

Worship from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Richmond, Virginia
May 17, 2020
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

WELCOME

The Rev. Gary D. Jones

POEM

Read by Sherlyn Dibble

Eagle Poem

By Joy Harjo

To pray you open your whole self
To sky, to earth, to sun, to moon
To one whole voice that is you.
And know there is more
That you can't see, can't hear;
Can't know except in moments
Steadily growing, and in languages
That aren't always sound but other
Circles of motion.
Like eagle that Sunday morning
Over Salt River. Circled in blue sky
In wind, swept our hearts clean
With sacred wings.
We see you, see ourselves and know
That we must take the utmost care
And kindness in all things.
Breathe in, knowing we are made of
All this, and breathe, knowing
We are truly blessed because we
Were born, and die soon within a
True circle of motion,
Like eagle rounding out the morning
Inside us.
We pray that it will be done
In beauty.
In beauty.

HYMN 625

Ye holy angels bright

Members of St. Stephen's Choir

Directed by Chris Edwards

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

Helen and Cotes Pinckney

THE COLLECT FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Leia Cleaton

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 GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

From The Work of the People

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 HOMILY

Josh Rockett

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Ubi Caritas

By Maurice Duruflé

The Virginia Girls Choir and Members of St. Stephen's Choir

Directed by Brent te Velde

(Recorded in February 2020)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Flynn Mann, Margaret Simpson, Richard Kay, Liz Bartenstein

Lord, I will trust you.
Help me to journey beyond the familiar
and into the unknown.

Give me the faith to leave old ways
and break fresh ground with you.

Christ of the mysteries, I can trust you
to be stronger than each storm around me
and within me.

I determine amidst all uncertainty
always to trust.

I choose to live beyond regret,
And let you recreate my life.


I believe you will make a way for me
and provide for me, if only I trust you.

I will trust in the darkness and know
that my times are still in your hand.

I will trust in you for my future,
chapter by chapter, until all the story is written.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung by Stephanie Hill Blackwood



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins
as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al,
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,
now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The musical notation consists of six staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written on a five-line staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The final note of the piece is a double bar line.

THANKSGIVINGS

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially the births of

Henry Justin Moore
to Ted and Julia Moore
April 5, 2020

Asa Thomas Emerson
to Jennifer and Taylor Emerson
April 12, 2020

Carson Elizabeth Rice
to Mary Douglas and Paul Rice
April 26, 2020

Mason Shuford
to Mackenzie and David Shuford, Jr.
April 26, 2020

We give thanks for the lives of these parishioners, and entrust them to God's never-failing care:

Elizabeth Marshall Hillsman
June 9, 1951-May 11, 2020

John Theodore Bruns
July 14, 1944-May 12, 2020

Martha Munson Pollard
September 13, 1933-May 13, 2020

THE PEACE

Wiley and Henry Mulholland

CLOSING MUSIC

Do Not Be Afraid

Text: Gerard Markland; Music: Philip Stopford

St. Stephen's Virtual Choir

CLOSING

Read by Will Stanley

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."

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Affirmation of Faith adapted from The Northumbria Community, *Celtic Daily Prayer: Prayers and Readings from the Northumbria Community*, Harper Collins, 2002;

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Music recorded in the church was performed before stay-at-home orders were in place.