ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH SHIPPENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



May 17, 2020 The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Welcome to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 206 East Burd Street, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257 Phone: 717-532-8089 Email: standrewepiscopal@comcast.net Website: <u>www.standrewsshippensburg.org</u>

Dear Friends,

We welcome you to our worship this day in the season of Easter. We are delighted that you have come to worship with us during this celebratory season of Easter which lasts fifty days, during which we acknowledge and embrace the new life offered to us through the resurrection of Jesus. Good morning.

Rather than offering the service of Holy Eucharist this morning we will focus on God's Word, in a simpler way, setting before us a time of focusing our thoughts and opening our hearts on the scripture.

We set this Sunday, and our own lives, of course within this season of the Coronavirus and our ongoing and deepening concern for the well-being of the world. We may find this time of isolation and fear to be a very difficult time, and yet, as others have said, this is exactly the time that our spiritual practices of worship, prayer, living in community, and being formed as Christians has prepared us for. I trust that we will find a way to live out of the truth and strength of God in this very challenging time, for I trust God to be a part of our lives.

And so, we can rejoice that we can gather in a new way, for we hold this prayer within our hearts.

Make us an Easter people, O Christ, whose name is "Alleluia." May we, like Mary, rise in joy when you call our name. May we, like Thomas, see and believe. May we, like Peter, become bold and brace. May we, like Cleopas, meet you in every road. May we, like them, be utterly changed, in the victory of the love by which you left your tomb, and saved us forever from death. In your name, Jesus. Amen. Liturgy for the Whole Church

To prepare our hearts and minds for worship, we seek to share quiet and silence before our services. We invite you to join us in this spiritual practice.

Faithfully, Mother Barbara

GATHERING WELCOME

SINGING BOWL INVITING SILENCE TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS

GATHERING CHANT

God is in this place



SINGING BOWL CALLING US TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN #460 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!





THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

OfficiantAlleluia. Christ is risen.PeopleThe Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	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.**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

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."

LectorHear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.PeopleThanks be to God.

PSALM 66:7-18 (please say aloud the verses in bold type)

- 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.

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PETER

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.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

DeaconThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory 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."

DeaconThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Form II)

We ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry and for our Diocesan Bishop, Audrey Scanlan, for this gathering of hearts; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

We ask your prayers for our visitors today, those new to our worship, who are seeking a closer relationship with God, that they may sense the love and compassion of Christ through our worship and as expressed by our love which knows no bounds and casts away all isolation. Grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

We ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

We ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. We especially pray for the residents of the Episcopal Home: Barb, Frank, Shirley, Sharon, Jo, Myrtle, Cathy, Mary, Juanita, Gary, Carole, Marietta, Frank, Edna, Ruth, and Paula and the staff of the Episcopal Home: Mary Grace, Becky, Julie, Donna, Kathy, Tonja, Tamey, Lorrie, Alyssa, Ada, Jen, Sondra, Esther, Wayne, Anita, Tammy, Laurie, Effie, Diane, Mike, and Jane, and all who love them We also pray for Gary Kenny, Nick, Laurel, June, Kathy, Sue, Samantha, Mary Beth, Kathy Magaro and her family, Julie, Kim and Audrey, Evan, Wanda, Brian Rotz, Ellen, Jeanine, Brian Helman, Ellen Harkins and her family, Fred Detschel, Lori, Sherry, Jim and family, Virginia, the Watts family and Pedro, Regina, Patricia and Josh, Nan, Gary, Janet, Daimen, Rachel Mooney, Josh, Mina, Robert Carter, Laura, Cheryl, June, Rose M., Susan, Tom, Matthew, and Connor, Samantha, Stan and Dottie. We also pray for God's peace and protection to be upon those who are in active duty in our military: John Hall, Andrew Harkins, Kelley Williams, Levi Nelson, Brad Arnold, Tawney White, Kyle Hubert, Brent Welch,

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

We seek God's grace and mercy upon all who are experiencing the effects of the coronavirus pandemic in the world: those who are suffering from physical discomfort, isolation, disrupted routines, uncertainty and fear. We seek the blessings of unity in Christ-like love, praying and caring for each other with patience and persistence, holding each other in our hearts when we are unable to gather together.

Silence

We ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

We ask your prayers for the departed, especially Marjorie Bahr, sister of Laurel White. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may offer their prayers or thanksgivings.

We ask your prayers for _____. (Please add your own offerings, aloud or in the silence of your heart.)

We ask your thanksgiving for ______. (Please add your own offerings, aloud or in the silence of your heart.)

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Officiant 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.

People Amen.

OUR OFFERING TO OUR MISSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 BLESSING

Officiant The peace of God, which passes all understanding; keep your heart and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father Son and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN #405 All things bright and beautiful



THE DISMISSAL

Assisting Ministers People Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

INSTRUMENTAL OFFERING

Op. 28 #15 Frederic Chopin

Kevin Gorman

Worship Ministers

Officiant & Homilist	The Rev. Barbara Hutchinson
Interim Church Musician	Kevin Gorman
Vocalists	Milan Shepherd
	Michelle DiBona Trefren
	Jay Williams
	Mary Beth Williams
Lectors	Andrew Smeltz (Acts)
	Ken Dotson (Psalm)
	Melisa Dotson (Psalm)
	Bill Hutchinson (Peter)
Gospel &	
Prayers of the People	The Rev. Deacon Wanda Kloza
Opening Acclamation	Jonathan and Joseph Luo
Dismissal	James and Thomas Williams