

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Waretown, NJ

Morning Prayer with Spiritual Eucharist:

Rite Two—Sunday, May 24, 2020: Easter -VII

Opening Hymn #552 Christian Vocation and Pilgrimage

Let us sing Verses 1 &2

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might, Christ is thy
2 Run the straight race through God's good grace, lift up thine
*3 Cast care a - side, lean on thy Guide; his bound - less
*4 Faint not nor fear, his arms are near; he chan - geth

strength and Christ thy right; lay hold on life, and
eyes and seek his face; life with its way be -
mer - cy will pro - vide; trust, and thy trust - ing
not, and thou art dear; on - ly be - lieve, and

it shall be thy joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
fore us lies, Christ is the path and Christ the prize.
soul shall prove Christ is its life and Christ its love.
thou shalt see that Christ is all in all to thee.

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

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Page 82

Officiant and People read responsively by verse

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Psalm Appointed

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 *Exsurgat Deus BCP page 676*

Officiant and People read responsively by verse

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *

let those who hate him flee before him.

2 **Let 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.

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *

let them also be merry and joyful.

4 **Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; ***

Yahweh is his Name, rejoice before him!

5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *

God in his holy habitation!

6 **God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; ***

but the rebels shall live in dry places.

7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *

when you marched through the wilderness,

8 **The 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.

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *

you refreshed the land when it was weary.

10 **Your people found their home in it; ***

in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

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

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

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

**36 How 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.**

The Lessons

One or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

The Reader says

A Reading from The Acts of the Apostles [1: 6-14].

So when the apostles had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But] (*Jesus said to the apostles*) “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.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They 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.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When 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. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

13 A Song of Praise *Benedictus es, Domine Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34* *BCP page 90*

Officiant and People read responsively by verse

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

**Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

Glory to you, beholding the depths; *
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
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 [4: 12-14; 5: 6-11]

Beloved, 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. But 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. If 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. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And 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. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. [17: 1-11]

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 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. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for 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. I 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. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And 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."

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.

The Suffrages

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. **We praise your Name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. **For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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.**

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.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

**** Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow. ****

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.**