The Second Sunday of Easter  ✩  April 19, 2020

▷ During this service the People respond using words printed in bold face.

▷ Please leave your device’s microphone set to Mute except as indicated. The Zoom control for muting is most often found in the lower left corner of the screen, and is represented by the image of a microphone; the microphone image will have a slash through it when the device is muted.

▷ Sing boldly, but please keep your device muted. This may seem odd, but the technical requirements of Zoom make it difficult to sing together unless the Mute switch is on.

▷ In this extraordinary time of pandemic, it is important to remember that scattered though we may be, we are one in our prayer.

▷ Before the service, the Presider may make announcements, after which stillness is kept.

The Word of God

A bell is rung. The Presider says, Alleluia. Christ is risen.  Unmute device

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.  Mute device

We sing:

1. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

2. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

3. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

4. you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;
The Presider says the Collect of the Day:
Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ’s Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

We hear a reading from early Christian scripture:
A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:3-9

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
Thanks be to God. Stillness follows.

We recite Psalm 16 responsively:
Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; * 
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, * 
upon those who are noble among the people.

But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.
Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; * 
it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; * 
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; * 
my heart teaches me, night after night.

I have set the LORD always before me; * 
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; * 
my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave, * 
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
You will show me the path of life; *  
  in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

*Hear a reading from the Gospels:*

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Stillness follows.

*In a reflection, the Homilist breaks open the scripture.*

*After a brief time of stillness, we join in affirming our faith:*

Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles:  
this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

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**The Prayers**

*In the course of the prayers, the People may make use of Zoom’s chat feature to enunciate specific petitions and thanksgivings.*

*The Deacon says,*

Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God, who has delivered us from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us lift our voices and pray, saying Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

*The Intercessor continues,*

Let us give thanks for the multitude of blessings God showers upon us.  
For our lives and for those whom we love;  
For the beauty of the places God has created for us to be our home;  
For our families and our friendships;  
For all for which we give thanks to the God of Life:  
Stillness is kept, and gifts and graces may be spoken, typed, or called to mind.

That in time of trial, we may always have a grateful heart:  
Risen Lord,  
Hear our prayer.
Let us pray for the Church, Christ's risen body on earth.

For our Bishop Shannon, our Interim Dean Laura, our Dean-Elect Greta, and all clergy;
For the many lay people who serve the Church
and serve the world through the Church;
For those gathering today in worship and prayer;

That we may share in carrying forward your redemptive work:
Risen Lord,
**Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the nations and peoples of this world in a time of crisis.
For all who govern and hold authority;
For the United Nations;

That powers and principalities may forsake greed and seek the common good;
and that justice, peace, and prosperity may be lifted up:
Risen Lord,
**Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who are sick or suffering.
For those with Covid-19;
For those who suffer and struggle under oppression, loneliness, despair, and fear;
For all whose homes are unsafe and who are at risk of domestic violence;
For all who have lost their jobs because of the pandemic
For N. ...

**Stillness is kept, and names of those suffering may be spoken, typed, or called to mind.**

That the hope born of Easter may bring peace, acceptance and renewal, and that through struggle all may come into closer communion with you, our redeeming and restoring God:
Risen Lord,
**Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for this world in a time of crisis:
For all physicians, nurses, first responders,
and those whose work puts them at risk of infection;
For hospitals and health centers experiencing shortages
of equipment, medicine, and supplies;
For researchers, seeking a coronavirus vaccine;
For the World Health Organization;
For the devastated economies of states and municipalities;

That your gracious reign may come soon:
Risen Lord,
**Hear our prayer.**

Let us give thanks for the lives of those who have died and pray for the repose of their souls, especially N. ...

**Stillness is kept, and names of those have died may be spoken, typed, or called to mind.**

That you would grant them rest eternal:
Risen Lord,
**Hear our prayer.**

*The Presider concludes,*

O God of our salvation, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant that, as his death has recalled us to life, so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer follows:*

Our Father in heaven,
**hallowed be your Name,**
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**
All join in the General Thanksgiving:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Unmute device

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Mute device

We sing a hymn:

1 We walk by faith, and not by sight; no
2 We may not touch his hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and
4 that, when our life of faith is done, in

gracious words we hear from him who spoke as
follow where he trod; but in his promise
may our faith abound, to call on you when
realms of clearer light we may behold you

none e’er spoke; but we believe him near.
we rejoice, and cry, “My Lord and God!”
you are near, and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and endless sight.

Words Henry Alford (1810-1871), alt. · Music ST. BOTOLPH, Gordon Slater (1896-1979)

The Presider blesses the People, using these or other words:
The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep, 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, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you for ever. Amen.
The Deacon dismisses us, saying
Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Presider Laura A. Bryant  Deacon Stan Baker  Cantor and pianist Mark Howe
Reader Anne Clark  Intercessor Marjorie Gadue

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