

SAINT MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 17, 2020

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE

WELCOME

GATHERING MUSIC

ZACK NYEIN

Ha - le-lu - jah, Christ is ris-en! Ha - le-lu - jah, we are free! Ha - le-lu - jah,
6
Christ is ris - en! We have been re - deemed!

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

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 LESSONS

The First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For 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. ²⁴The 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, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From 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, ²⁷so 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. ²⁸For ‘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.’

²⁹Since 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. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because 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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

⁷Bless our God, you peoples; *
 make the voice of his praise to be heard,
⁸Who holds our souls in life, *
 and will not allow our feet to slip.
⁹For you, O God, have proved us; *
 you have tried us just as silver is tried.
¹⁰You brought us into the snare; *
 you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads;
 we went through fire and water; *
 but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
¹²I 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.
¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
 with the smoke of rams; *
 I will give you oxen and goats.
¹⁴Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
 and I will tell you what he has done for me.
¹⁵I called out to him with my mouth, *
 and his praise was on my tongue.
¹⁶If I had found evil in my heart, *
 the Lord would not have heard me;
¹⁷But in truth God has heard me; *
 he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
¹⁸Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
 nor withheld his love from me.

¹³Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but 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; ¹⁶yet 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. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For 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, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who 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. ²¹And 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, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

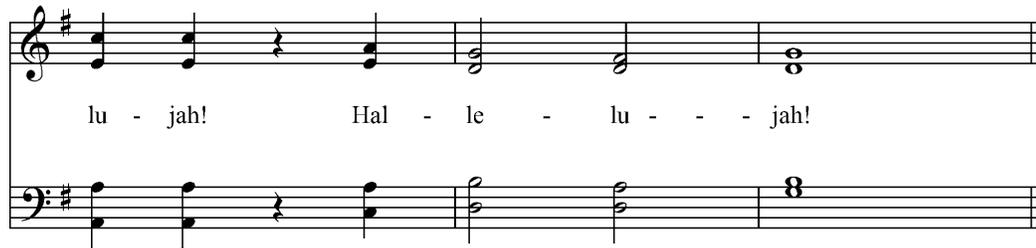
Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah!

hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah!
 Hal - le - lu - jah!

hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah! Hal - le -



Words and Melody: Traditional Caribbean. Arr. Mark Sedio (b. 1954) © 1995 Augsburg Fortress, PO Box 1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209 [www.augsburgfortress.org]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 14:15-21

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus said,] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This 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.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They 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.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE VERY REV TOMMY DILLON
RECTOR

THE 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;
 he ascended into heaven
 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We offer our prayers and thanksgivings to God, who in the midst of our trials and adversities gives us the faith to endure, responding, "Hear us, O risen Christ."

In thanksgiving for the holy commandments of the Lord's truth, and Jesus' eternal gift of love, that we may follow them as pathways to sanctification; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That we may be a community of joyous believers, bearing one another's burdens, forgiving each other's sins, responding to the needs of all, so that the world may see and know that all things are being made new through the Risen One; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for the faith of Abraham and Sarah, and of all the faithful departed whose every breath was lived in response to God's promises; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That we may give honor to those considered least in our society, knowing that Jesus reveals the divine will through their lives and in the course of their abiding faithfulness; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

For all who are affected by coronavirus, through illness or isolation or anxiety, that they may find relief and recovery; For doctors, nurses and medical researchers, that through their skill and insights many will be restored to health; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

That children may receive a full measure of food, education, parental love, and a religious upbringing; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

In thanksgiving for those who volunteer their time for the ministry of Christ in this church, in our diocese, and throughout the world; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

As adopted children of Jesus, through our passage in the waters of baptism, let us continue our prayers and thanksgiving.

(Special intentions of the congregation may be added here)

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Presider says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Psalm 50:14



Contributions – online as well as via snail mail!

In this time of sheltering in place, there is a significant economic impact on all of us in a variety of ways. To enable us to continue doing what we do as a congregation, supporting one another and our neighbors, we particularly appreciate your continued financial support, as you are able. We are checking our mail and making deposits. We also now have a donate button on our website: <https://www.saintmargarets/support-st-margarets>.

To give a gift now to the ministries of St Margaret's, you can scan the QR code at the left with your mobile phone.

Thank you so much for your support

OFFERTORY MUSIC

GOD INVITES US
BY LINDA LARKIN AND J PHILIP NEWELL

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Presider

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION BEFORE THE SACRAMENT

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.

EASTER BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

SENDING FORTH HYMN

IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST

1 In Christ there is no east or west, In him no south or north, But one great fam'ly bound by love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In him shall true hearts ev'rywhere Their high communion find; His service is the golden cord Close
binding humankind.

3 Join hands, disciples in the faith, Whate'er your race may be! Who serve each other in Christ's love
Are surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west, In him meet south and north, All Christly souls are one in him
Throughout the whole wide earth.

THE DISMISSAL

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.