Reflecting Christ’s Image Through Inclusive Relationships, Unconditional Love, and Joyful Service

MAY 17, 2020

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 1 Cor 12:26
MORNING PRAYER RITE II

Easter is the season of praise as we glorify the risen Christ. There are 50 days of the Easter season that ends on the Day of Pentecost.

The service of Morning Prayer has roots in the regular daily prayer in monastic and early Christian communities. In many parts of the Anglican Communion, Morning Prayer (or “Matins”, from the Latin term for morning) has been the principal Sunday service for faithful communities, and this service has a rich history of use in The Episcopal Church.

Welcome

Announcements

The service of Morning Prayer immerses us in scripture, and the Opening Sentences provide a scriptural call to worship which varies with the season.

Opening Acclamation

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People: The Lord has risen indeed. Alleluia!

People: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord! Amen.

The Confession which we say together as part of our preparatory acts of worship allows us to bring our failures and weakness individually and as a community, to God, to ask God’s help in facing the evil in the world around us, and to receive the assurance of God’s forgiveness and strength, which the priest reminds us of in the Absolution.
Confession

The Officiant says to the People

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

Officiant, and People together in a posture of reverence to God.

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 neighbors 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

Absolution

Officiant: 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.

In the Opening Invitatory we greet God and one another with praise of God who is known to us as the Lord of our life.

Opening Invitatory & Psalter

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.
People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise. Alleluia!
Response in unison
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.

We now begin the immersion in scripture which is a primary feature of the church’s daily prayer by saying an Invitatory Psalm, a short excerpt from the book of Psalms. However, in the season of Easter we substitute this for excerpts from Holy Scripture that proclaim Christ as our Passover lamb.

Officiant: Alleluia. The Word made flesh and dwelt among us:
People: Come let us adore him. Alleluia!

Jubilate Psalm 100 BCP Page, 81-82

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.
Psalm 66:7-18

Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
Who holds our souls in life,*
and will not allow our feet to slip.
For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
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.
I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.

Response to the Psalm  

unison

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.
THE WORD OF GOD

A Reading from the book of 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.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.
A reading from the First letter of 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 accounting for 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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.”


People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily  Deacon Marvin

We now turn our attention to responding to the Word we have been immersed in, with affirmation that these stories are part of our Christian story, and with prayer.

As part of our response to the Word of God in our lives, we proclaim The Apostles Creed, the earliest known formal statement of Christian faith, found in ancient liturgies of baptism. The term “creed” comes from the Latin Credo, “I believe”.
The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together,

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.

We continue by praying together, first in the traditional form of the Lord’s Prayer, based on the way that Jesus taught his first disciples to pray (Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:2-4).

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Officiant Let us 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 suffrages are a responsive form of prayer for the needs of the world and of the gathered community composed almost entirely of scriptural excerpts, especially from the Psalms.

Suffrages A

Leader Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People And grant us your salvation.

Leader Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People Let your people sing with joy.

Leader Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People For only in you can we live in safety.

Leader Lord, keep this nation under your care;
People And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Leader Let your way be known upon earth;
People Your saving health among all nations.
Leader   Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People    Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Leader   Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People    And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day helps to focus our attention on the theme of the day or season. The following Collects are prayers following a pattern of acknowledgement of God’s work and petition for a gift such as protection, guidance or renewal.

The Collect of the Day  
unison

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for Guidance  
BCP, page 100

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Intercessions & Thanksgivings  
BCP, page 101

Pray silently or aloud what is on your heart today

Exchange of Peace  
Officiant: The peace of Christ be always with you.
People:    And also with you.
Today, in the spirit of Christ’s peace, please reach out to greet someone you might normally see in worship by telephone, internet, or text message.

We would normally receive a collection of money for the support of the church, at this point in a Sunday service, while the choir sings an anthem.

Please mail your regular pledge check to the office, use your bank’s online payment system, or visit https://calvarylombard.org to make your weekly gift or regular pledge offering while we are unable to gather in person.

**Concluding Prayers and Sending Forth**

We affirm our offering and finish our shared work of prayer in **The General Thanksgiving**, an expression of gratitude and commitment to God.

**The General Thanksgiving**

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.
Benediction
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

+ Sending Forth into the World
Officiant: May the loving power of God, which raised Jesus to new life, strengthen you in hope, enrich you with his love, and fill you with joy in the faith.
People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia
CALVARY MEMBERS
Jan B., John H., Brynn, Kelly, Callie,
Lynn L., PK (Elizabeth), Angelo,
Amauri, Jayne (Kellan), Janis Family,
Carol Halla, Dirk (Schuurmann),
Nancy Casper, Bill Kendall, Sally
McC., Lee Davis, Jean Morris, Eileen,
Robyn Grobe, Dave Olson, Alex
(Castle), Kyle (Castle), Rocky, Gene
D., Harrison, Crystal Hacker, Alyssa,
Lynda Neely, Bruce Schuurmann

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL,
IN NEED, OR EXPERIENCING
HARDSHIP
Carolyn (Hansen) Kat, Mic
(Neely) Tuskey family, Maeann, Kari,
Rich (Jensbys), Trever, Bev Madsen
(DOK), Abby & Family (Carla), Rina
(Carol), Jack, Kathy, Lisa, Kathleen,
Gwen, Mike (Gwen), Ruben Calvillo
(Alyssa), Al Thompson (Morrice
Family), Richard Sr. (Nolans), Wayne
(Gladys Smith), Nancy (Gladys
Smith), Sheenah Ware, Ashlee
Neely, Brian Herbert (Liz)

MISSIONARIES
Alpha & Yakha Traore, Rev. Pat in
Guinea West Africa with
Connecting with Love, Fr. Russ &
Heidi Smith

RECENTLY DEPARTED

FOR THOSE
UNDER/UNEMPLOYED
Stephen, Ricky, Michael, Dave

HOME BOUND
Jim H.

FOR THOSE IN PRISON
Gary

FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED
FORCES/FIRST RESPONDERS
Alyssa Elliott, Edgar Arellano
(Cortesi),
Cdr. Eric M. Casper, USCG, Clint
(Pardue)

FOR THOSE INVOLVED AT
MAGDALENE HOUSE
MINISTRY
Gwen O’L. & Ada C.

FOR NEW & EXPECTANT
PARENTS
Sara and Clint (Pardue)

COLLEGE STUDENTS
Austin Nolan, Emily Adamson, Annie
Vitti, Hannah Dakis, Rachel Bonarek,
Phoebe Coplecha, Rachel Newlin,
Alyssa Elliott, Michael Jancaric, Kyle
Castle, Jake Lombardi, Schuyler
Roberts, Benjamin Dakis, Ryan
Hentrich