

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 17, 2018

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

AS WE GATHER... "Now the green blade rises from the buried grain" is the first line of a well-known Easter carol. The wonder of God's handiwork can be seen in the smallest things of God's great creation. Even in a grain of mustard seed, there is the promise of new life and fruitfulness. God provides for all of our needs out of love for His creatures. And He rejoices in the growth that occurs. As the "rolling seasons in fruitful order move," we celebrate that in Christ we have a central role in God's amazing plan as we grow in love.

Welcome & Announcements

STARTING WITH PRAISE

Psalm 145:1-3

C: I will extol you, my God and King,

P: and bless your name forever and ever.

C: Every day I will bless you

P: and praise your name forever and ever.

C: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,

P: and his greatness is unsearchable.

OPENING SONG:

"Morning Has Broken"

Morning has broken, Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken, Like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing, Fresh from the Word!
Sweet the rain's new fall, Sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dew—fall, On the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness, Of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness, Where his feet pass.
Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, Praise ev'ry morning,
God's recreation, Of the new day!

OPENING UP TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

P: Jesus invites you: "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.

C: Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

P: Let us come to Jesus in a time of silent prayer.

~~ We reflect upon our need for Jesus' rest and forgiveness. ~~

P: Almighty God, heavenly Father,

C: We confess that we are burdened by our sin. What we want to do, we don't do. What we end up doing, we know that we are not supposed to do. We feel trapped. Your Word teaches us that we cannot escape our sinfulness. Only in Your mercy is there rest for our souls and relief from the burdens of our hearts. Father fill us again with the assurance of the cross and empty tomb so that we may receive again the victory that is ours through Jesus. Amen.

P: The burdens that are so heavy for you are light for Jesus! As you have now confessed your sins, it is my privilege and joy to announce to you that Jesus has taken away your burdens by His death and resurrection. According to His own command, I, as a servant of Jesus and Your pastor, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SONG:

"All Through the Night"

Sleep my child and peace attend thee, All through the night.

Guardian angels God will send thee, All through the night.

Soft the drowsy hours are creeping, Hill and vale in slumber
sleeping.

I my loving vigil keeping, All through the night.

While the moon her watch is keeping, All through the night.

While the weary world is sleeping, All through the night.

O'er thy spirit gently stealing, Visions of delight revealing.

Breathes a pure and holy feeling, All through the night.

Love to thee my thoughts are turning, All through the night.
All for thee my heart is yearning, All through the night.
Though sad fate our lives may sever, Parting will not last forever.
There's a hope that leaves me never, All through the night.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us Pray. Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope found in them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

First Lesson: *Proverbs 24:17-18, 28-29 & 25:7b-10, 21-22*
Mending relationships

*Do not rejoice when your enemy falls,
and let not your heart be glad when he stumbles,
lest the Lord see it and be displeased,
and turn away his anger from him.*

*Be not a witness against your neighbor without cause,
and do not deceive with your lips.*

*Do not say, "I will do to him as he has done to me;
I will pay the man back for what he has done."
for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"*

*than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.
What your eyes have seen
do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to shame?
Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,
lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.
If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat,
and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink,
for you will heap burning coals on his head,
and the Lord will reward you.*

Gospel:

Mark 4:26-34

Jesus teaches the parable of the mustard seed.

Children's Message

SERMON HYMN:

"They'll Know We Are Christians"

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, his on-ly Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Sermon

WE SHARE OUR FAITH

C: I believe in God, who has created all things and continues to create new life within us.

I believe in Jesus, son of God, son of man, the Savior of the world. By His life, His death and resurrection, I can know the true depth of human possibility, and experience the true joy of an abundant life.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is present, now and always, calling us to faith, giving us gifts and empowering us for service. I believe that the community of believers called the church can experience the fullness of life through the word, the sacraments, and all that we do. Amen.

Offering

We offer our thanksgiving for what God has first given us—ourselves, our time, our possessions.

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for all people in their various needs, for the Church around the world, and for those near and dear to us.

P: Our great God “laid the foundation of the world.” Let us ask His guidance and protection for all who tend His good creation, tilling the soil and protecting the environment; for all who connect resources with people in need of food, clothing, and shelter, providing dignity and hope; and for all who work for peace and justice in their positions of authority.

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

P: God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven, be with Your servants who play music at Peace. The music at Peace brings us joy on earth so that we may catch a glimpse of Your beauty. Bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection that will be ours as we stand before You face to face.

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

P: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” Let us ask the Holy Spirit’s strength and encouragement for all who proclaim the Gospel in pulpits and hospitals, on battlefields and in refugee camps, offering the salvation that the Word of Christ announces; for all who put their faith into action, teaching the young, consoling the ill, comforting the grieving, and listening to the distraught; and for those near and dear to us, (including...), and those known only to our gracious God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

P: Jesus said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." Let us ask our Savior's gracious presence and protection for people of faith around the world, enduring persecution and standing with the weak; for the Church in our land, confronting injustice and resisting indifference wherever they are found.

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

P: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, gracious God, grant to us for the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

"Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so:
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! Loves me still, Tho' I'm very weak and ill;
That I might from sin be free, Bled and died upon the tree.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus love me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died, Heaven's gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin, Let His little child come in.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus love me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He will stay Close beside me all the way;
Thou hast bled and died for me, I will hence-forth live for thee.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus love me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

"Jesus, Name Above All Names"

Jesus, name above all names,
beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us,
blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Jesus, loving shepherd
Vine of the branches, Son of God
Prince of Peace, Wonderful counselor
Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Jesus, Way of salvation,
King of kings, Lord of Lords,
The way the truth, and the Life,
Mighty creator, my Savior and friend.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, Praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, Earth and heav'n reflect thy
rays,

Stars and angels sing around thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.