

May 19, 2021 6PM YouTube Channel

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church

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AN ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR EVENING : SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER

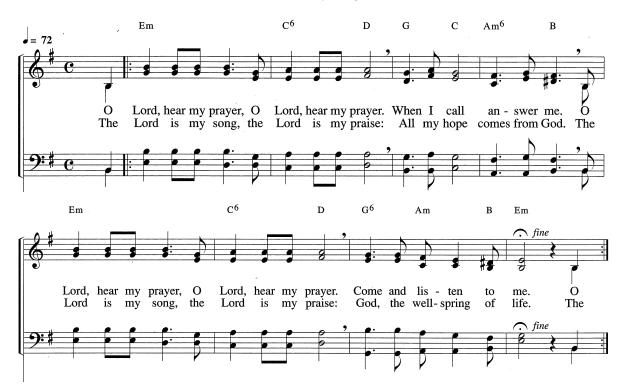
Let us observe a moment of silence as we enter this sacred time and place. Our service this evening is from the New Zealand Prayer Book and can be found in the online bulletin.

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

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace when we are in need of help. *Hebrews 4:14, 16*

Gathering Acclamation

The Lord is my song



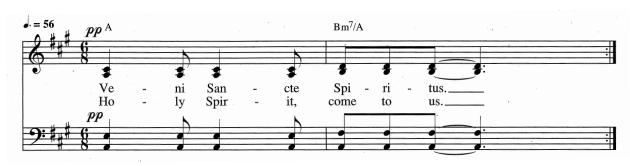
PRAYER FOR LIGHT

Officiant: Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, living God, in whom we live and move and have our being, all that we are, have been and shall be is known to you, to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us. Living flame, burn into us, cleansing wind, blow through us, fountain of water, well up within us, that we may love and praise in deed and in truth. Amen.

Acclamation

Veni sancte spiritus



SELECTION FROM THE PSALTER

Officiant:	O God, make speed to save us.
People:	O Lord, make haste to help us.
All:	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. Alleluia.

PSALM 101

PSALMS FOR PRAYING: An Invitation to Wholeness

Let us recite this Psalm together as a prayer of praise, thanksgiving, and intercession to the Beloved, the One who dwells in open hearts, and who guides us along the way.

I sing of loyalty and of justice; to You, O Beloved, I sing. I give heed to the Way that leads to peace. Making a home in our hearts, You are our loving Companion and Friend.

May I walk with integrity where'er I go, May I see You in all creation! May I be a mirror of your Love to all that I meet; May I reflect the freedom of your Truth, and live as a beneficial presence in the world.

Forgive me, O Merciful One, if I turn from those in need. Humble me if I become arrogant and greedy. Embrace me with your Presence.

I accompany those you love, that I may grow in wisdom; I enter into the Silence, into the Eternal Light, and listen for your gentle Voice. For, no one who oppresses another, who keeps company with injustice, I will dwell in the house of Love And, no one who prefers darkness will live in the glory of Light.

In the morning I offer myself to You in prayer; by night I surrender to You in trust; O, that I might walk in the Light with a grateful heart, and radiate peace to the world!

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.

Response

Dona nobis pacem



FIRST READING

Hebrews 7:1-17

This 'King Melchizedek of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham as he was returning from defeating the kings and blessed him'; and to him Abraham apportioned 'one-tenth of everything'. His name, in the first place, means 'king of righteousness'; next he is also king of Salem, that is, 'king of peace'. Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest for ever. See how great he is! Even Abraham the patriarch gave him a tenth of the spoils. And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to collect tithes from the people, that is, from their kindred, though these also are descended from Abraham. But this man, who does not belong to their ancestry, collected tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had received the promises. It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. In the one case, tithes are received by those who are mortal; in the other, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the levitical priesthood—for the people received the law under this priesthood—what further need would there have been to speak of another priest arising according to the order of Melchizedek, rather than one according to the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. Now the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. It is even more obvious when another priest arises, resembling Melchizedek, one who has become a priest, not through a legal requirement concerning physical descent, but through the power of an indestructible life. For it is attested of him, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

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

SECOND READING

Luke 10:17-24

The seventy returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!' He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'

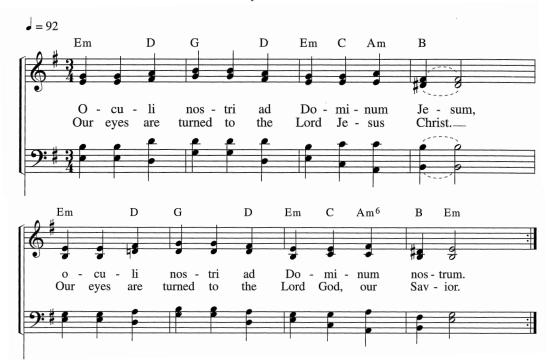
At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.'

Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, 'Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.'

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

Response

Our eyes are turned



CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

Let us quietly reflect as the Divine Spirit leads.

THE PRAYERS

Officiant:The Lord be with you.People:And also with you.Officiant:Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all this evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. AMEN.

INTERCESSIONS Make your ways be known upon earth, O God, your saving power among all peoples.

Renew your Church in holiness, and help us to serve you with joy.

Guide the leaders of this and every nation, that justice may prevail throughout the world.

Let not the needy, O God, be forgotten, **nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Make us instruments of your peace, and let your glory be over all the earth.

THE COLLECT FOR THE SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. AMEN.

PRAYER FROM THE CENTER FOR ACTION & CONTEMPLATION

Loving God, you fill all things with a fullness and hope we can never comprehend. Thank you for leading us into a time where more of reality is being unveiled for us all to see. We pray that you will take away our natural temptation for cynicism, denial, fear, and despair. Help us have the courage to awaken to greater truth, greater humility, and greater care for one another. May we place our hope in what matters and what lasts, trusting in your eternal presence and love. Listen to our heart's longings for the healing of our suffering world. Knowing, good God, you are healing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all the holy names of God. AMEN.

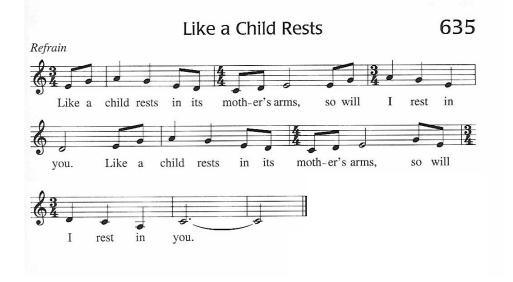
COLLECT FOR EVENING

Gracious God, you have given us much today; grant us also a thankful spirit. Into your hands we commend ourselves and those we love. Be with us still, and when we take our rest renew us for the service of your Son Jesus Christ. AMEN.

In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us, heavenly Father, to trust your love, to serve your purpose, and to praise your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

R. Rohr

Closing Response



FINAL BLESSING

May the love of Jesus Christ bring us wholeness, the grace of God the Father grant us peace, the breath of the Holy Spirit instill passion, and the unity among them give us strength for this and every day. AMEN.

Officiant:	Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.
People:	Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

About Taizé...

Taizé (pronounced "teh-ZAY") is not a musical form but rather a worship style made popular through the work of the ecumenical Christian community in Taizé, France. The retreat center there (founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz) is visited every year by thousands of visitors, and services are held in many languages. The community has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a primary focus on youth. The music of Taizé emphasizes simple phrases, usually lines from Psalms or other pieces of Scripture repeated and sometimes sung in canon. Ecumenical services based on this model and music are held in many churches throughout the world.

The Rev. Nikki Mathis, Rector The Rev. Christina Dondero, Deacon RuthElizabeth Conine-Nakano, Officiant Daniel Nakano, Assistant Officiant Annette Bates, Piano Stacie Court, Cantor David Stooksbury, Reader Terri Tillman & Dallas Bono, Viritual Ministers Jonathan Klein, Organist & Director of Music Joseph Napoli, Choir Director Catherine Drewry, Director of Children's Ministries Kendall M. Kookogey, Parish Administrator Mark Hein, Buildings & Grounds Allena Armour, Sexton