has heard me; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld his love from me.

THE SECOND LESSON: A READING FROM 1 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.

GOSPEL HYMN

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place

HYMN 517 v. 1, 2

*How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts, to me!
My thirsting soul desires and longs within thy courts to be;
My very heart and flesh cry out; O living God, for thee.*

*Beside thine altars, gracious Lord, the swallows find a nest;
How happy they who dwell with thee and praise without rest;
And happy they whose hearts are set upon the pilgrim's quest.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

A READING FROM JOHN 14:15-21

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."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL HYMN

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place

HYMN 517 v. 3, 4

*They who go through the desert vale will find it filled with springs,
And they shall climb from height to height till Zion's temple rings
With praise to thee, in glory throned, Lord, God, great King of kings.*

*One day within thy courts excels a thousand spent away;
How happy they who keep thy laws nor from thy precepts stray,
For thou shalt surely bless all those who live the words they pray.*

THE SERMON

The Rev. Ripp Hardaway

THE NICENE CREED *(please stand)*

BCP p. 358

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 OF THE PEOPLE *(please kneel)*

Form III, BCP p. 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
(The People may add their own petitions.)

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, 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, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. *Amen.*

THE PEACE *(please stand)*

BCP p. 360

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

People: *And also with you.*

SHARING LIFE TOGETHER-ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

How Deep the Father's Love

How deep the Father's love for us

How vast beyond all measure

That He should give His only Son

To make a wretch His treasure

*How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory*

*Behold the man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers*

*It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished*

*I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection*

*Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom*

THE DOXOLOGY *(please stand)*

HYMN 380 v. 3

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below:
Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.***

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A; BCP p. 361

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 God thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

BCP p. 362

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

(The people kneel or stand.)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Christ has died.
Christ is RISEN.
Christ will come again.*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN!**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 364

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: ALLELUIA! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. ALLELUIA!

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

ACT OF RECEPTION PRAYER

In union, blessed Jesus,

with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,

for creation and all the blessings of this life,

for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection,

for the means of grace and the hope of glory.
And particularly for the blessings given me.
I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you
with all my heart, my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

Here I Am to Worship

*Light of the world, You step down into darkness.
Open my eyes let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore you
Hope of a life spent with you.*

Chorus:

*Here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God,
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me, my love.*

*King of all days,
So highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth you created.
All for love's sake became poor.*

(Chorus)

*I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.*

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

THE 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, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

HYMN 524

*I love thy kingdom, Lord,
the house of thine abode,
the Church our blest Redeemer
saved with his own precious blood.*

*For her my tears shall fall;
for her my prayers ascend;
to her my cares and toils be given,
till toils and cares shall end.*

*Beyond my highest joy
I prize her heavenly ways,
her sweet communion, solemn vows,
her hymns of love and praise.*

*Jesus, thou friend divine,
our Savior and our King,
thy hand from every snare and foe
shall great deliverance bring.*

*Sure as thy truth shall last,
to Zion shall be given
the brightest glories earth can yield,
and brighter bliss of heaven.*

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!