

# *Morning Worship*

*Sunday, May 17, 2020*

Rite taken from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (adapted)

## **Introductory Scripture Sentences**

### **EASTER**

It is true: the Lord has risen. (*Luke 24:34*)

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. (*1 Corinthians 15:20*)

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*)

### **The Preparation**

*The minister may greet the people.*

*The **Sentence of the Day** or one of the **Introductory Sentences** is read.*

*Then the minister says to the people*

Great is the Lord and worthy of all praise.

Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,  
thanksgiving and honour, power and might,  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.

*The theme of praise may continue with the following or some other **Song of Praise**.*

### **Hymn # 657 -- Love Divine all Loves Excelling**

*The minister may read the following*

Brothers and sisters in Christ,  
let us praise and worship God who has called us together.  
Let us celebrate God's majesty,  
and delight in the wonder of God's love.  
Together we shall confess our sins  
and receive assurance that we are forgiven.  
As the scriptures are read,  
we can allow God's word to speak to us,  
and ponder its meaning for our lives.  
In our prayers, we give thanks for God's goodness,  
we pray for others as well as for ourselves,  
and we offer our lives anew in Christ's service.  
All this we do,  
because we believe in the presence among us  
of our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

*The minister says*

Hear these words of scripture.

Love one another,  
for love is of God,  
and whoever loves is born of God and knows God.

**Spirit of God, search our hearts.**

*The minister then says*

Let us kneel and, in silence,  
remember our need for God's forgiveness.

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of mercy,  
we have sinned against you and against others.  
We have sinned in what we have done,  
and in what we have failed to do.  
We are truly sorry.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for our sins,  
forgive us all that is past  
and raise us to newness of life. Amen.

*A priest says*

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent,  
forgive your sins, strengthen you by the Holy Spirit,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.  
*Amen.*

*(A deacon or layperson says 'us' and 'our' instead of 'you' and 'your'.)*

## **The Ministry of the Word**

O come, let us sing to the Lord,  
*let us rejoice in the rock of our salvation.*  
We sing to you, O God, and bless your name;  
*and tell of your salvation from day to day.*  
We proclaim your glory to the nations,  
*your praise to the ends of the earth.*

*Then follows the **Psalm***

**Psalm 66:7-18**

*Jubilate Deo*

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.

### *The Reading from the Old Testament*

#### **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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*Thanks be to God.*

*One of the following or another Song of Praise is said or sung.*

### **The Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary (*Magnificat*)**

- 1 My soul proclaims the ' greatness · of the ' Lord:  
my spirit re'joices · in ' God my ' saviour,
- 2 for you Lord have looked with favour□  
on your ' lowly ' servant:  
and from this day all gener'ations · will ' call me ' blessèd.
- 3† You O Most Mighty have done ' great things ' for me:  
and ' holy ' is your ' name.

- 4 You have mercy on ' those who ' fear you:  
from gener'ation · to' gener'ation.
- 5 You have shown the ' strength · of your ' arm:  
you have scattered the ' proud in ' their con'ceit.
- 6 You have cast down the mighty ' from their ' thrones:  
and have ' lifted ' up the ' lowly.
- 7 You have filled the hungry with ' good ' things:  
and the rich you have ' sent a'way ' empty.
- 8 You have come to the help ' of your ' people:  
for you have re'membered · your ' promise · of ' mercy,
- 9 the promise you ' made · to our ' forbears:  
to Abraham ' and his ' children · for ' ever.
- Luke 1:46-55 (adapted)*
- Glory to the Father and ' to the ' Son:  
and ' to the ' Holy ' Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning · is ' now:  
and shall be for ' ever. ' A'men.

### *The Reading from the New Testament*

#### **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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
*Thanks be to God.*

## **Hymn 487 -- Come my Way, my Truth, my Life**

### **The Gospel**

#### **John 14:15-21**

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."

*The **Sermon** may be preached here, or after the **Collects**.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*48 Liturgies of the Word*

The Lord be with you.  
*The Lord bless you.*

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we pray.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying, "**Hear and have mercy.**"

Jesus, divine physician, you sent your disciples to preach the Gospel and heal in your name.

Grant your grace to heal those who are sick, we pray to you, O God.

Give courage and faith to all who are disabled through injury or illness, we pray to you, O God.

Comfort, relieve, and heal all sick children, we pray to you, O God.

Give courage to all who await surgery, we pray to you, O God.

Support and encourage those who live with chronic illness, we pray to you, O God.

Strengthen those who endure continual pain, and give them hope, we pray to you, O God.

Grant the refreshment of peaceful sleep to all who suffer, we pray to you, O God.

Befriend all who are anxious, lonely, despondent, or afraid, we pray to you, O God.

Restore those with mental illness to clarity of mind and hopefulness of heart, we pray to you, O God.

Give rest to the weary, and hold the dying in your loving arms, we pray to you, O God.

Help us to prepare for death with confident expectation and hope of Easter joy, we pray to you, O God.

Give your wisdom and compassion to health care workers and all those first line caregivers who care for us from the cradle to the grave, that they may minister to the sick and dying with knowledge, skill, and kindness, we pray to you, O God.

Uphold those who keep watch with the sick, we pray to you, O God,

Guide those who search for the causes and cures of sickness and disease, we pray to you, O God.

Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, bearer of our sins, Jesus, redeemer of the world.

### *The Collect for the sixth Sunday of Easter*

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.*

**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.**

*Anthem: Precious Lord*

### **The Dismissal**

*One of the following conclusions is used.*

Let us bless the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

*Or a priest may give a blessing.*

*The congregation is sent out with these words.*

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

**Amen. We go in the name of Christ.**

**Hymn #552 -- Fight the Good Fight**