

Sixth Sunday after Easter

"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" John 14:21

Sunday, May 17, 2020

BAS Service of the Word

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness CP 397

***Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.
Praise the one who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.***

***Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the one who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.***

***Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory, praise the One who makes us one.***

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.

Seek Not in Distant, Ancient Hills CP470 (tune 487)

***Seek not in distant, ancient hills the promised holy land,
but where you live do what God wills and find it close at hand.***

***A single heaven wraps around this whirling, watered stone,
and every place is sacred ground where God is loved and known.***

***To climb the templed, foot-worn peak where pilgrims long have trod,
unlock the bolted soul and seek the present, living God.***

***In spirit and in truth, you'll find what human thought can't frame:
the source of breath and pulse and mind, the primal wind and flame.***

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

**Three-fold God of love,
you invite us to abide in you.
May we follow the Spirit of truth,
so that through us your commanding love
may speak to the heart of the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

1st Reading: Acts 17:22-31

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.'

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

Psalm 66:8-20

- 8 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of God's praise to be heard;**
- 9 who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.**
- 10 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.**
- 11 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**
- 12 You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.**
- 13 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings *
and will pay you my vows,**
- 14 which I promised with my lips *
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**
- 15 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.**
- 16 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what the Lord has done for me,**
- 17 The One to whom I called out with my mouth *
and whose praise was on my tongue.**
- 18 If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;**
- 19 But in truth God has heard me *
and has attended to the voice of my prayer.**
- 20 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld steadfast love from me.**

2nd Reading: 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 defence to anyone who demands from you an account of 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 people, 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.

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 14:15-21

'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 for ever. 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.'

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

Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels CP 494

***Not for tongues of heaven's angels, not for wisdom to discern,
not for faith that masters mountains, for this better gift we yearn: [Refrain]***

Refrain:

may love be ours Lord, may love be ours.

May love be ours, O Lord.

***Love is humble, love is gentle, love is tender, true, and kind;
love is gracious, ever patient, generous of heart and mind: [Refrain]***

Refrain:

may love be ours Lord, may love be ours.

May love be ours, O Lord.

***Never jealous, never selfish, love will not rejoice in wrong;
never boastful nor resentful, love believes and suffers long: [Refrain]***

Refrain:
may love be ours Lord, may love be ours.
May love be ours, O Lord.

***In the day this world is fading, faith and hope will play their part;
but when Christ is seen in glory, love shall reign in every heart: [Refrain]***

Refrain:
may love be ours Lord, may love be ours.
May love be ours, O Lord.

*please remember to mail in your offering to the church
or consider using the Pre-Authorized Debit system*

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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee CP 425

***Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.***

***All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect they rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.***

***Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.***

Readings for next Sunday – May 24, 2020

Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 93;

Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53.