Sunday, April 19, 2020



BAS Service of the Word

Eye Has Not Seen, Ear Has Not Heard CP 548

Refrain: Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what you have ready for those who love you. Spirit of love, come, give us the mind of Jesus; teach us your wisdom, O Lord.

When pain and sorrow weigh us down, be near to us, O Lord: forgive the weakness of our faith and bear us up within your peaceful word. Refrain

Our lives are but a single breath; we flower and we fade. Yet all our days are in your hands, so we return in love what love has made. Refrain To those who see with eyes of faith, you, Lord, are ever near, reflected in the faces of all the poor and lowly of the world. Refrain

We sing a mystery from the past in halls where saints have trod, yet ever new the music rings to Jesus, Living Song of God. Refrain

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Dear friends in Christ,

as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen** May the Peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

We Walk by Faith, and Not by Sight CP 244

We walk by faith, and not by sight; no gracious words we hear from him who spoke as none e'er spoke; but we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side, nor follow where he trod; but in his promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound, to call on you when you are near, and seek where you are found:

That, when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light we may behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

Collect of the Day

Let us pray. O God, Our beginning and our end: accept our doubts, heal our desire for certainty and, by your Spirit's gentle touch, Make us a people forgive and forgiving; through Jesus Christ, the Giver of Peace. Amen.

1st Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence." 'Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, "He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption." This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people. Thanks be to God!

Psalm 16

- Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
 I have said to the Lord,
 "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, * upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods * shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, * nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; * it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; * indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

- 7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; * my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the Lord always before me; * because you are at my side I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; * my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, * nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life; * in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your hand are pleasures for evermore.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people. Thanks be to God!

May God be with you. **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel: John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

Let us confess our faith as we say, 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 In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.
For this community, our country, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.
For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.
For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy.
For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.
For Melissa our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

For our own needs and those of others. *Silence. Please add your own petitions* Hear us, Lord. **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *Silence. Please add your own thanksgivings* We will exalt you, O God our king;

And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *Silence. Please add your own petitions* Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them; **Who put their trust in you.**

Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen We Will Lay Our Burden Down CP 545

We will lay our burden down, we will lay our burden down, we will lay our burden down, in the hands of the risen Lord.

We will light the flame of love, we will light the flame of love, we will light the flame of love as the hands of the risen Lord.

We will show both hurt and hope, we will show both hurt and hope, we will show both hurt and hope like the hands of the risen Lord.

We will walk the path of peace, we will walk the path of peace, we will walk the path of peace hand in hand with the risen Lord.

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Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. **All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us, 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 forever. Amen

Glory to God 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, forever and ever. Amen May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Be Thou My Vision CP 505

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my Heart; naught be all else to me, save that though art thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Father; thine own may I be, thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor the world's empty praise; thou mine inheritance, now and always: thou and thou only, first in my heart, high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, when victory is won, may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Readings for next Sunday – April 26 2020 Third Sunday after Easter Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17; 1 Peter1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35.