

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 10 MAY 2020



Prelude: *Prelude on "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

John Sullivan

Hymn: *"Christ is made the sure foundation"*

Regent Square

Bob Workmon, tenor



1 Christ is made the sure foun-da-tion, Christ the head and cor-ner-stone,
2 All that ded-i-cat-ed ci-ty, dear-ly loved of God on high,
3 To this tem-ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, to-day;
4 Here vouch-safe to all thy ser-vants what they ask of thee to gain;



cho-sen of the Lord, and pre-cious, bind-ing all the Church in one;
in ex-ult-ant ju-bi-la-tion pours per-pet-ual me-lo-dy;
with thy wont-ed lov-ing-kind-ness hear thy ser-vants as they pray,
what they gain from thee, for ev-er with the bless-ed to re-tain,



ho-ly Zi-on's help for ev-er, and her con-fi-dence a-lone.
God the One in Three a-dor-ing in glad hymns e-ter-nal-ly.
and thy full-est ben-e-dic-tion shed with-in its walls al-way.
and here-af-ter in thy glo-ry ev-er-more with thee to reign.

The Officiant begins with these sentences

Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

The officiant may say:

In observance of the Easter season, the confession will be omitted.

The service continues on p. 80, with the Invitatory Psalm and the Psalm of the day.

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant 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 forever. Amen.

Then follows this canticle: Christ our Passover

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, *

so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (page 622 in the Book of Common Prayer)

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;

let me never be put to shame; *

deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; *

make haste to deliver me. *(The psalm continues.)*

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O Lord, O God of truth.
My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.”

At the end of the Psalms is said:

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.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

Canticle 8: The Song of Moses (p.85)

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea. The Lord is my strength and my refuge; the Lord has become my Savior. This is my God and I will praise him, the God of my people and I will exalt him. The Lord is a mighty warrior; Yahweh is his Name. The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea. The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; they sank into the depths like a stone. Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy. Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of wonders? You stretched forth your right hand; the earth swallowed them up. With your constant love, you led the people you redeemed; with your might, you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling. You will bring them in and plant them on the mount of your possession, The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established. The Lord shall reign forever and forever.

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.

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner”, and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord

Solo: “*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Light*”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Bob Workmon, tenor

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a way as gives us breath;
Such a truth as ends all strife;
Such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a light as shows a feast;
Such a feast as mends in length;
Such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a joy as none can move;
Such a love as none can part;
Such a heart as joys in love.

George Herbert

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Homily

The Apostles' Creed (p. 96)

Officiant and People together

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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.

The Prayers (p. 97)

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.

Then follows the Suffrages, found on page 97

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
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.
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.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Officiant then leads the congregation in the prayers

The Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A prayer for transition

Almighty God, you know the needs of your church in every place: look graciously upon the people of St James Parish, and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we move through the search process for our new rector. Thank you for the faithful stewards you have provided, and will provide, for our leadership. We give thanks for those who have committed to serve on the Search Committee and ask for blessing on their endeavors. Give us discernment, wisdom, patience, and confidence in your timing. Help us to care for each other with mutual trust, respect, kindness, and clarity of purpose. You are the Good Shepherd, and we ask you to shepherd us throughout this journey. In the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

Prayers in this time of pandemic

O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. In this challenging and uncertain time of global pandemic and public health crisis, we come before you offering our prayers on behalf of those in need, the church and the world.

We pray for the church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and serve as beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for Michael, the Presiding Bishop, Rob our Bishop, Pierce our Interim Rector, our clergy, staff, wardens and vestry, and all who minister in your name.
Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all affected by the coronavirus around the world. For the leaders of the nations that they may work together for the common good as the outbreak spreads. Grant public health and government officials the strength and will to act swiftly and decisively, with wisdom and compassion in service to all. We pray especially for our president, the Congress, Governors and mayors.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they have access to medical care and regain their strength and health; grant them your healing grace. Give strength to all who are caring for loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those known to our community who stand in need of God's healing power, remembering especially Adrienne, Bill, Ede, Bouti (Booty), Amy, Max, Beth John, Jimbo, Terry, Tim, Joe, and Fred... and others who we mention at this time.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for healthcare workers. Grant them courage and protection as they put the needs of public safety before their own. Bless scientists and researchers as they combat the virus, that their work may yield knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce its spread.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Remove the presence of fear and anxiety from our hearts, that confident in your providence we may be generous in sharing our resources. Grant that our churches and communities of faith may reflect your love, as they minister to the most vulnerable among us.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have already lost loved ones to the virus and those who will yet suffer such loss that they may know the consolation of your love. In this Easter season, we pray for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, including.... And those in whose loving memory flowers have been given.... that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

On this Mothers' Day we give thanks to God for the divine gift of motherhood in all its diverse forms. Let us pray for all the mothers among us today; for our own mothers, those living and those who have passed away; for the mothers who loved us and for those who fell short of loving us fully; for all who hope to be mothers someday and for those whose hopes to have children have been frustrated; for all mothers who have lost children; for all women and men who have mothered others in any way – those who have been our substitute mothers and we who have done so for those in need; and for the earth that bore us and provides for us with our sustenance. We pray this all in the name of God, our great and loving Mother. Lord, in your mercy.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

The Concluding Collect

Holy and sovereign Lord, when the earth and all its people quake, you hold its pillars firm. What is uncertain and frightening to us is completely known to you and controlled by you. Look mercifully on the people of St James Parish. Although at this time we are apart from each other, we pray your Holy Spirit will unite us as one. Pour upon us your peace which passes all understanding, keep us safe and healthy, and above all, keep us mindful of those to whom we should show the love and compassion of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

Hymn 525: "The Church's one foundation"

Aurelia

Bob Workmon, tenor

Before the close of the Office, one or both of the following may be used

The General Thanksgiving (p. 101)

Officiant:

Let us sum up our prayers in the words of the General Thanksgiving, found on p. 101.

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Then may be said

Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

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

Ephesians 3:20, 21



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