

The Sixth Sunday of Easter



St. Alban's Episcopal Church
May 17, 2020

Our Mission: *We are called by the Spirit to be transformed by God in heart and mind, to serve our community, UCLA, and the world as the Body of Christ. We will grow in faith, hope and love through the practices of worship, formation, compassion and hospitality.*

Prelude

Chorale Prelude on Easter Hymn "Christ lag in Todesbanden" Heinrich Scheideman

Opening Hymn

"I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

1 I sing the al-might - y power of God, that made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good - ness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, but makes thy glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the lof - ty skies.
he formed the crea-tures with his Word, and then pro-nounced them good.
and clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
Lord, how thy won - ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye,
while all that bor - rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

the moon shines full at his com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
and ev - ery-where that I could be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
People: *The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

Officiant: 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.

People: *Amen.*

The Gloria

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al- might- y God and Fa- ther. we wor- ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise— you for— your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus— Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have
mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re -
ceive our prayer. for you a-lone are the
Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most High Je - sus
Christ, with the Ho - ly— Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther— A - - - men.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant: 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.

People: *Amen.*

The First Reading

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.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

1 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Gospel Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John (14:15-21).

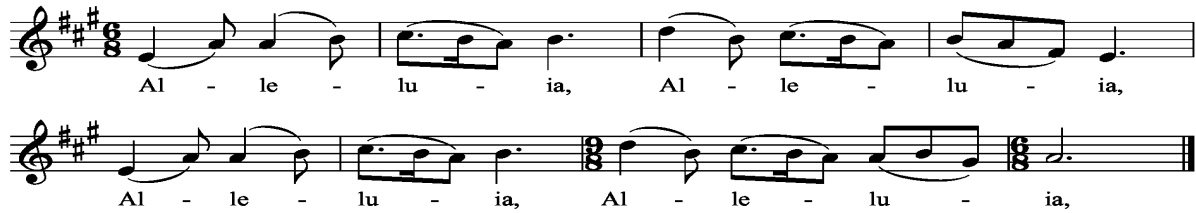
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.



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."

Gospel Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*



The Sermon

The Rev. Robert Honeychurch

Musical Meditation

Vouchsafe, O Lord

G. F. Handel

from *Dettigen Te Deum*

Vouchsafe, O Lord!
to keep us this day with out sin:
O Lord! Have mercy upon us!
O Lord! let thy mercy lighten upon us,
As our trust is in thee.

Garrett Schoonover, bass

The Nicene Creed

Reader: Let us join in affirming our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

People: *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

Adapted from *Intercessions for Christian People*

Reader: In the power of God's new life, revealed in the Risen Lord, we pray to the Lord.
O God, you have blessed with faith those who see your presence in the wounded hands and feet of Jesus. You have also blessed with faith those who have not seen, yet believe your Gospel. We give you thanks for the faith you have given us, and we pray that we may share with---and be--- the good news for people everywhere. Lord in your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Reader: Turn the eyes of the leaders of the nations to envision a new world in which swords are turned into plowshares, and where justice reigns.

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Reader: As the earliest Christians held all things in common, and shared their abundance with the needy, give us the spirit of generosity in all things. Help us to overcome hunger and homelessness among the human family. Lord in your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Reader: For prisoners and hostages, for those in mental anguish, for the sick and suffering, especially for * Lord in your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Reader: For the leaders of the Church; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for John and Diane, our Bishops; for Bob, our Interim Rector, and Yein, our Rector-Elect; for the vestry, staff, and leaders of our congregation. Lord in your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Reader: For all who have died and for all who grieve, that in Christ who has triumphed over death, they may find light perpetual and eternal love, especially for * Lord in your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Reader: O God, we thank you for revealing to us the mystery of resurrection, of life springing up in the midst of death. Help us to be Easter People, bringing into being works of justice and peace that your world and its peoples may flourish. In Jesus' name we pray,

People: *Amen.*

The Peace

Officiant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

The Anthem

Te Deum and Jubilate

E. J. Moeran

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be:
World without end. Amen.

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
Serve the Lord with gladness,
And come before his presence with a song.
Be you sure the the Lord he is God:
It is he that has made us,
And not we ourselves;

We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
And into his courts with praise:
Be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting:
His mercy endureth from generation to generation.

The Lord's Prayer

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

People: 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

The Closing Hymn

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Descant
All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain
All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,
all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.
all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Repeat Refrain
he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

The Dismissal

Officiant: Let us go forth in the light of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*