

Holy Trinity Church
446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550
A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

9:30 a.m. Choral Service

The Rev. Richard Signore, Celebrant & Preacher
Anne Bouvier-Monroe, Organist

Vigil Light

The Vigil Light today is given to the Glory of God and for strength and healing for Betty & Ray, given by Judy Reich.

The Vigil Light is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of "Teacher", given by Lorraine Brumskine.

Prelude: "Pastorale" -Hayes

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional hymn LEVAS#120

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.

There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. REFRAIN

There are blessings you cannot receive till you know Him in His fullness, and believe. You're the one to profit when you say, "I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." REFRAIN

REFRAIN: Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love. And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen! *People* **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Collect for Purity

Gloria: S-236 Glory to you, Lord

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.

Collect *(said by all)*

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 and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading

Reader A reading from the book of 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, an 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.” *Acts 17:22-31*

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God

Silence

PSALM 66:7-18

said by all, in unison

BCP p. 674

Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
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.
I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Verse

Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia

Al - le - lu - ia

Holy Gospel John 14:15-21

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ

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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord **People** **Praise to you Lord Christ**

Sermon *Fr. Richard Signore*

Prayers of the People

Let us kneel and offer ourselves to God, that we may know how to take our share in God's design for the world.

Let us pray.

That we may put ourselves alongside our fellows and see the Christian faith and life from their point of view: **Lord hear our prayer.**

That the Church may be aware of the rapid rate of change both in the thought of men and women and in their social circumstances: **Lord hear our prayer.**

For the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in the large-scale and complex problems of society and work today, which require corporate judgments and solutions: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That in the choices facing us today, in situations partly good and partly evil, we may be granted the insights of the Holy Spirit, and guided to make decisions which will forward your will: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That you will grant to Christians working in big organizations the faith to share in some small way your active concern for the good ordering of people's lives and the supplying of their needs: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may see in our daily work the opportunity to serve you through the truth of our insights, the honesty of our service, and our concern for our fellow-workers: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That you will bless those groups of Christians who are trying to discover how they may best exercise Christian vocation through their professions: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That our local churches may no longer be seen as arks of safety, but as powerhouses of grace for the invading forces of your Kingdom: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That you will bless and guide all lay movement which seek to advance your Kingdom in special spheres of work or in particular neighborhoods: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That you will guide our local churches to face the challenge of these movements, to learn from them and to offer them understanding and grateful fellowship: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That you will enable the clergy to bring the light of your truth to your people and the grace of the sacraments to their strengthening: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Prayer for the Parish - O everlasting source of love, in whom our faith resides, guide us surely ever forward on our lifelong journey. Not so fast that we miss the beauty that surrounds us on the way, nor miss your grace

so freely given that teaches us how to grow. But with a steady presence felt and a sense of gratitude may we find our place amidst the jungle of life within the kingdom of heaven on earth. Amen

Confession & Absolution

BCP, p. 360

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 Peace

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Hymn: *"To a Wild Rose" -MacDowell*

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer 2

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Book, p. 364

Fraction Anthem: WLP #875 Be Known to Us

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.
The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.
Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.
One body we are, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.
Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Communion

Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (*St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787*)

The Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

Recessional Hymn #412

Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets, sing to the Lord a new song! O victory, loud shouting army, sing to the Lord a new song! REFRAIN

Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snowstorms, sing to the Lord a new song! Flowers and trees, loud rustling dry leaves, sing to the Lord a new song! REFRAIN

REFRAIN: He has done marvelous things. I, too, will praise him with a new song!

Dismissal Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" -Setting by Hustad*