

Trinity Episcopal Church



Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 24th, 2020

Liturgy of the Word

The Word of God (All standing) **BCP pg. 355**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now & forever. *Amen*

Celebrant: 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.*

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: 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.*

First Reading (All Sit) **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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalms 68:1-10, 33-36 (Read responsively) BCP pg. 676

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!

Second Reading

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Holy Gospel

(All stand)

John 17; 1-11

Priest: 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.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon: Father Bill McGinty

Ascension Sunday (7th Sunday after Easter)

There is a danger, and I have said it before, that we become effected by the world that we live in and begin to believe that the bad men are winning, evil is insurmountable and that morally and in every way we Christians are losing.

It would not be the first time that good people have thought in such a way. Twice in the last century the world stood at the edge of total destruction and all seemed lost. In today's First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus promises his disciples that he will send them the Holy Spirit.

The problem of all Christians and that includes you and I, is that we have no concept, no belief and no understanding of the power of the gift that we have been given. For the Holy Spirit is a name that we too often take for granted. We know the words of the prayers--the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, but our understanding and our faith belief is never strong enough to grasp the sheer enormity, power, presence of the Holy Spirit as a concept.---If I had the power to stop a speeding bullet, or make a plane fall from the sky, or make an atomic missile explode in the sky; everyone, and I mean everyone would see such power as 'Godly'.

However, God does not win his kingdom by such force; he does repay evil for evil. Our God is a God of love and the weapons that he uses are seen in virtues like understanding, patience, kindness, forgiveness and grace. Perhaps it is best described in these terms: "our world would have us bring death, but through Christ's teaching we are taught to bring 'life'. " ---It is through the Holy Spirit that we receive the power to bring Christ's teaching and therefore his Kingdom, alive on this earth. When we embrace that fact, we as 'church' become an unstoppable force for good.

When I was seven or eight, my old Uncle George took me one Saturday evening with my younger brother to see a movie in the 'City Cinema' in my home town of Derry. It was the mid-Fifties and a trip to the cinema was a treat. The movie was called "The Last Command" starring that great actor Sterling Hayden. The story is about the life and death of Jim Bowie and the Battle of the Alamo. I had never seen a movie with a sad ending before, where the hero dies and the battle is lost. Travelling home on the bus, we lamented the loss to George. He consoled us with the words: "Sometimes when you lose, you win." That did not make a seven year old feel any better in those long lost days when Hop-A-Long Cassidy, Roy Rogers and Gene Autry always came out on top.

Yet, as the years have rolled by the wisdom of those words have come back to me time upon time. Bowie lost the Alamo but won Texas. Over one hundred years later United States Marines storming

the beaches of the Solomon Islands were still shouting: "Remember the Alamo!"--Sometimes when you lose, you win!

We see that concept best in the fact that Israel's Messiah, the Redeemer and the Son of God, chose to die, that all mankind might walk a different path. Not the path of war, hate, cruelty, revenge, violence and brutality--but the way of God; the way of light; the way of truth and the way of virtue.--We are now all so old that we look back and know how difficult that way is. Following Jesus is not easy, following Jesus is not for the faint of heart! ---To really follow Jesus Christ you must be a Jedi Knight, where your weapons are Faith, Hope and Love. To follow Jesus is to say: "I don't care how different we are, I will love you; I will uphold your personhood; I will be your friend."

In the Second Reading Peter tells the Christians: "Do not be surprised by the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you..." For Christians are people who unite their suffering to that of Christ. We lost that for a while after the Reformation. Catholic practices such as the Stations of the Cross; Pilgrimages; Rosary...all seemed to us to be attempts to 'save ourselves'. We told ourselves that we are saved by Jesus and Jesus alone and this is true. ---But more lately, we now see suffering, pain, uniting with the Cross of Christ, as following Jesus' teaching; to be one Body, One Spirit...to feel the pain, suffering of others and to use that to heal the whole.-----

Maybe this has never been more true than in this time of Plague, illness, suffering and death. And never has that teaching of Jesus been more poignant, than in the work of our Doctors and Nurses and hospital staff: "Greater love has no one than this that they lay down their life for a friend."

In the Gospel Jesus blesses his disciples and asks God his Father to protect them. It is his final act. He ascends to his Father. He was cruelly put to death and humiliated, placed in a tomb and seen as a failure.

"Sometimes when you lose you win!"---- Ascension Sunday celebrates that after all these years Jesus Christ has been glorified, the ruins of Rome stand as a monument to man's cruelty and attempts

to build his own empire. ---Christ's kingdom reigns; it does not falter; it does not lose. It goes on because it is not made from stones but resides within the human heart, mind and spirit. "Sometimes when you lose, you win!" *Amen.*

Fr. Bill

Nicene Creed (All stand)

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 Form IV BCP 388

(People continue standing, kneeling or sit if they choose)

Leader: Let us pray for the Church & for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love & reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: For this community, the nation, the world and for all who work for justice, freedom and peace; especially among our servicemen and women we are asked to pray for;

Lord in your mercy*

Hear our prayer

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy*

Hear our prayer.

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Among the sick we are asked to remember;

Lord, in your mercy*

Hear our prayer

Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom; remembering

Lord, in your mercy*

Hear our prayer

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God & our neighbor.

(Silence may be kept)

Leader and People:

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 Priest stands and says:

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*

Peace: (All Stand)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

(People may greet one another in the name of the Lord)

Doxology (All Stand)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him all creatures here below.

Praise him above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B, Page 367)

(The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says:)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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)

The Celebrant continues: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness & love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil & made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now & forever. *Amen*

Celebrant then continues:

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

People and Celebrant:

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, forever and ever. *Amen*

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S164

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God

The Holy Communion



Celebrant: Let us pray

Celebrant and People:

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love & serve you with gladness & singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Blessing/Dismissal:

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 among you, and remain with you always.

People: Amen

Trinity Episcopal Church

Called Together by the Love of God
To Serve Others with the Love of Christ

Carbondale

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Today and During the Week our Prayers are asked for: *Patty, Matty Sr., Sean, Veronica, Laura, Glen, Jack, Kathryn, Christine, Maureen, Tracy, Margaret, Edie, Joseph, Bobby, Jennifer, Bob, Chris, Alex, Nancy, Donna, Bobby, Kristie, Gil, Elissa, Carson, Ken, Brian & Jean*
Among our servicemen and women, we are asked to pray for: *Kyle Maxey, Sean O'Neill & Patrick Dougherty*

Among the deceased we are asked to remember all who have died,
In case of Emergency when the office is closed please call:
Bonnie Bay: (570) 396-8650 or Jerry Minton: (850) 723-7385

Trinity Mission Statement: "Trinity Church strives to be a beacon of light in the community & to welcome all people to join us in celebrating God, by doing good works for His people."

Church Cancellation: (570) 680-1900 (Contact the office for free refrigerator magnets with this cancellation phone number.)

Anniversaries:

Matt & Lisa Gillette	May 22 nd
Ed & Carol Bannon	May 25 th
Mike & Kathie Nevins	May 27 th

Birthdays:

Tim Baron	May 25 th
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STEWARDSHIP

Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure

Easter 7: From Psalm 68: "...let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them be merry and joyful. Sing to God, sing praises to his name...". Being a faithful steward does not mean we need always to be serious and bowed down with the weight of our own or the world's problems. God loves music, and joy, and all those things that create full and thankful hearts in the children so dear to Him. Make it part of your daily discipline to find at least one thing in which you can truly rejoice! ✚

Diocesan Convention: Nominations and Resolutions Due July 15



The 149th Diocesan Convention will take place on Saturday, October 3. Location/method of meeting TBD.

Resolutions to be considered at Diocesan Convention are due by July 15. Find more information, including resolution format, on [the website](#).

Nominations for clergy and lay people to serve on the Commission on Ministry, the Diocesan Council, and the Standing Committee, are also due by July 15. Find more information about positions to be elected on [the website](#), or download the nomination form.

Volunteers are still needed