



Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 24, 2020
9:30 a.m.

Prelude: *“Shout to the North”*

by Robin Mark

Gather Hymn: 494 *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”* (vs. 1&5)

Verse 1

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own
Awake my soul and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity

Verse 5

Crown him the Lord of heaven
Enthroned in worlds above
Crown him the King to whom is given
The wondrous name of love
Crown him with many crowns
As thrones before him fall
Crown him ye kings with many crowns
For he is King of all

Priest: Alleluia Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia

Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Song of God's Children

Antiphon: The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, gives life to the people of God. Alleluia.

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death.

All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God; for we have received the Spirit that enables us to cry 'Abba Father'.

The Spirit bears witness that we are children of God and if God's children, then heirs of God.

If heirs of God, then fellow-heirs with Christ; since we suffer within now, that we may glorified with him.

These sufferings that we now endure are not worth comparing to the glory that shall be revealed.

For Creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God.

Antiphon: The Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead, gives life to the people of God. Alleluia.

Let us pray.

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.*

A reading from the Book of Acts 1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "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 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.

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(A period of silent reflection follows the reading)

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Exsurgat Deus

- 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!

A reading from 1 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.

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

(A period of silent reflection follows the reading)

Sequence Hymn: “Everything Cries Holy”

by Robin Mark

Verse

We see the Lord and He is
High upon the throne
And His glory fills the heavens
And the earth
One like a lamb who was slain
Is on the throne
So I cast my crown before You
And bow down to pray

Chorus

(For) ev'rything cries holy O ev'rything cries holy
O ev'rything cries holy to You Lord
For ev'rything cries holy O ev'rything cries holy
O ev'rything cries holy to You Lord

Reading from the Gospel

John 17:1-11

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

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.”

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Peter Stube

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

(In the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, silently or to share your request with the community, choose the “Chat” icon on the bottom of your Zoom screen, type the prayers you would like to share, and hit enter on your keyboard)

We bid your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishop Daniel, and for the leaders and ministers of our parish. Pray for the church.

We bid your prayers for the well-being of all people and nations; remembering our president, the Congress of the United States, Governors of our States, and Heads of the nations that they may lead wisely in this dangerous time and care deeply for the Common Good of the people of the earth committed to their care. Pray for health and peace on the earth.

We bid your prayers for those who live alone and those who are now isolated from family members, for the poor, the hungry, the oppressed, and the sick. We especially ask healing and strength for June, Margaret, Brian, Dorothea, Lou, Ernie, Millie Graf, Norman Milnes, Ryan Mellor, Calmie Cerino and Elisabeth Neu. And others we name in the silence.

We bid your prayers for all your children around the world who struggle to find peace and health in this time of pandemic.

We bid your prayers for families as they gather at home as a result of schools closing early and jobs ending, allow them to find grace, strength and hope. Bind them together in encouragement, healing, and unity around your throne.

We bid your prayers for those who live alone that they may not be lonely in their solitude, those who are dying alone during this pandemic and for their families who are unable to be with them. May they find their hope in God who awaits us all in his nearer presence.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women who are working to protect our nation at this time of need; particularly we pray for all who work in essential jobs; grocery workers, doctors, nurses, nursing assistants, administrators, food workers, cleaning staff, clerks and all others who serve in hospitals, medical offices, retirement centers and testing centers. We also pray for the researchers who are working to develop new medicines and vaccines to fight Covid-19.

We bid your prayer for God's grace and guidance for "first responders" and law enforcement officers in our communities, as well as those on active duty in our military services; especially Alex Oliver, Evan Farren, Andrew Pascuzzi, Steven Masker, Connor Kreston, Jon Clark, Chris Fanizzi, Kyle Beck, Jaime Johnstonbaugh, Justin Miller, Michael Selner and their families. Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

We bid your prayers for those who have died.

We pray in the day this crisis has passed, that we will be ready to face that day with hope and new vision, because during this time we have followed your Holy Spirit step by step, responding in joyful obedience to your daily guidance. Heal us and broaden our understanding of you so that we are equipped with new vision to anticipate the changed world we will encounter when the pandemic is past. Prepare us to embrace your future.

Come, holy spirit, our souls inspire, and lighten with celestial fire.

The priest ends with the requests that have been offered in "Chat" at the bottom of your screen.

Peace

Offertory Hymn: "Kneel"

by Matt Goss

Verse 1

I will sing these words
In a humble attempt to praise You
I want to praise You
I will raise my hands
In a humble attempt to praise You

My heart longs to praise You
These expressions of praise
are all I know
I will bow on my knees
to let You know
In Your presence Lord,
is where I want to be

Chorus

When I kneel
I feel Your arms around me
When I kneel
Before You Lord, You heal me
As the world around
me fades away
At Your feet I will remain
Oh Lord, Your presence
is so real, when I kneel

Verse 2

I will lift my voice
In a humble attempt to praise You
Lord I want to praise You
I will lift my hands
In a humble attempt to praise You
My heart longs to praise You
These expressions of praise
are all I know
I will bow on my knees
to let You know
In Your presence Lord,
is where I want to be

Chorus

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

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.
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.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there

and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

“This prayer is an ancient prayer of the Church. Its old forms can be found in St. Augustine’s Prayer book, and in every Intercession Paper of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament. At this time of the Virus when we cannot be physically present, it can become a way to receive a spiritual communion as we watch a living streaming Mass.”

Easter Blessing

The God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight.

And the blessing of God almighty; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you all for ever. Amen

Parish Announcements

Service Hymn: 460 *“Alleluia Sing to Jesus”* (vs. 1-3) St. David’s Episcopal Church recording

Verse 1

Alleluia sing to Jesus
His the sceptre his the throne
Alleluia his the triumph
His the victory alone
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood
Jesus out of every nation
Hath redeemed us by his blood

Verse

Alleluia not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now
Alleluia he is near us
Faith believes nor questions how
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o’er
Shall our hearts forget his promise
I am with you evermore

Verse 3

Alleluia bread of heaven
Thou on earth our food our stay
Alleluia here the sinful
Flee to thee from day to day
Intercessor friend of sinners
Earth's redeemer plead for me
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea

*Please join us immediately after the service for **Virtual Coffee Hour**. We will gather for conversation and fellowship via a **Zoom** meeting. Grab a cup of coffee, and we'll see you there!*

Meeting ID: 876-0636-9866

Phone Dial In Number: 1.929.205.6099 (then enter the Meeting ID when prompted)