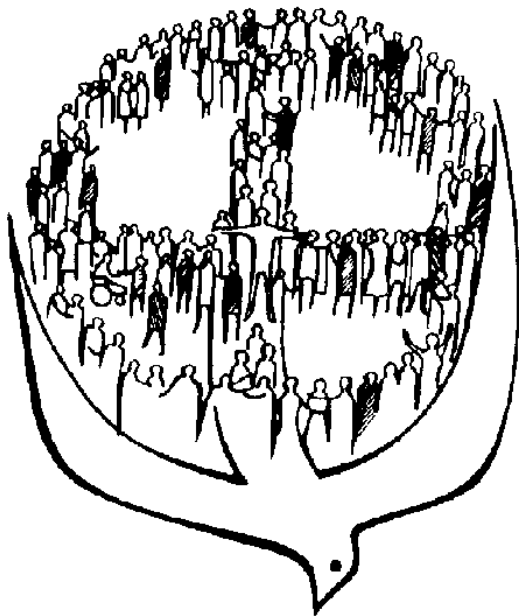


ST. LUKE'S
WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY



THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY MAY 17, 2020

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude

If you love me, you will keep my word, and my Father will love you, and we will come to you. *See John 14.23*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He gave us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.

Rejoice, then, even in your distress.

We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.

God has claimed us as his own.

He called us from our darkness into the light of his day.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Hymn 205

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God!
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and, listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain
his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth her song begin;
the round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.

Psalms 66:8-20

8 Bless our God, you peoples;

* **make the voice of God's praise to be heard;**

9 who holds our souls in life,

* **and will not allow our feet to slip.**

10 For you, O God, have proved us;

* **you have tried us just as silver is tried.**

11 You brought us into the snare;

* **you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

12 You let enemies ride over our heads;

we went through fire and water;

* **but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.**

13 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings

* **and will pay you my vows,**

14 which I promised with my lips

* **and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**

15 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts

with the smoke of rams;

* **I will give you oxen and goats.**

16 Come and listen, all you who fear God,

* **and I will tell you what the Lord has done for me,**

17 to whom I called out with my mouth

* **and whose praise was on my tongue.**

18 If I had found evil in my heart,

* **the Lord would not have heard me;**

19 But in truth God has heard me

* **and has attended to the voice of my prayer.**

20 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,

* **nor withheld steadfast love from me.**

The Proclamation of the Word

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (17:22-31)

Then 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.

A Reading from the 1st Letter of 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 Holy Gospel John 14:15-21

The Lord be with you

And also with you

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

"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 Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn 474

Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
there they behold thy mercy seat;
where'er they seek thee, thou art found,
and every place is hallowed ground.

For thou, within no walls confined,
inhabitest the humble mind;
such ever bring thee where they come,
and going, take thee to their home.

Here may we prove the power of prayer
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,
to teach our faint desires to rise,
and bring all heaven before our eyes.

Lord, we are few, but thou art near;
nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear;
O rend the heavens, come quickly down,
and make a thousand hearts thine own!

Homily

Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.
This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need, saying, Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. We pray especially for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Linda, Mark, Anne, and Todd, our Bishops, Sam, our archdeacon, and for all clergy and people.
Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glacier, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures. We pray especially for the Great Lakes, for the Thames River and for the many other waterways in our community.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

We pray for the whole world as we share in the effects of COVID19 – for essential service workers, health care workers, researchers, those who are ill, those who are quarantined or in isolation and those who are abandoned and alone in this time. You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way especially for those we now name...

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

We pray for St. John the Evangelist parish and St. Luke's Worshipping Community; we pray for Amanda, our foster child in India; for our brothers and sisters in our companion diocese of Amazonia in Brazil and for Marinez, their bishop; we pray for our brothers and sisters in the London Antioch Presbyterian Church.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

We pray for our Luke's Place ministry to the Western University community. We pray for all students and teachers, and for international students far from home and family.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end.
We remember the saints who have gone before us especially St.
Luke. Unite us forever in your final victory over death.
Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for
whom we pray into your eternal care, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect

Three-fold God of love,
you invite us to abide in you.
May we follow the Spirit of truth,
so that through us
your commanding love may speak
to the heart of the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**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.**

Hymn 425

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing
through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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