

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021



The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., Bishop

The Reverend David R. Radzik, Rector

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Morning Prayer (Rite II)
May 9, 2021

PRELUDE

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

(Noël Nouvelet, 204)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“New Songs of Celebration Render”

(Rendez a Dieu, 413)

Verse 1: New songs of celebration render to Him who has great wonders done.
Awed by His love, His foes surrender and fall before the Mighty One.
He has made known His great salvation which all His friends with joy confess:
He has revealed to every nation His everlasting righteousness.

Verse 3: Rivers and seas and torrents roaring, honor the Lord with wild acclaim;
Mountains and stones look up adoring, and find a voice to praise His name.
Righteous, commanding, ever glorious, praises be His that never cease:
Just is our God, whose truth victorious establishes the world in peace.

OPENING SENTENCE

The Officiant:

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. *(Psalm 118:24)*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the people:

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Officiant and People together, all standing or kneeling:

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 Officiant says:

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.***

INVITIATORY

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 forever. Amen. Alleluia.

THE PASCHA NOSTRUM

Officiant and People: *(1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22)*

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 in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

(People may be seated)

THE PSALTER *(Reader 1)*

Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

1 Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

2 With his right hand and his holy arm has he won for himself the victory.

3 The LORD has made known his victory;

his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

THE SONG OF MOSES (*Reader 2*)

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted;
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; the Lord has become my Savior.
This is my God and I will praise him, the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior; Yahweh is his Name.
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea;
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them;
they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might;*
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods?
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?

You stretched forth your right hand; the earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.

The Lord shall reign forever and forever.

**ALL: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

THE SECOND LESSON

1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

(The People stand)

THE BENEDICTUS *Luke 1: 68-79*

Officiant and People:

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

**Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,

To set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

SEQUENCE HYMN

"Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

(Blaenhafren #610)

Verse 1: Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,

Who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed,

We, Your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,

Consecrating to Your purpose every gift that you impart.

Verse 4: Called by worship to Your service, forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom may Your mercy know and live.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

THE SERMON

The Rev. John Drymon, Priest, The Diocese of Ohio

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing:

**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 PRAYERS

The People stand or kneel

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.**

Officiant: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People: And grant us your salvation.

Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: Let your people sing with joy.

Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People: For only in you can we live in safety.

Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Officiant: Let your way be known upon earth;

People: Your saving health among all nations.

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Officiant

Almighty and everlasting God,

who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation:

Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body

may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith;

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.**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord,
to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom:
Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies;
that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries;
through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air. For those in missionary service, especially Michelle for those in military service, especially David, Ryan, Robby, Stephanie, Annmarie, Eli, Lou, John, Blake, and Bud, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those celebrating a birthday, especially Janet Bell, Patrick Brown, and Dana Braford.

Bless those celebrating an anniversary, and those expecting the gift and heritage of a child, especially Erin Toolis and Katie Cline Schmid, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, for the suffering, and for the sick, especially Janet Bell, the daughter of Terry and Karen, Brian Cookson, Parker Goodwin, Gerald Gowern, Dolly Doyle, Roanne Lisi, Landyn Hill, Jan Staub, Rita, Jackie Guerra, Rudy Capece, Carole Pozek, Linda Gulla, Clint Hist, Frank Abbott, Bill and Pat Hacker, Nellie Cooper, Tommy Weese, The McKinney Family, Tommy, Helen Depp, Claudie D'Arras, Tony, David Miller, Clint Anderson, Scott Pochatek, Christina, Sue Zindar, Martha Kareff, and Connie Holly, homebound members, and those we serve at Berea Healthcare.

Is there anyone you would like to remember? (pause);

For the recovering, Sandi Schmidt, John Staub, Chris, Dennis Braford, Donald Zahnke, and George; and those who are care givers, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

✝ For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Defend us, deliver us, and in your compassion protect us, O Lord, by your grace. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Thomas, and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. **To you, O Lord our God.**

Almighty God, who has revealed to your Church your eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace that, like your bishop Gregory of Nazianzus, we may continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; who live and reign forever and ever. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY SOLO: *“As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought”* (Forest Green arr. Seaton)

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Reader:

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 my own parish and those worshipping there) I 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 the blessings given me....

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.

I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind.

Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. **Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People

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 ourselves 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.

THE FINAL HYMN “*All Creatures of Our God and King*” (*Lasst uns erfreuen*, #400)

Verse 1: *All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voices let us sing!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Bright burning sun with golden beams, pale silver moon with softer gleams,
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Verse Three: Dear mother earth, who day by day, unfold your blessings on our way,
Oh praise Him, alleluia!

All flowers and fruits that in you grow, let them God’s glory also show,
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Verse Seven: Let all things their Creator bless, and worship God in humbleness,
Oh praise Him, alleluia!

Praise God the Father, God the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One!
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

BENEDICTION and DISMISSAL

(Officiant)

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:
Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus
forever and ever. *Amen.* (*Ephesians 3:20,21*)

Officiant: Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“*We Plow the Fields and Scatter*”

(*Wir pflugen*, #291)



Guest Sermon by The Rev. John Drymon, Priest, The Diocese of Ohio

Officiant: Deacon Barbara Telfer

Readers: Jan Smith, David Coxe, Mary-Lee Stowell

Musicians: Kira Seaton, David Coxe

Videographer: David Coxe