

May 17, 2020

Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford

10 a.m.

**Sixth Sunday of Easter
An "Instructed" Holy Eucharist Rite II**

Prelude: Prelude on *Rhosymedre*

R. Vaughan Williams

The Word of God

Welcome to this "Instructed" Eucharist

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia!! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn #405 All things bright and beautiful

Royal Oak

**Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.**

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings.

(refrain)

The purple headed mountain, the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.

(refrain)

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden, he made them every one.

(refrain)

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

(refrain)

Commentary on proclaiming and responding

Collect for Purity

BCP, p.355

Hymn of Praise: Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum*

BCP, p.83

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
therefore let us keep the feast,
Not with the 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 also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Collect of the Day *Prayed together:*

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding;
Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Word of God

First Reading:

Acts 17:22-31

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.'

The Lector concludes: The Word of the Lord. *People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:7-18 *Prayed responsively.*

BCP p. 674.

7 **Bless our God, you peoples; ***
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 **Who holds our souls in life, ***
and will not allow our feet to slip.

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

Second 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 defense 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 persons, 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.

The Lector concludes: The Word of the Lord. *People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #456 O love of God, how strong, how true

da Tar

O Love of God, how strong and true,
eternal and yet ever new;
uncomprehended and unbought,
beyond all knowledge and all thought.

O wide embracing, wondrous Love,
we read thee in the sky above;
we read thee in the earth below,
in seas that swell and streams that flow.

We read thee best in him who came
to bear for us the cross of shame,
sent by the Father from on high,
our life to live, our death to die.

We read thy power to bless and save
e'en in the darkness of the grave;
still more in resurrection light
we read the fullness of thy might.

The Gospel: *The Gospeller*: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John 14:15-21

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, '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 forever. 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 Gospeller concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. *People respond*: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Harrison West†

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Comments on Prayers

Prayers of the People:

Form III

BCP, p.387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Remembering especially the clergy and people of the New Haven parishes of St. James', St. John's and St. Luke's and the Anglican Church of Korea!
Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishops Ian and Laura, our Rector Harrison, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for your Holy Spirit to inspire with wisdom, decision-making to promote the health and well-being of all peoples, as we pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

We pray for those commended to the prayers of the parish; including all affected by the current pandemic, the homeless and the lonely, for those suffering from addictions, victims of violence, for those serving

in the military, and their families; for the unemployed and the underemployed; and for those who are sick and suffering. Have compassion on them and on all those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Remembering all those who have died from the Coronavirus and Ahmad Arbery;

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Remembering Ted Mumaugh, Harriet Mack Mumaugh, Philip and Marie Mack whom we hold in blessed memory:

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your eternal Kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Comments on The Peace

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **People: And also with you.**

Announcements and Greetings

The Holy Communion

Comments on The Offertory

The Offertory

Offertory solo: A Simple Song

L. Bernstein

Leila Mustakos, soprano

The Doxology: Hymn 380 (vs. 3)

Presentation of Gifts

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

Comments on The Great Thanksgiving

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 3

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places,
our true and loving God;

through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,

the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world

and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;
You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
And so as the morning stars sing your praises
we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout[sing] with joy:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent;
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.
Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a sacred offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, *you* have freed us from sin, brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
gave it to his friends and said:

“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

“Drink this, all of you:

this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine

that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.
Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Stephen and all your people
into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People: **Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN**

**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 in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus, I cannot now worship you at the altar of the church in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, yet in spirit I would join myself with all those who in your Holy Church offer you the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving., Visit me, I pray, with your mercy, pardon, and blessing, and fill me with faith and love and repentance, and so strengthen and sustain me by your grace that I may with pure heart and mind follow you, the only God, now and forever. Amen.

Communion solo: Pie Jesu

G. Fauré

Comments on Service Conclusion

Postcommunion Prayer:

BCP p.365

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
You have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Easter Blessing

Recessional Hymn #492 Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness

Finnian

Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness,
wake your noblest, sweetest string,
with the praises of your Savior
let his house resound again;
him let all your music honor,
and your songs exalt his reign.

Sing, how he came forth from heaven,
bowed himself to Bethlehem's cave,
stooped to wear the servant's vesture,
bore the pain, the cross, the grave,
passed within the gates of darkness,
thence his banished ones to save.

So, he tasted death for mortals,
he, of human kind the head,
sinless one, among the sinful,
Prince of life, among the dead;
thus he wrought the full redemption,
and the captor captive led.

Now on high, yet ever with us,
from his Father's throne the Son
rules and guides the world he ransomed,
till the appointed work be done,
till he see, renewed and perfect,
all things gathered into one.

Dismissal: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia. *People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Postlude: A mighty fortress

J. Pachelbel

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving
for Ted Mumaugh, Harriet Mack Mumaugh, and Philip and Marie Mack
by Fred and Kathy Mauzey

Music note: By now it is possibly not exactly a secret that my favorite organ music is Bach, with an occasional assist from his German near-contemporaries (we're looking at you, Buxtehude and Pachelbel!)—but if I had to pick a runner-up, it would have to be British organ music from the 20th century, with Ralph Vaughan Williams “Three preludes founded on Welsh hymn tunes” being one of the principal reasons. **Our prelude this morning** is the second of these preludes, based on the hymn tune *Rhosymedre* (found in our hymnal at #587, “Our father, by whose name”). After a beautifully flowing introduction, the hymn tune first appears in the tenor, and then takes over the upper part while the organ gently swells (you may blame George Harrison for the end of that last sentence). Fun fact: this music, very popular in Great Britain, was featured as part of the prelude music for the last royal wedding (in an orchestration *not* by Vaughan Williams).

Leonard Bernstein's controversial “Mass” (originally “MASS: A theatre piece for singers, dancers, and players”) was commissioned by Jacqueline Kennedy for the opening of the Kennedy Center in 1971. It combines parts of the traditional Latin Tridentine Mass with vernacular English movements intended as commentary on the Mass from the perspective of those involved; the vernacular texts were written by Bernstein and Stephen Schwartz. **This morning's Offertory solo**, “A Simple Song,” has emerged as the most enduring music from this work; its text combines paraphrases of verses from various Psalms with newly written lyrics. Fun fact: Bernstein originally wrote “A Simple Song” for the Franco Zeffirelli film “Brother Sun, Sister Moon,” but Bernstein eventually withdrew from the project. Fun fact #2: Paul Simon also contributed about half a stanza to one of the songs!

Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laudē... Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laude...

Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things, For God is the simplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song To praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord.

I will sing His praises while I live All of my days.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, Blessed is the man who praises Him. Lauda, Lauda, Laudē... And walks in His ways.

I will lift up my eyes To the hills from whence comes my help

I will lift up my voice to the Lord Singing Lauda, Laudē.

For the Lord is my shade, Is the shade upon my right hand

And the sun shall not smite me by day Nor the moon by night

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, Lauda, Lauda, Laudē

And walks in His ways.

Lauda, Lauda, Laudē; Lauda, Lauda di da di day...

All of my days.

This morning's Communion solo, *Pie Jesu*, is possibly the most popular part of Fauré's ever-popular *Requiem*. Its short text is the last line of the Sequence hymn *Dies irae*; interestingly, Fauré chose not to include the entire Sequence, which is rather bleak (“Day of wrath, day of mourning...”), but chose instead to include just the final words:

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.

(“Pious Lord Jesus, grant them rest.”)

It is a miracle of both simplicity and concision, and is simply beautiful—and I was thrilled to learn that it is one of Leila's favorites! Fun fact: a Requiem Mass—i. e. a mass for the dead—takes its name from its incipit (its first words), *Requiem aeternum* (“rest eternal”). Okay, maybe that wasn't exactly fun.

And, it's back to the German Baroque period! **Our postlude this morning** is the vibrant Pachelbel setting of what is almost certainly my favorite hymn tune, Luther's *Ein feste Burg* (“A mighty fortress”). The opening is a bold, quasi-fugal treatment of the opening phrase of the chorale, leading to a powerful statement of the full tune in the pedals, accompanied by vigorous scales passages running up and down the manuals.