

Church of the Ascension

August 2, 2020 5:00pm Holy Eucharist
www.churchofascension.org 727-447-3469

Evening Prayer & Holy Communion

*Be thoughtful, be reverent, be present,
for you are standing on Holy Ground.
Before the service, speak to Jesus in preparation for worship.
During the service, let Christ speak to you as you encounter
Jesus' presence through worship.
After the service, share with each other the
Good News of God's love for us.*

Prelude

Calambre

Astor Piazzolla

Welcome

Opening Sentence

Leader: I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7, 8*

The Collect of the Day

Leader: Let us pray together,

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both her and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Song

God of the Women

from Voices Found #21

1. God of the women who answered your call, trusting your promise, giving their all, women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth give us their courage to live in your truth.
2. God of the women who walked Jesus' way, giving their resources, learning to pray, Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more may we give freely as they did before.
3. God of the women long put to the test, left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed, quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" in Jesus' dying you show us our worth.
4. God of the women who ran from the tomb, prayed with the others in that upper room, then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day may we so gladly proclaim you today.
5. O God of Phoebe and ministers all, may we be joyful in answering your call. Give us the strength of your Spirit so near that we may share in your ministry here.

Confession of Sin

Leader: Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world; Let us confess our failure to live as grateful and generous people.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Holy God, we confess to you before the company of the faithful in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned against you, against one another and against your creation. Forgive us in your mercy, help us to forgive each other and to hold in reverence all that you have made.

Leader: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Leader: O God, make speed to save us.

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Leader and People

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.

Song 536 vs 1-3 Open your ears faithful people

1 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple,
2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage,
3 Is - ra - el comes to greet the Sa - vior,
4 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple,

o - pen your ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O
they who have ears, then let them hear. They who would learn the
Ju - dah is glad to see his day. From east and west the
o - pen your ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O *Fine*

roy - al priest - hood, God has come to you.
way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.
peo - ples trav - el, he will show the way.
roy - al priest - hood, God has come to you.

God has spo - ken to his peo - ple, Hal - le - lu - jah!

And his words are words of wis - dom, Hal - le - lu - -

jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! God has spo - ken to his peo - ple,
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra,

Hal - le - lu - - jah! And his words are
To - rah o - ra,
Da Capo

words of wis - dom, Hal - le - lu - - jah!
To - rah o - ra, Hal - le - lu - - jah!

"Torah ora" is Hebrew for, "The Law is our Light."

Words: Willard F. Jabusch (b. 1930), alt.

Music: *Torah Song [Yisrael Voraita]*, Hasidic melody; arr. Richard Proulx, (b. 1937)

98. 95 with Refrain

Psalm 17:1-7

Prayer for Deliverance from Persecutors

A Prayer of David.

1 Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

**2 From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.**

3 If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.

**4 As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.**

5 My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.

**6 I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me, hear my words.**

7 Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.

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

Song **How deep the Father's Love For Us**

1. How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns His face away as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.
2. Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders. Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished; His dying breath has brought me life. I know that it is finished.
3. I will not boast in anything: No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom. But I will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer. But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

The Lesson

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 14:13-21

New Testament

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Silence

Song **Bless the Lord my Soul** **Taizé**

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life. REPEAT

An Affirmation of Faith
Celebrant and People

Iona Abbey, Worship Book

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female. We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh, born of a woman's womb, servant of the poor. He was tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present, and his kingdom will come on earth. We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Suffrages

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

*The people may add their petitions silently or aloud
Pray for those who have died.*

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.

*The people may add their petitions silently or aloud.
Pray for our country and the nations; pray for peace.*

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.

*The people may add their petitions silently or aloud.
Pray for those need to feel God's healing touch.*

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

A Collect for Sundays

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.**

A Collect for Peace

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Presence of Christ

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know

you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Leader: Let us pray together the Prayer of St. Chrysostom

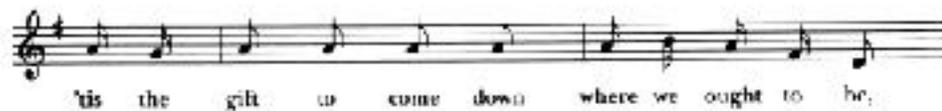
Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Hymn 554 Tis a Gift to Be Simple



The Holy Communion

All baptized adults, youth, and children are invited to receive communion. If you are not baptized, you are invited to cross your arms to receive a blessing.

The Invitation *Iona Abbey, Worship Book*

Leader: The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus and with all those who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth in which Christ became incarnate.

The Story of the Last Supper

Blessed, is our friend and savior, Jesus the Christ. Jesus walks with us the road of our world's suffering, and is known to us in the breaking of bread. On the night of his arrest, Jesus took the bread and having blessed it, He broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'This is my body, given for you'.

In the same way he took the cup of wine, and having given thanks for it, He poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, 'This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take this and share it. I shall drink wine with you next in the coming Kingdom of God.'

Loving God, it is through your goodness that we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. In the sharing of this bread, may we know your resurrection presence, and may we know that, in touching this bread, it is you whom we touch.

Tonight we celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among His community through the centuries and shares among us now. Made one with Christ, and thus one with each other, let us offer these gifts and ourselves to God, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now, we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room. Breathe your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that they may be heaven's food and drink for us, renewing, sustaining and making us whole; that we may be your body on earth, loving and caring in the world. **AMEN.**

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

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Celebrant: If you are celebrating with us at home, we know and affirm that God is near to each person and meets us where we are. Please pray this communion prayer; a reminder that God is present with us always.

Communion Hymn 662 Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
 2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
 3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide:
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray together:

Leader and People:

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of the bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all people and may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Blessing

Leader: The Wisdom of God the Love of God
and the Grace of God strengthen you
to be Christ's hands and heart in this world;
and the Blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Keep you and those you love in life everlasting. **Amen.**

Song I the Lord of Sea and Sky *From Wonder, Love, & Praise No. 812*

1. I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will
bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? REFRAIN

REFRAIN: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I
will go, Lord, if you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone. I will
speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? REFRAIN

Leader: Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this
night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord
Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the
afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

The service concludes with the Song of Simeon with this Antiphon

Leader and People

**Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch
with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.**

**Lord, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as you have
promised; For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, whom you have**

prepared for all the world to see: A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel. 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.

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Dismissal

Leader: Let us bless the Lord God living and true! Let us always give him praise, glory, honor, blessings and every good thing. **Amen.**

-- A blessing attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Leader: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*

Leader: Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Quiet Moments

Don Phillips

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