



Mobile, Alabama  
 Sixth Sunday of Easter  
 May 17, 2020  
 Holy Eucharist: Rite Two  
 Ten o'clock in the morning

*We invite you to participate in the worship of God. Our service is the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two in the Book of Common Prayer. For ease of use, this leaflet contains the congregational portions of the liturgy and service music. Congregational responses are printed in bold. Hymn numbers refer to The Hymnal 1982. Page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer for those wishing to use it. Lesson and Gospel texts are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, unless otherwise noted. Service music not otherwise credited is composed by Christopher W. Powell.*

Prelude

Gordon Young  
 (1919-1998)

*Chansonette*

Welcome

Introit

*Blessed Are You*

You have truly heard me, O God, you have truly heard my prayers.  
 Blessed are you, O God, you do not withhold your love from me.

after Psalm 66:17-18

## The Word of God

Easter Proclamation

BCP 355

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People:* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Opening Hymn

*Alleluia No. 1*  
 Hymnal 178

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord*

**Refrain:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Give praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
 He is the King of creation. **Refrain**  
 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
 Jesus has died and has risen. **Refrain**

We have been crucified with Christ.  
 Now we shall live for ever. **Refrain**  
 Come, let us praise the living God,  
 Joyfully sing to our Savior. **Refrain**

Collect for Purity

BCP 355

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.**

*The strife is o'er, the battle done* v. 1, 2  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done,  
the victory of life is won;  
the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,  
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:  
let shout of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Collect of the Day

BCP 225

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

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.**

The Lessons

First Reading

*Acts 17:22-31*

*Reader:* A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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."

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

**Refrain: God holds our souls in life.**

- 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.      Refrain*
- 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.      Refrain*
- 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.*

**Second Reading****1 Peter 3:13-22**

*Reader:* A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## Sequence Hymn

*Come, thou fount of every blessing*

*Nettleton*  
Hymnal 686

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!  
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I find my greatest treasure; hither, by thy help, I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

## The Holy Gospel

*John 14:15-21*

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

*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."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Very Reverend Beverly F. Gibson

## The Nicene Creed

BCP 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 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

### The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

**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 Prayers of the People - Form IV

BCP 388

*The leader and people pray responsively.*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Today, in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Korea.

In the Cathedral Cycle of Prayer, we remember St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Daphne.

In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church in the Indian Ocean Islands: Comoros, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles; and Mobile Inner City Church of Christ, Mobile.

We pray also for Michael, our presiding bishop; Russell our Bishop; Beverly, our priest; Lydia and Mike, our Interns; and for all ministers in the church.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for Donald, our president; Kay, our governor; Sandy, our Mayor; and for all those who lead and hold authority in the nations of our world.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

In the parish Cycle of Prayer, we remember those on the Cathedral Prayer list. Today, we pray especially for Patti Biel, Happy Henson, Virginia Wilkins, Alec Armbrecht, Megan Drane, Marolyn Kruse, Lara Sherer, Chuck McKay, Beth Schramm, Jane White-Spunner, Lucky White-Spunner, Jessie Koger, Mike Gibson, Leroy Roberson, Bradley Forster, Bill Stafford, Ed Stephens, Donna Moree, Gaye Formanek, Mimi Hudson, Bill Christian, Frances Fuller, Fr. Dennis Brown, Ian Briggs, Willanda Mixon, Peter McAtee, and all others on the Cathedral Prayer List.

In the Prison Ministry Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Atmore Community Work Center, Atmore.

We also remember in our prayers those who are serving in the armed forces of our country, and most especially for those on the Cathedral Military Prayer List.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Today we pray for the repose of the soul of Nancy Quittmeyer, and Robert Eugene Skinner

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## Confession of Sin

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant and People:*

**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.**

*Celebrant:* 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

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

## Announcements

The Offertory

Solo

*How Great Thou Art*  
Mollie A. Adams, soprano

*Swedish traditional*

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.

And when I think of God, His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in  
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And lead me home, what joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow with humble adoration  
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

The Holy Communion

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

St. Alphonsus de Liguori  
(1696-1787)

Blessing

Closing Hymn

*He is risen, he is risen!*

*Unser Herrscher*  
Hymnal 180

He is risen, he is risen! Tell it out with joyful voice:  
he has burst his three days' prison; let the whole wide earth rejoice:  
death is conquered, we are free, Christ has won the victory.

Come, ye sad and fearfulhearted, with glad smile and radiant brow!  
Death's long shadows have departed; Jesus' woes are over now,  
and the passion that he bore—sin and pain can vex no more.

Come, with high and holy hymning, hail our Lord's triumphant day;  
not one darksome cloud is dimming yonder glorious morning ray,  
breaking o'er the purple east, symbol of our Easter feast.

He is risen, he is risen! He hath opened heaven's gate:  
we are free from sin's dark prison, risen to a holier state;  
and a brighter Easter beam on our longing eyes shall stream.

Dismissal

Postlude

*Postludium*

Gordon Young  
(1919-1998)



## MINISTERS FOR TODAY

Celebrant..... The Very Reverend Beverly F. Gibson  
Lay Reader..... Carolyn S. Jeffers  
Organist ..... Christopher W. Powell  
Soloist..... Mollie A. Adams  
Altar Guild..... Barbara Archer  
Flower Guild..... Smitty Vanek



## CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CATHEDRAL OF THE DIOCESE OF THE CENTRAL GULF COAST

The Right Reverend J. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop*  
The Very Reverend Beverly F. Gibson, Ph.D., *Rector and Dean*  
Michael E. Ballard, *School for Ministry Intern*  
Lydia Knizley Johnson, *School for Ministry Intern*  
The Very Reverend Johnny W. Cook, *Dean Emeritus*  
Christopher W. Powell, *Organist and Music Director*

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