



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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Officiant: The Rev. Bonnie Smith

Organist and Soloist: Tom Parker

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 24, 2020

Morning Prayer: Rite Two

Prelude

Meditation

Becker

215 Hymn

See the Conqueror mounts in triumph

In Babilone

1. See the Conqueror mounts in triumph;
see the King in royal state,
riding on the clouds, his chariot,
to his heavenly palace gate!
Hark! the choirs of angel voices
joyful alleluias sing,
and the portals high are lifted
to receive their heavenly King.

2. He who on the cross did suffer,
he who from the grave arose,
he has vanquished sin and Satan;
he by death has spoiled his foes.
While he lifts his hands in blessing,
he is parted from his friends;
while their eager eyes behold him,
he upon the clouds ascends.

3. Thou has raised our human nature
on the clouds to God's right hand;
there we sit in heavenly places,
there with thee in glory stand.
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
Man with God is on the throne;
mighty Lord, in thine ascension
we by faith behold our own.

Opening sentence

p. 77

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

p. 80

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Easter antiphon Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

W880 The Easter Canticle

Pascha Nostrum

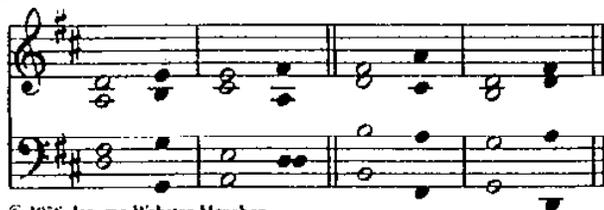
Sine Nomine

**God's Paschal Lamb is sacrificed for us;
therefore with joy we keep the Easter feast;
forsaking sin, we share the bread of truth.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Now Christ is raised and will not die again;
death has no more dominion over him;
through him we die to sin and live to God.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead
though Adam's sin had doomed all flesh to die,
in Christ's new life shall all be made alive.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36



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¹ Let God arise, and let his enemies be **scattered**; *
let those who hate him flee before **him**.

- ² Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- ³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.
- ⁴ Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- ⁵ Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!
- ⁶ God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- ⁷ O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
- ⁸ The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- ⁹ You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- ¹⁰ Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- ³³ Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.
- ³⁴ He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- ³⁵ Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.
- ³⁶ How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A-men.

The First Lesson

Acts 1:6-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for

you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Lector The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Canticle 8 The Song of Moses *Cantemus Domino*

p. 85

Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18

Especially suitable for use in Easter Season

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *

the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *

the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God and I will praise him, *

the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior; *

Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *

the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *

they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *

your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *

who is like you, glorious in holiness,

awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?
You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.
You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Lector The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

S280 Canticle 20 Glory to God

Powell

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Gospel

John 17:1-11

A reading from the Gospel of John.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Lector The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God**

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

p. 96

Officiant and People together

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He 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.**

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

p. 97

People **And also with you.**

Officiant 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Then follows one of these sets of Suffrages

A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. **Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit**

The Collect of the Day

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

p. 98

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

p. 99

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

p. 100

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the Sick

p. 459

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants **Katherine Ward, Ashley Burnett, Jeanine Wilson, Al Cowand, Randy Tyler, Ben Procter, Joan Leggett, Kay Barnacascel, Becky Godwin, John Tolbert, Coley McCally, Karen Gudiksen, Bobbie and Rendol Cobb, Libby Smith, Marian Watts, Lena Evans, Charles Taylor Spruill, Larry Watson, Julia Credle, Joey Ezelle, Racheal Coward, Peggy Parker, Karol McLaughlen, Sylvia Dawson, David Dunn, Elsie Benson, Hunter Stone, Brian Stone, Riley Raines, Jack Cooper, Marc Rentzer, those who are suffering from COVID-19, and others known to us,** and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For Doctors and Nurses

p. 460

Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that by their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For Those Who Have Died

p. 498

Father of all, we pray to you for all those whom we love but see no longer, especially Dennis White, as well as those who have died of COVID-19. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

God the King of Glory, in whose hands are the living and the dead: We give you thanks for all those who have laid down their lives in the service of our country, especially Edward Gray Cherry, Jr. Grant them your mercy and the light of your presence; and give us a sense of your will and purpose, that we may understand that the work you have begun in them will be perfected through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, in whom all strife is resolved. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

Hymn 603

When Christ was lifted from the earth

St. Botolph

**1 When Christ was lifted from the earth,
his arms stretched out above
through every culture, every birth,
to draw an answering love.**

**2 Still east and west his love extends
and always, near or far,
he calls and claims us as his friends
and loves us as we are.**

**3 Where generation, class, or race
divide us to our shame,
he sees not labels but a face,
a person, and a name.**

**4 Thus freely loved, though fully known,
may I in Christ be free
to welcome and accept his own
as Christ accepted me.**

Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

The General Thanksgiving

p. 101

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;**

but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

p. 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. ***Amen.***

The Officiant may then conclude with the following

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. ***Amen.*** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 483

The head that once was crowned with thorns

St. Magnus

1 The head that once was crowned with thorns
is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty victor's brow.

2 The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal Light;

**3 the joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love
and grants his Name to know.**

**4 To them the cross with all its shame,
with all its grace is given;
their name, an everlasting name;
their joy the joy of heaven.**

**5 They suffer with their Lord below,
they reign with him above;
their profit and their joy to know
the mystery of his love.**

**6 The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him:
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.**

Postlude

Andantino

Haydn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Thomas' Church, Windsor, will continue with online worship each Sunday.

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Offerings to St. Thomas' Church can be mailed to St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, PO Box 400, Windsor, NC 27983. You may also use that address to set up online bill pay with your bank.

Lector: Tra Perry

Evening prayer is offered by Bishop Skirving or diocesan staff each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. on Facebook. These services can be viewed at any time at <https://www.facebook.com/dioec/>

If you have a name to add or remove from the prayer list, please email stthomaschurch1@embarqmail.com or bonniejsmith19@gmail.com .

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Web site: <http://stthomaswindsor.org/>

The St. Thomas bible study web site posts the Sunday lectionary readings and related art slides:

<https://stthomasbiblestudy.com/lectionary-readings/>

You can also download the Book of Common Prayer or view it online:

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