

Sixth Sunday of Easter



May 17, 2020



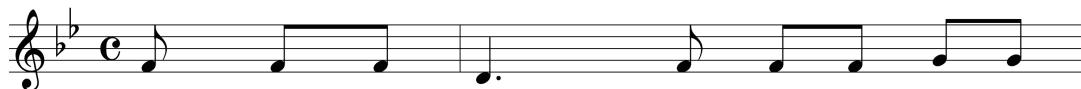
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

How Great Thou Art

LEVAS 60



1. O Lord my God, when I in awe-some
2. When through the woods and for-est glades I
3. And when I think that God, his Son not
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla -



won - der Con - sid - er all the works thy hands have
wan - der And hear the birds sing sweet - ly in the
spar - ing, Sent him to die, I scarce can take it
ma - tion And take me home, what joy shall fill my



made, I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing
trees, When I look down from loft - y moun-tain
in That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through-out the u - ni-verse dis - played!
gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze,
bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin!
ra - tion And there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee: How great thou



art, how great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to



thee: How great thou art, how great thou art!

Text: Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989

Tune: HOW GREAT THOU ART, 11 10 11 10 with refrain; Swedish folk melody; adapt. and arr. by Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989

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OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

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

Officiant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.

BCP 299

COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 225

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Let us pray.

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, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 17:22-31

Lector A reading from Acts.

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, and 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."

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

- 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.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

Lector A reading from First Peter.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said, "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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

HOMILY

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

BCP 299

Officiant Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism.

Officiant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

All are invited to touch or sprinkle water in remembrance and renewal of baptism.

Then the Officiant continues

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

adapted from *The Book of Common Prayer*
and "A Litany Amidst the COVID-19 Outbreak" by Michael Kurth

Reader Most merciful God, we know that you are with us and that you unite us through your Holy Spirit. In peace, let us pray, saying, "Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer."

For Christ Church and every congregation throughout the world, that we give you praise and place our trust in you, becoming beacons of hope, faith, and love. Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader For the leaders of our church, Michael our Presiding Bishop; for Bonnie our bishop; for Emily, David, and Anthony our priests; for Chip our deacon; and for all who minister: fortify them to be faithful pastors, to persevere in prayer, and to build up the family of God in new and creative ways. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader For those in authority, especially Donald our president, Gretchen our governor, Michael our mayor, and leaders throughout the world: help them to make sound decisions to best secure our safety and the future of our planet. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader For first responders; for doctors, nurses, and hospital staff; for service industry workers and those forced to work as their community shuts down; for those experiencing financial loss and uncertainty of wages. We pray especially for *Anna Basse, Michael Clay, Joe Dib, Shawna Goodfellow, Pam Groh, Androni H., Antonia H., Jay Harnois, Margaret Lally, George Mashour, Beth Niblock, Ian Osbourn, Concetta P., Ryan Tyler, Mark V., Rosemary V., Anna VanToai, Stephen Wilbert, the Greenfield Health Care employees*, and those we now name.
(People add names silently or aloud.)

Keep them safe, grant them strength and hope, and provide for them daily bread and wage. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader For those directly infected with the virus, for those at high risk, for those in quarantine, for the marginalized, for the poor, and for all who suffer in any way, especially *Pat Ald, Shirley B., Barbara Baseley, Booker, Jocelyn Burrell, Harold Cherry, Ellie Collard, David Dieter, Emma, Marcus England, Michael F., Vincent Faust, Charles Hawkins, Emily Hill, Alisa LeDuc, Betty Locke, Monique McGraw, Megan, Joe Miller, Jonathon Moon, Carl Pfadt, Kathleen S., Len St. Jean, Janet Swanson & Family, Jason Thomas, Esther Tietz, Mimi Van Scoter, Carol Ann Watson*, and those we now name. *(People add names silently or aloud.)*

Help them recover in good health, and restore them in body, mind, and spirit.
Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader For the gifts of joy, wonder, and love, which we savor and celebrate especially in times of struggle. We pray for those having birthdays this week, especially *Roger Basse, Jack Nibem, Loretta Ryder, Christine Galli, Art Shably, Douglas Esse III, Miles Shably, Stella Hughes, Megan Norris, Bob Brown* and those we now name. *(People add names silently or aloud.)*

Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Reader For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal. We remember especially all who have died from COVID-19, and those we now name. *(People add names silently or aloud.)*

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Officiant O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

PEACE

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people share with one another signs of Christ's peace.

VESTRY GREETING

OFFERTORY

BCP 377

Officiant Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*Please give generously at christcd.org/online-giving
or by mailing a check to Christ Church Detroit, 960 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, 48207.*

If ye love me, keep my commandments.
 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comfort,
 that he may abide with you forever; even the spirit of truth.

-- *John 14:15-17, KJV*

PRESENTATION HYMN

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below, alleluia; alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
Alleluia, alleluia; alleluia, alleluia; alleluia!

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

from the *Book of Common Prayer*
 and *St. Augustine's Prayer Book* (2014)

Officiant In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly our beloved Christ Church, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory, and particularly for all the blessings bestowed upon all of us.

Let all of us who desire communion now pray,

All **I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come 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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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.**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

St. Augustine's Prayer Book (2014)

Officiant Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell in our hearts in the fullness of your strength. Be our wisdom and guide us in right pathways for your Name's sake. Conform our lives and actions to the image of your holiness, and in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the flourishing of your children and the growth of your kingdom. In your triumphant Name we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Officiant May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing of God Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought

Hymnal 705

Unison or harmony

1 As those of old their first fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and
*2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la-lor, love, and
3 With grat-i-tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to

field to God, the giv-er of all good, the
give; to make our life an of-fer-ing to
thee to serve thy cause and share thy love with

source of bount-eous yield; so we to-day our
God that all may live; the Church of Christ is
all hu-man-i-ty. O thou who gav-est

first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land, of
call-ing us to make the dream come true: a
us thys-elf in Je-sus Christ thy Son, help

farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind, and heart, and hand.
 world re - deemed by Christ - like love; all life in Christ made new.
 us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

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DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

ABOUT THE MUSIC AND ART

Some have said that the art on the cover, *Christ in the House of His Parents* by John Everett Millais (1829-1896), evokes the familial and fatherly metaphors in today's Gospel, and indeed throughout much of the Gospel of John. I find it compelling because it situates Jesus right at home—as we all are now, too.

The summary of the painting where it hangs at the Tate Museum in London notes that “Christian symbolism figures prominently in the picture. The carpenter’s triangle on the wall, above Christ’s head, symbolizes the Holy Trinity. The wood and nails prefigure the crucifixion, as does the blood on the young Christ’s hand, which he has cut on a nail, and which drips onto his foot. The young St. John is shown fetching a bowl of water with which to bathe the wound. This clearly identifies him as the Baptist, and the image is extended by the white dove perched on the ladder, symbol of the Holy Spirit, which descended from heaven at the baptism of Christ.”

It also is well-known, and perhaps not completely surprising, that “the public reaction to the picture was one of horror, and Millais was viciously attacked by the press. The *London Times* described the painting as ‘revolting’ and objected to the way in which the artist had dared to depict the Holy Family as ordinary, lowly people in a humble carpenter’s shop ‘with no conceivable omission of misery, of dirt, of even disease.’” I find the artist’s realism, however, to be all the more fascinating, especially in our current context.

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