

St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church

The Seventh Sunday of Easter: May 23, 2020

5:30 pm

A watercolor illustration depicting a sunrise over a field. The sky is painted with soft washes of blue, pink, and red. The sun is a bright yellow circle partially obscured by a dark, rocky mound on the right side of the image. The foreground is a green field with vertical brushstrokes representing grass. The text 'Christ Risen' is written in a black, elegant cursive font, centered over the sun and the field.

*Christ
Risen*

Evening Prayer: Rite Two

Opening Hymn

Simple Gifts

Hymnal #554

Shaker song, 18th cent.



'Tis the gift to be sim - ple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
and when we find our - selves in the place just right,
'twill be in the val - ley of love and de - light.
When true sim - pli - ci - ty is gained to
bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed, to turn, turn, will
be our de-light till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come round right.

The officiant begins the service with the following sentence of Scripture

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People ***O Lord, make haste to help us.***

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia.

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

***O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.***

The Lessons

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1:6-14

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm: *Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36*

***¹Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.***

***²Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish
at the presence of God.***

***³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.***

***⁴Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his name, rejoice before him!***

***⁵Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!***

***⁶God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.***

***⁷O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,***

***⁸The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.***

***⁹You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.***

***¹⁰Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.***

***³³Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.***

***³⁴He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.***

***³⁵Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.***

***³⁶How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!***

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

A Reading from the First letter of Peter

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

A Reading from John

John 17:1-11

¹[Jesus] looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***



Sermon

Hymn

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain

Hymnal #200



1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ hath burst his pri - son,
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,



God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness:
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;
with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor - tal:



loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
but to - day a - midst thine own thou didst stand, be - stow - ing



led them with un - mois - tened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
wel - comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' re - sur - rec - tion.
that thy peace which ev - er - more pass - eth hu - man know - ing.

John of Damascus (8th cent); melody *Guadeamus pariter*

The Apostle's Creed

Officiant and people together, all standing

***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 people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

***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,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. ***And grant us your salvation.***
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. ***Let your people sing with joy.***
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. ***For only in you can we live in safety.***
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. ***And guide us in the way of justice and truth.***
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. ***Your saving health among all nations.***
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. ***Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.***

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. ***And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.***

A Collect for Saturdays

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

A Collect for Protection

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn

Amazing Grace

Hymnal #671

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 *5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.

John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

***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.***

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.**

Then may be said

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Officiant may then conclude with the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. ***Amen.*** 2

Corinthians 13:14

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.*** *Romans 15:13*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesu for ever and ever. ***Amen.*** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

PERMISSION TO PODCAST/STREAM THE MUSIC IN THIS SERVICE OBTAINED FROM
ONE LICENSE (#A-700000) AND CCLI (#2530735)

ALL WORDS AND MUSIC REPRINTED UNDER ONE LICENSE #A-70929.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

12251 Antioch Rd, Overland Park, KS 66213

913-451-0512

www.stthomasop.org (website)

stthomas@stthomasop.org (email)