

# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Waretown, NJ

## Morning Prayer with Spiritual Eucharist:

Rite Two—Sunday, May 17, 2020: Easter -VI

### Opening Hymn #490      Jesus Christ Our Lord

Let us sing

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.  
I want to look at Je-sus.  
I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and  
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.  
show me the way to the Fa-ther.  
shall know the joy of Je-sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The  
 night and the day are both a - like. The  
 Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*  
*a tempo*  
 Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

*Officiant* Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*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**

**Christ our Passover** *Pascha nostrum* *Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Page 83*

*Officiant and People read responsively by half verse*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*

**therefore let us keep the feast,**

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*

**but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*

**death no longer has dominion over him.**

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*

**but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*

**and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.**

Christ has been raised from the dead, \*

**the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

For since by a man came death, \*

**by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.**

For as in Adam all die, \*

**so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**

## The Psalm Appointed

**Psalm 66:7-18** *Jubilate Deo BCP page 674*

*Officiant and People read responsively by verse*

7 Bless our God, you peoples; \*

make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 **Who holds our souls in life, \***

**and will not allow our feet to slip.**

9 For you, O God, have proved us; \*

you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 **You brought us into the snare; \***

**you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; \*

but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

12 **I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, \***

**which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; \*

I will give you oxen and goats.

14 **Come and listen, all you who fear God, \***

**and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

15 I called out to him with my mouth, \*

and his praise was on my tongue.

16 **If I had found evil in my heart, \***

**the Lord would not have heard me;**

17 But in truth God has heard me; \*

he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 **Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \***

**nor withheld his love from me.**

**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.**

## The Lessons

*The Reader says*

**A Reading from The Acts of the Apostles [ 17: 22-31 ].**

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

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

## **11 The Third Song of Isaiah** *Surge, illuminare*     *Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19*     *BCP page 87*

*Officiant and People read responsively by verse*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*

and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

**For behold, darkness covers the land; \***

**deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.**

But over you the Lord will rise, \*

and his glory will appear upon you.

**Nations Will stream to your light, \***

**and kings to the brightness of your dawning.**

Your gates will always be open; \*

by day or night they will never be shut.

**They will call you, The City of the Lord, \***

**The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.**

Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*

ruin or destruction within your borders.

**You will call your walls, Salvation, \***

**and all your portals, Praise.**

The sun will no more be your light by day; \*

by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

**The Lord will be your everlasting light, \***

**and your God will be your glory.**

**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.**

The Reader says

### A Reading from First Peter [ 3: 13-22 ]

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you--not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

### Sequence Hymn #656 The Christian Life

Let us sing Verses 1,2 & 3

1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the  
2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to  
3 he to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part and  
4 Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be; give

se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.  
dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King;  
for his dwell - ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.  
us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

# The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. [ 14:15-21 ]

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon** by The Rev. M. Mantelle Bradley

**The Apostles' Creed** *BCP page 96*

*Officiant and People together*

**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 Peace

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

## The Prayers *BCP page 97*

*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.**

## Prayer of the People Form VI *BCP page 392*

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

For this community, the nation, and the world;

***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

For the just and proper use of your creation;

***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and William our Bishop and for all bishops and other ministers;

***For all who serve God in his Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence* *The People may add their own prayers*

Hear us, Lord;

***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence* *The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence      The People may add their own prayers*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*Who put their trust in you.*

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People together*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.*

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

## **Explanation of Spiritual Communion**

*Officiant says to the People*

Let us pray In union,

*Officiant and People*

**O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen** *(From the Prayer Book for the Armed Forces from The Episcopal Church)*

*Officiant* Let us pray the Collects for the day

### **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



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.*

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon us your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised us to the new life of grace. Sustain us, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give us an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **The General Thanksgiving**    *BCP page 101*

*Officiant and People together*

**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**    *BCP page 102*

*Officiant and People together*

**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.***

## The Easter Blessing

*Officiant says*

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

*Then may be said*

*Officiant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**