Liturgy of the Word

PreludeThe BlessingKari Jobe, Cody Carnes,Chris Brown, Steve Furtick

Opening Hymn Seek Ye First Hymnal #711

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you; Allelu, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you, seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be opened unto you; Allelu, alleluia!

Acclamation pg. 355 in Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Collect for Purity

Gloria Cash/Tomlin

O sov'reign God, O matchless King – the saints adore, the angels sing, and fall before the throne of grace to You belong the highest praise. Praise the Father, praise the Son, praise the Spirit, Three in One; Clothed in power and in race, the name above all other names. Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the power, Yours is the glory forever. Praise the Father, praise the Son, praise the Spirit, Three in One; Clothed in power and in grace, the name above all other names.

Collect of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Psalm: *Psalm 119:129-136*

- ¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful; * therefore I obey them with all my heart.
- ¹³⁰When your word goes forth it gives light; * it gives understanding to the simple.
- ¹³¹I open my mouth and pant; * I long for your commandments.
- ¹³²Turn to me in mercy, * as you always do to those who love your Name.
- ¹³³Steady my footsteps in your word; * let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- ¹³⁴Rescue me from those who oppress me, * and I will keep your commandments.
- ¹³⁵Let your countenance shine upon your servant * and teach me your statutes.
- ¹³⁶My eyes shed streams of tears, * because people do not keep your law.

The Second Reading: Romans 8:28:26-39

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Alleluia Marty Haugen

Praise the God of all creation, God of all creation, God of mercy and compassion: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

Living water, we are thirsting for the life that you have promised: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹[Another parable Jesus put before the crowds:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Gospel Response – Alleluia

Come, O Spirit, kindle fire in the hearts of all your people: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People

All remain standing.

Presider or deacon

Let us by prayer and intercession with thanksgiving make our requests to God . . .

We pray for . . . Lord in your mercy, *People Hear our prayer.*

Confession of Sin

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music Holy Spirit Brian and Katie Torwalt

Verse 1: There's nothing worth more that will ever come close. No thing can compare You're our living hope. Your Presence

Verse 2: I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves. Where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone. In Your Presence Lord

Chorus: Holy Spirit You are welcome here. Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere.

Your glory God is what our hearts long for, To be overcome by Your Presence Lord

Interlude: Your Presence Lord

Interlude: Your Presence Lord. Your Presence . Oh God how we love Your Presence Lord

Bridge: Let us become more aware of Your Presence. Let us experience the glory of Your goodness (Lord)

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People And of thine own have we given thee

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I from Enriching Our Worship

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 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 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.

Celebrant Blessed are you . . .

... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant Remembering his death and resurrection . . .

... Glory and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

I am the bread of life; they who come to me shall not hunger; they who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father draw them.

Refrain: And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up on the last day.

The Bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world, and they who eat of this bread, they shall live for ever.

Unless you eat of the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink of his Blood, you shall not have life within you.

I am the resurrection, I am the life. They who believe in me, even if they die, they shall live for ever.

Yes, Lord, we believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who has come into the world.

Postcommunion Prayer

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.

Easter Blessing

Closing Hymn

The Blessing Kari Jobe, Cody Carnes, Chris Brown, Steve Furtick

Hymnal #335

Verse: The Lord bless you And keep you, Make his face shine upon you And be gracious to you. The Lord turn his Face toward you And give you peace

Chorus: Amen. Amen. Amen

Bridge: May his favor Be upon you And a thousand generations, And your family, And your children, And their children, And their children

Bridge: May his presence Go before you, And behind you, And beside you, All around you, And within you. He is with you, He is with you

Bridge: In the morning, In the evening, In your coming, And your going, In your weeping, And rejoicing. He is for you, He is for you

Tag: He is for you, He is for you

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the spirit.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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