

May 5, 2021 6PM YouTube Channel

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church

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AN ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR EVENING: FIFTH 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.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whose great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

Gathering Acclamation

Let Us Praise Your Name

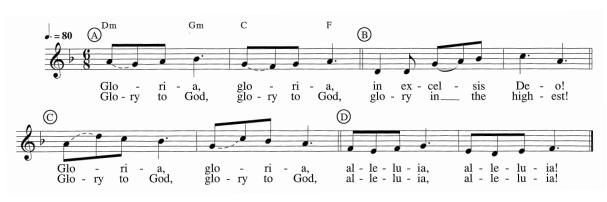


PRAYER FOR LIGHT

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 Gloria



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 72

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.

Bring justice to the peoples, O Beloved, and your mercy to all generations! May the people be known for mercy, rendering justice to the poor! Let their spirits soar as the eagle, let joy abide in every heart, May we heed the cry of the poor - the young and the old, Helping to free all those in need, awakening the souls of oppressors!

May we know oneness with You as long as the sun endures, as long as the stars shine, throughout all generations! May we acknowledge You in the rain falling on the fields, like showers that water the earth! In our day may justice flourish, and peace abound, throughout all the nations!

May every heart open to your Love from sea to sea, from the River of Life out to the universe! May fears that paralyze the people rise up from the depths into Your Light!

May the leaders of nations from all the earth, listen to Love's Voice; May they spend time in Silence before they counsel! May the leaders surrender to Your Love, and the nations serve the Most High! For You heed the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no friend.

You have compassion on the weak, the downtrodden, giving them strength and hope.

From injustice and oppression, You redeem their life: and precious are they in your Heart.

Long may You live in our hearts, may praises be sung to You!

May our prayers rise up before You and blessings of love be freely rendered!

May we be ever grateful for the grains of the fields, for the fruits of the vine to be shared with all;

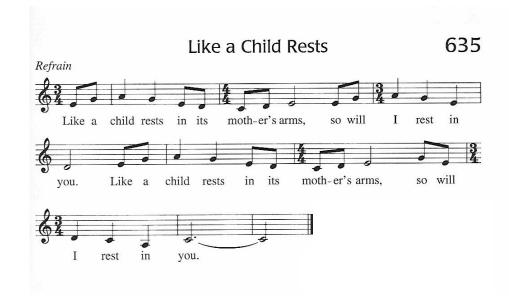
And may the people blossom forth in the cities, diverse like flowers in the meadow!

May your Name live on forever, your Love endure as long as the sun!

May the people bless themselves in knowing You, and all nations call You blessed!

Blessed be the Beloved, the One who dwells in open hearts, and guide us along the way. Blessed be You, who come in the Name of Love; may your glory fill the earth! Amen and Amen!

> 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.



FIRST READING Romans 13:1-14

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgement. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; for it is God's servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, busy with this very thing. Pay to all what is due to them—taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honour to whom honour is due.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Luke 8:16-25

'No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light. Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away.'

Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, 'Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.' But he said to them, 'My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.'

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

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

Thanks be to God.



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.

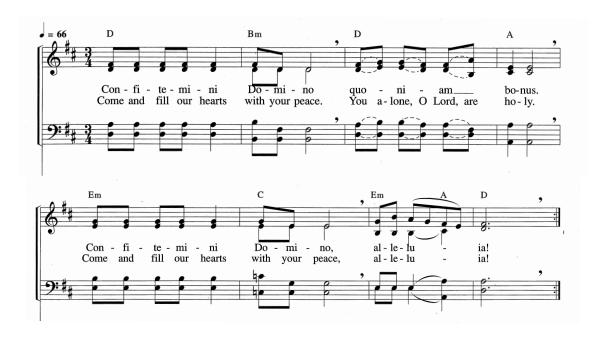
THE COLLECT FOR THE FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. 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.



FINAL BLESSING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God. and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. 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