LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Opening Hymn Alleluia, Alleluia! Hymnal #178

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live for ever.

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior

Donald Fishel (b. 1950)

Acclamation

pg. 355 in Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

Gloria

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.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

The Lessons

The First Reading: Genesis 45:1-15

¹Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ²And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for

God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' ¹²And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Psalm: Psalm 133

¹Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!

²It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,

³Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

⁴It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

⁵For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

The Second Reading: Romans 11:2A, 29-32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Holy Gospel: *Matthew 15: [10-20] 21-28*

[¹⁰[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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.*

The Presider will add a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Leader and People

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.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen.*

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music In This Very Room Carol & Ron Harris

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People And of thine own have we given thee.

Celebrant 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. 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.

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.

Distribution of Communion

Celebrant These are 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 minister receives the Sacrament in Both kinds, and then immediately delivers it to the people.

The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven. [Amen.] The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

Communion Music

My God, Thy Table Now is Spread

Hymnal #321

My God, thy table now is spread, thy cup with love doth overflow; be all thy children thither led, and let them thy sweet mercies know.

O let thy table honored be, and furnished well with joyful guests; and may each soul salvation see, that here its sacred pledges tastes.

Drawn by thy quickening grace, O Lord, in countless number let them come and gather from their Father's board the Bread that lives beyond the tomb.

Nor let thy spreading Gospel rest till through the world thy truth has run, till with this Bread shall all be blessed who see the light or feel the sun.

Sts. 1-3, Philip Doddridge (1702-1751), alt.; st. 4, Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

The Voice of Truth
Jessica Tallman, soloist

Steven Curtis Chapman/Mark Hall

Verse 1: Oh what I would do to have The kind of faith it takes
To climb out of this boat I'm in Onto the crashing waves
To step out of my comfort zone Into the realm of the unknown Where Jesus is
And He's holding out His hand

Pre-Chorus: But the waves are calling out my name And they laugh at me Reminding me of all the times I've tried before and failed The waves they keep on telling me Time and time again Boy you'll never win you'll never win

Chorus: But the voice of truth tells me a diff'rent story.

The voice of truth says do not be afraid, And the voice of truth says this is for My glory

Out of all the voices calling out to me. I will choose to listen, And believe the voice of truth

Verse 2: Oh what I would do To have the kind of strength It takes to stand before a giant With just a sling and a stone Surrounded by the sound Of a thousand warriors Shaking in their armor, Wishing they'd have Had the strength to stand

Pre-Chorus: But the giant's calling out my name And he laughs at me, Reminding me of all the times I've tried before and failed. The giant keeps on telling me Time and time again Boy you'll never win you'll never win

Bridge: But the stone was just the right size To put the giant on the ground And the waves they don't seem so high From on top of them looking down I will soar with the wings of eagles When I stop and listen to the sound Of Jesus singing over me

Interlude: I will listen and believe, I will listen and believe the voice of truth
I will listen and believe, 'Cause Jesus You are the voice of truth. And I will listen to You You are

Sending Forth

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant and People

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.

Closing Hymn

All Creatures of Our God and King

Hymnal #400

O worship the King, all glorious above! O gratefully sing his power and his love! Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might! O sing of his grace! Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space. His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth, with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, thy power hath founded of old, hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree, and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air; it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mercies, how tender! how firm to the end! Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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