



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR A

Liturgy of the Word

May 17, 2020 10 A.M.

INTROIT

Karitas habundat

Karitas habundat in omnia
de imis excellentissima
super sidera atque amantissima in omnia
quia summo regi osculum pacis dedit.

Love abounds in all,
from the depths exalted and excelling
over every star, and most beloved of all,
for to the highest King the kiss of peace she gave.

Words and Music: Hildegard of Bingen (1098–1179)

The invitation to worship is sounded with the ringing of the bells.

HYMN

All things bright and beautiful (111, *Voices Found*)

Descant



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Repeat Refrain



he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958) Copyright © used by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc.; desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright © G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

OPENING ACCLAMATION, SALUTATION, & COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

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.**

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 17:22-31

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.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66:7-18 (*Sung by soloists from the Choir*)

Walter Galpin Alcock & John Bertalot

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

- 10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 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.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 PETER 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Now the green blade riseth (204, *The Hymnal 1982*)



1 Now the green blade ris - eth from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that nev - er he would wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain,
thy touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
quick from the dead my ris - en Lord is seen:
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:



Refrain
Love is come a - gain like wheat that spring - eth green.

Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958), alt., from *The Oxford Book of Carols*, Copyright ©1964, Oxford University Press.
Music: *Noël nouvelet*, medieval French carol; harm. Marcel Dupré (1886-1971); based on "Variation sur un Noël" for organ Marcel Dupré
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THE GOSPEL

JOHN 14:15-21

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

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."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

Presider and People

**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

Presider

Our Savior is resurrected from the dead, bringing renewal to Christians around the globe.

With joyful gratitude, we pray for the church and for the world.

Intercessor and People

We pray for the church universal: guide the ministers of your Word as they honor the traditions of the past, tend the cares of the present, and build the communities of the future. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for the leaders of the world: plant wisdom and compassion in their hearts, and teach them to sow seeds of righteousness and mercy. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for this wondrous creation: continue to reveal its bountiful complexity and fragile beauty, and inspire us to safeguard these gifts for all posterity. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for your human family: take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for this holy gathering of the faithful: strengthen us to continue in the way of the apostles, proclaim the Good News of God in Christ, seek and serve Christ in all persons, and strive for justice and peace among all people. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for those in any need or trouble: feed the hungry, tend the sick, relieve the weary, bless the dying, and soothe the suffering. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for those most affected by the coronavirus crisis, including: health care workers and first responders; farmers, transporters, and grocers; students and teachers; those who are unemployed; those who in the best of times live at the margins of our communities; and the politicians who make decisions on our behalf. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died: give them Christ's triumph over death, and bring them into your perpetual light. Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for the concerns that we now lift toward you in the stillness of our hearts. [*Silence is kept.*]

Presider

Risen Christ, hear the prayers offered by these your gathered people; instill in our hearts the assurance of your resurrected life, that we may follow your Way in faith, hope, joy, and love; in the name of the one Holy and undivided Trinity. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your ongoing financial support of St. Thomas's Church is especially appreciated at this time. To give online with a debit or credit card, go to the Home page of the Church website (www.stthomasnewhaven.org), and click GIVE NOW. If you are viewing this document electronically, you can simply [CLICK HERE](#). Know also that the Church office is able to process checks that have been mailed. Thank you!

OFFERTORY HYMN

Come down, O Love divine (516, *The Hymnal 1982*)

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,
 and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;
 O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place
 and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt. Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
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THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

You are invited to say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice.

**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.**

A PRAYER OF COMMUNION

Presider and People

Almighty God, you promised through our Lord Jesus Christ that where two or three are gathered together in his name, you will be in the midst of them. We ask you to be in the midst of us now, though we are far apart, and to bind us to one another, and to you, through the power of your Holy Spirit. Just as you, Father, are in the Son, and he in you, so may we also be in you, and Christ in us, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Presider: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

ANTHEM

The LORD bless you and keep you

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you;

the LORD lift up the light
of his countenance upon you,
and give you peace. Amen.

Words: Numbers 6:24-26 Music: John Rutter (b. 1945), 1981

After the Anthem, you are invited to stay online for virtual Coffee Hour.



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Serving Today

Presider: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Preacher: Will Parker

Musician: Dr. Noah Horn

Lectors: Claire Scully, Jan Hagens

Intercessor: Judy Thompson

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:
all who are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic,
especially those who work in healthcare and those
who have lost their livelihood

Pray for those who have died.

**In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of
Prayer, pray for:**

St. James', New Haven; St. John's, New Haven; St.
Luke's, New Haven; Companions in Mission for
Publishing & Communication, Education for Ministry
leaders and students

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:
the Anglican Church of Korea

**In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical
Prayer Cycle, pray for:**

Indian Ocean Islands: Comoros, Madagascar,
Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles

Leadership at St. Thomas's

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Denise Terry (Junior Warden)

Ricardo Chavira (Treasurer)

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