

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Evening Prayer

May 12, 2024

5:00 p.m.

St. James Episcopal Church ☩ Alexandria, LA

Please ensure that you have clicked the "Mute" button on your ZOOM toolbar until the end of our service, after which you are invited to "unmute" and stay for a brief time of greeting and fellowship.

*You can find a free electronic version of the Book of Common Prayer at <https://bcponline.org/>
Evening Prayer begins on page 115.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Colossians 3:1

Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

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

O Gracious Light

O gracious light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed! Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Psalm 19

BCP p. 606

The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

**One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,

**Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.**

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

Psalm 46

BCP p. 649

God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;**

Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

**The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.

**God is in the midst of her;
she shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of day.**

The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

**The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.

**It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.**

“Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth.”
**The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

(12:18-29)

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.” Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”) But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” This phrase “Yet once more” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

8. The Song of Moses

Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18

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

A Reading from the Gospel According to Luke.

(10:17-24)

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

20. Glory to God

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of
the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

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

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Suffrages A

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

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.**

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please offer your own prayers and intercessions either silently or aloud.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Leonidas Polk Memorial, Leesville; Trinity, DeRidder, the Rev. James Lueckenhoff (Linda).

The General Thanksgiving

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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 our selves 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.

Officiant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Officiant then concludes with

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

