

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me."

John 14:1

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Morning Prayer
May 10, 2020, 10:30 am

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two, beginning on page 75 of the Book of Common Prayer and occasionally from *Enriching Our Worship*.
Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.

We will observe silence together to prepare for worship, which begins with the ringing of the bell. We leave our microphones and webcams on until after the opening sentence.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

We now turn off our webcams and microphones until just before the concluding sentence at the end of the service.

Gloria Patri and Alleluia

Jubilate – Psalm 100

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O Lord, O God of truth.

My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

Gloria Patri

The Lessons

The First Lesson – Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 20 – Glory to God

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

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

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

you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Epistle Lesson - 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

and

"A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Canticle D – A Song of the Wilderness

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

It shall blossom abundantly, *
and rejoice with joy and singing.

They shall see the glory of the Lord, *
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weary hands, *
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! *
Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, *
and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.

Then shall the lame leap like a deer, *
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness *
and streams in the desert;

The burning sand shall become a pool *
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

The ransomed of God shall return with singing, *
with everlasting joy upon their heads.

Joy and gladness shall be theirs, *
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Gospel Lesson – John 14:1-14

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and pow'r are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

That word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them,
abideth.

The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with
us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.

Suffrages

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

Govern and uphold them, now and always.

Day by day we bless you;

We praise your Name for ever.

Lord, keep us from all sin today;

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, show us your love and mercy;

For we put our trust in you.

In you, Lord, is our hope;

And we shall never hope in vain.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life:
Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be
the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly
follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and
ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of
the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us
this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the
week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from
the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning:
Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to
keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace;
that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the
day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole
body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified:
Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer
before you for all members of your holy Church, that in
their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly
serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hymn: *Freely, Freely*

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name.
I've been born again in Jesus' name.
And in Jesus' name I come to you,
To share his love as he told me to.

Chorus:

He said Freely, freely you have received; freely, freely
give.
Go in my name, and because you believe,
Others will know that I live.

All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name,
In earth and heav'n in Jesus' name.
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share his pow'r as he told me to.

[Chorus]

Intercessions and Thanksgiving

We pray for the souls of all those who have died from Covid-19, and all who have departed this life, including those we now name silently, aloud, or by chat.

Silence

In our parish we pray for those who are sick or recovering from illness, including **Micah** Hart, **Dennis** Harper, **Larry** and **Pat** Sharpton, **Troy** Warlick, **Dezsel** Oliver, **Tom** Haynie, **Beth** Hall, **Maurice** McCord, **Sharon** Browning, **Julie** Williams, **Mike** Dickey, and the others we now name.

Silence

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose. For Chancellors, Treasurers and Secretary of the Diocese of Alabama. For Holy Comforter, Gadsden and Holy Comforter, Montgomery.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

We all now turn on our webcams and microphones for the concluding sentence and leave them on for the Joys and Concerns of the Congregation.

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

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

Serving at Epiphany this week: Officiant: Lavonne Hart Lay Reader: Laura Williams Voice of Congregation: Mike Rallo	And next: Officiant: Mike Harber Lay Reader: Amanda Borden Voice of Congregation: Pam Van Etten
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