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.

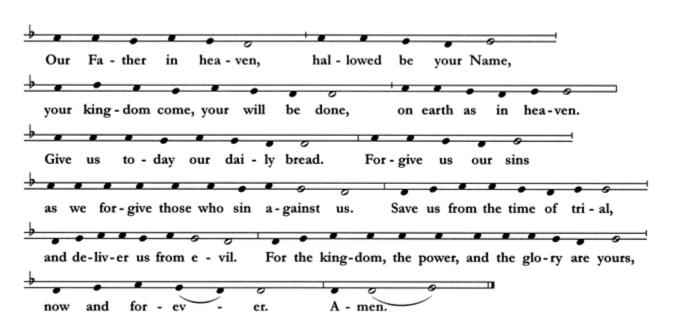
I determine amidst all uncertainty always to trust.

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

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

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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;

"Do Not Be Afraid," text by Gerard Markland, music by Philip Stopford. Morningstar Music Publishers. Used by permission.

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