## Saturday Joy! April 20, 2024

## Processional Hymn God of the Ages by Margaret Clarkson

God of the ages, history's Maker, planning our pathway, holding us fast, shaping in mercy all that concerns us: Father, we praise you, Lord of the past!

God of this morning, gladly your children worship before you, trustingly bow; teach us to know you always among us, quietly sovereign--Lord of our now.

God of tomorrow, strong Overcome, princes of darkness own your command: what, then, can harm us? we are your people, now and forever kept by your hand.

Lord of past ages, Lord of this morning, Lord of the future, help us, we pray: teach us to trust you, love you, obey you, crown you each moment Lord of today!

God of the nations, you have redeemed us, blessed us with privilege, freedom and youth: yours is the Kingdom!- make us your heralds, sharing your Gospel, living its truth!

#### Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia

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** 

Glory be to God on high, sang the angel chorus, [Chorus] Glory to the Father, Sing of our creator. [Chorus] Glory to the risen Son, Sing of our redeemer. [Chorus] Glory to the Holy Ghost, Sing of our sustainer. [Chorus] Glory to our Triune God, Glory in the highest. [Chorus] Glory, Glory, Glory be on High.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

## A Reading from Acts

4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone. There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

#### A Reading from I John

3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Hymn A new Commandment I give unto you

A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you, that you love one another as I have loved you. By this will others know that you are my disciples if you have love one for another; by this shall all know that you are my disciples if you have love one for another.

# The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the sheepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you, Lord Christ

#### The Sermon- The Rev. Sherman Frederick

Nicene Creed

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.

## **Prayers of the People - Great Fifty Days of Easter**

Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God who has delivered his people from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us lift our voices and pray. Risen Lord, **Hear our Prayer.** 

Let us give thanks to God for the multitude of blessings he showers upon us: For our lives and for those whom we love, For the beauty of this home God has created for us, For our families and our friendships.

Risen Lord, Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for the Church, that it may carry forward the redemptive works of God: For our clergy, For the many lay people who serve the church, and serve the world through the church. For those who gather here in worship and prayer.

Risen Lord, **Hear our Prayer.** 

Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the world, that the powers that oppress and destroy may decline, And that justice, peace, and prosperity be lifted up. Risen Lord, **Hear our Prayer.** 

Let us pray for those who are sick, those who suffer, and those who struggle. That the hope born of Easter give them peace, acceptance and renewal, and that through their struggles they may come into closer communion with the God who redeems and restores, and remembering those who have died.

Risen Lord, **Hear our Prayer.** 

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth; Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

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

The Holy Communion

Offertory Music "Shout to the Lord"

Presentation of Offering

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say:

#### Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right

hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN**.

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

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.

Alleluia Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music "Praise God's Name"

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Blessing

## Recessional Hymn Our God reigns

- 1. How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him, Who brings good news, good news Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness, Our God reigns, our God reigns.
- Chorus: Our God reigns....our God reigns Our God reigns....our God reigns
- 2. We thank you Lord, for all the gifts you've given us That guide our way, guide our way We proclaim you, our Lord, our God, our life to be. Our God reigns, our God reigns. *(chorus)*
- **3.** Our life with you, is now and will forever be With you oh Lord, oh Lord. You give us peace, and love and hope eternally. Our God reigns, our God reigns. (**chorus**)

Dismissal: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

## People: Thanks be to God.

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We don't want to change you, rather we want to know you as we share our stories of faith with one another. If this is your first time with us, talk with an usher or the clergy and we will be happy to chat!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<u>Celebration of Ministry:</u> You are cordially invited to attend A Celebration of the Ministry For The Rev. Deacon Barbara Preas TODAY following the 4 pm service in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation & Reception Class: Are you 12 years or older (adults, too) and want to be Confirmed or Received into The Episcopal Church? Come to our Confirmation & Reception Class! This is a four class series on what it means to be an Episcopalian. Classes (includes dinner!) will be held on Fridays from 5:30-7p, beginning April 10 Bishop Elizabeth will Confirm & Receive people at her next homecoming, April 27&28. Contact Mother Erica for more info (505) 818-7071.

Resurrection Hope Book Study: Mother Erica will be leading a book study on "Resurrection Hope: A Future Where Black Lives Matter" by The Rev.Canon Kelly Brown Douglas on Wednesday evenings at 6p via zoom. The book study will last five weeks from 4/10/24-5/8/24. Email Mother Erica for Zoom link: theRev.Roz@gmail.com

**World Labyrinth Day:** Walk for World Peace Saturday May 4th 9:00 AM World Labyrinth Day is an international event sponsored by the Labyrinth Society occurring annually on the first Saturday in May. Thousands of people around the world come together to participate in this moving meditation for world peace. Please join us for our 9 o'clock labyrinth walk behind the church at Grace in the Desert on Saturday May 4th and add your presence to this wave of energy and intention circling the globe for world peace. Everyone is welcome whether walking or sitting in the garden.

Stuart Campbell Medical Update: As you may know, Stuart Campbell, Executive Director of the Camp Galilee, was in a serious car accident on April 4. Stuart and the driver were taken by ambulance to Barton Hospital in Tahoe. Stuart was taken to surgery immediately, He has several broken ribs, a punctured lung; both lungs have perforations due to the impact. Stuart has a bruised colon, and his spleen has been removed, due to extensive damage. We give thanks to God that Stuart has no head, heart, or spine injuries. We celebrate God's many miracles. In light of Stuart's long recovery, the family asks for privacy at this time - please NO texts, emails or phone calls. Stuart's wife Monica can feel the prayers and support, cards are welcome. Please send to Galilee Episcopal Camp & Retreat Center, POB 236, Glenbrook, NV 89413 or info@galilileetahoe.org

Please note: Mother Erica will be out of town Saturday 4/20 through Wednesday 4/24 to attend funeral services for her nephew, Ethan. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

**4/14 Saturday Joy! 4p:** Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Sherman Frederick.; Lector: Marge Becker; Usher: Lucille Biddle and Luke Loque; Acolyte: Ellen Stevens

Altar Guild: Denise Kubajak Sue Lanham, Janice Beatty, Mamie Hechter.

Please send any announcements for the bulletin and e-newsletter to <a href="mailto:admin@graceofsummerlin.org">admin@graceofsummerlin.org</a> and <a href="mailto:info@graceofsummerlin.org">info@graceofsummerlin.org</a> We are a growing, inclusive community of faith that supports a variety of ministries and educates our children and all people through the traditions of the Episcopal Church

Grace in the Desert Episcopal Church 2004 Spring Gate Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89134 (702) 838-7444 - graceofsummerlin.org