



Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

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Fifth Sunday of Easter
10 AM

May 10, 2020
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Prelude on The Call: Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life
Mr. Greg Seseck, Music Director & Organist

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THE 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.

HYMN - 685

Rock of ages, cleft for me

1 Rock of ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood
from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure,
cleanse me from its guilt and power.

2 Should my tears for ever flow,
should my zeal no languor know,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone;
in my hand no price I bring,
simply to thy cross I cling.

3 While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyelids close in death,
when I rise to worlds unknown
and behold thee on thy throne,
Rock of ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

Said in unison

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.
- 15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Following the sermon, let us pause for a period of silent reflection on God's holy word.

Organ Interlude

Mr. Greg Seseck

THE NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 358

**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.**

Celebrant

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. We especially pray for those on our parish prayer list: Sally, James, Avery, Deryk, Katarina, Carol, Lorraine, Debbie, Elizabeth, Shannon, Jeff & Kim, Norma, Sharon, Harsh, Mary Rose, Margaret, Ed, Laura, Steve, Joyce, Hayley, Paul, Christine, Richard, Mike and his family, Kendall, Theresa, Jean, and Sarah.

Lord, have mercy.

And we also give you prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings of this life, especially for those who are celebrating birthdays including Kaitlyn Fowler and Heather Brack, as well as anniversaries including Charles and Lee Roebuck.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. We especially pray for those who have lost their lives to the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence

Celebrant concludes

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 CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP pg. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The people greet one another virtually with a sign of God's peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

Let us pray.

**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.**

EASTER BLESSING

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our commitment to our mission as a congregation:

God commands us to enthusiastically cast open our doors to embrace all, impacting lives through bold service, no exceptions!

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

HYMN

How lovely is thy dwelling place

1 How lovely is your dwelling-place,
O Lord of hosts, to me;
my thirsting soul longs eagerly
within your courts to be.

3 And happy those whose hearts are set
upon the pilgrim ways:
you are the water when they thirst,
their guide towards your face.

4 How blest are they that in your house
for ever give you praise:
one day with you is better spent
than thousands in dark ways.

Postlude

Trumpet Voluntary – John Stanley
Mr. Greg Seseck

Worship Participants from Studio Sherwood

Officiant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey
Organist: Greg Seseck, Music Director
Reader: Carrie Fowler
Choir: Carrie Fowler, Robin Rouleau
Tech Support: Anne Wismer

Thank you for joining us for our virtual worship this morning. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates and also remember to subscribe to our YouTube channel. If you are interested in receiving our e-newsletter, please contact Carey Mednick at sherwoodparish@gmail.com.

Announcements

Online Giving is Here!

Making your pledge to Sherwood now just takes a few clicks! Visit our new website at sherwoodcockeyville.org and click on the Give tab. You will need to sign up for a Vanco GivePlus account to get started ... and you can do so right on our page. There is also a link to a video about how to download and use the GivePlus app to make donations easily from your smartphone! As always, you may still mail your pledge to Sherwood as well as place it in the collection plate on Sundays when we are together again. If you have any questions, please e-mail Carey at sherwoodparish@gmail.com.

Watch us on YouTube!

If you aren't able to worship with us in real time, you can also catch our worship service on YouTube. Every Sunday service will be posted by 2 pm that same day. If needed, closed captioning is available with YouTube.

Putting Words to Action:

Mission statements are only worthwhile if there is an active commitment behind the words. Thankfully many stepped forward to be a part of one of the three strategic imperatives developed by the Strategic Imperatives Committee. We got a little sidetracked because of COVID-19, but we are back on track! The three imperative teams will be meeting via zoom on Tuesday, May 12 from 2:15-3:30 pm.