

Morning Prayer

Sunday, May 17, 2020 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Officiant: The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Gillard

Preacher: The Rev'd Fr. Jeffry Kennedy

Organist & Cantor: Damien Macedo

Prelude **Prelude on Rockingham (Healey Willan)**

The Gathering of the Community

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Officiant May his grace and peace be with you.
People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

All **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.**

Officiant Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.
People **O come, let us worship. Alleluia!**

Venite *Psalm 95.1–7*

Officiant Come, let us sing to the Lord;
All **let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great king above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his for he made it, and his hands have moulded the dry land. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Officiant Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.
People **O come, let us worship. Alleluia!**

Hymn *Creator Spirit, By Whose Aid (641)*

ST. PETERSBURG

Creator Spirit, by whose aid the world's foundations first were laid,
come, visit every humble mind; come, pour thy joys on humankind;
from sin and sorrow set us free, and make us temples worthy thee.

O source of uncreated light, the Father's promised, Paraclete,
thrice holy fount, thrice holy fire, our hearts with heavenly love inspire;
come, and thy sacred unction bring to sanctify us while we sing.

Plenteous of grace, descend from high rich in thy sevenfold energy;
make us eternal truths receive, and practise all that we believe;
give us thyself, that we may see the Father and the Son by thee.

Immortal honour, endless fame, attend the almighty Father's name;
the Saviour Son be glorified, who for the world's redemption died;
and equal adoration be, eternal Paraclete, to thee.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Acts 17:22-31

Reader A reading from the acts of the apostles.

Then 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 66:8-20

Please join on the alternating (bolded) verses of the psalm.

- ⁸ Bless our God, O peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard,
⁹ **who has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.**
¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.
¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid burdens on our backs;**
¹² you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.
¹³ **I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
I will pay you my vows,**
¹⁴ those that my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
¹⁵ **I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**
¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for me.
¹⁷ **I cried aloud to him,
and he was extolled with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.

¹⁹ **But truly God has listened;
he has given heed to the words of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God,
because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.

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.

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:13-22

Reader A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits—to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Glory to God

Officiant Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest,
All **and peace to God's 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.**

Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

“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.”

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

The Rev'd Fr. Jeffrey Kennedy

Anthem If Ye Love Me (Orlando Gibbons)

The Nicene Creed

Officiant Let us confess our faith as we say,

All

**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.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped 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.

Intercessions and Prayers

Intercessions

- Leader* In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life, saying, "Hear us, Lord of glory!" That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.
- All* **Hear us, Lord of glory!**
- Leader* That isolated and persecuted churches, and all peoples, may find fresh strength in the Easter gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- All* **Hear us, Lord of glory!**
- Leader* That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, let us pray to the Lord.
- All* **Hear us, Lord of glory!**
- Leader* That God may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord.
- All* **Hear us, Lord of glory!**
- Leader* That by God's power, pandemics, wars, and famine may cease through all the earth, let us pray to the Lord.
- All* **Hear us, Lord of glory!**
- Leader* That God may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, the dying, and the bereaved, that they may be comforted and strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.
- All* **Hear us, Lord of glory!**
- Leader* That God may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon the whole church, that we may bear faithful witness to Christ's resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.
- All* **Hear us, Lord of glory!**
- Leader* I invite you now to offer your own prayers and petitions to God.
- All* **Hear us, Lord of glory!**
- Leader* We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God. Merciful Father,
- All* **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant Let us pray. Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination. Pour into our hearts such love toward you, that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **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, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Doxology

Officiant Glory to God,
All **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Officiant May the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. And the blessing of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (386) ROCKINGHAM
When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the cross of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.
Were the realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Dismissal

Officiant Alleluia! Go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

Excerpt from the "Phantasie und Fuge" of Sonata 13 in Eb Major (J.G. Rheinberger)

Announcements

Ministries for Children and Youth

For children, our Sunday School coordinator Elisabeth Westberg is hosting weekly lessons on Zoom, beginning at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. For our youth, Elisabeth and Fr. Benjamin are hosting a weekly check-in over Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 7:30 PM. For information about how to connect over Zoom, please email Elisabeth directly at youth@stjohnsnorway.com.

Weekly Online/Dial-in Bible Study – Thursdays at 1PM – **PASSWORD: 077686**

On Thursdays at 1:00 PM, Fr. Jeffrey and Fr. Benjamin are holding a bible study focusing on the gospel passage from the previous Sunday. All you need to participate is a bible and a computer or phone. To join online, follow the link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2035813958>. To dial in on the phone, first dial: 647-558-0588. When prompted, enter the meeting ID: 203 581 3958#. Please refer any questions to Fr. Benjamin (curate@stjohnsnorway.com, 647-608-5608).

Weekly Happy almost-an-Hour – Fridays at 5PM – **PASSWORD: 077686**

On Fridays at 5:00 PM, we are holding "Happy almost-an-Hour!" Grab some snacks, tune into Zoom, and catch up with other parishioners! To join online, follow the link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2035813958>. To dial in on the phone, first dial: 647-558-0588. When prompted, enter the meeting ID: 203 581 3958#. Please refer any questions to Fr. Benjamin (curate@stjohnsnorway.com, 647-608-5608).

Online Donations

Some of you have asked how to donate at this time. If you do not have pre-authorized payments in place, or would like to make an online donation, we have moved our online donation link to the front page of the website. Online donations to St John's Norway are done through CanadaHelps. (<http://canadahelps.org/en/charities/church-of-st-john-the-baptist-norway>).

To Reach Us

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