

Holy Trinity Church May 2, 2021

Opening hymn:

Opening Hymn: CP # 467 Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go
verses 1 and 4

1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
My daily labour to pursue,
Thee, only thee, resolved to know
In all I think or speak or do.

4. For thee delightful employ
Whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given,
And run my course with even joy,
And closely walk with thee to heaven.

Welcome and Children Time

Call to Worship

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Celebrant May his grace and peace be with you.

People May he fill our hearts with joy.

One: Jesus is the true vine and God is the vine grower.

All: We are the branches.

One: It is God's Word that makes the branches strong;

All: and the Word bears fruit.

One: The Word gives rise to action;

All: and action proves our discipleship.

One: God celebrates when we act faithfully;

All: and we give back praise and glory, to God.

Prayer of Confession

One: We look for your acceptance and forgiveness, Loving God.

All: We have been slow to trust, yet quick to criticize.

We have been reluctant to give, yet ready to take advantage.

We have known the words to say, but have kept them to ourselves.

We have been challenged to bring change, but have failed to get started.

We have been aware of the opportunity to witness to our faith,
but have let the moment pass.

And we are conscious of those times, O God, when we have denied the way of integrity and compassion shown to us by Jesus Christ.

Time of reflection...

Words of Assurance

One: God will not leave us without hope. The graceful gift of Jesus is proof positive of that "blessed assurance."

All: We are accepted by God.

One: God will enable us to express our troublesome thoughts and memories.

All: We are forgiven by God.

One: God will give us confidence to speak of new things, to work in new ways, and to cooperate with new people.

All: We are renewed by God.

One: Pardon and peace are yours!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Officiant Lord, open our lips, (BAS pg.47)

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

All: 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.

Venite Psalm 95.1 - 7

ALL: Come, let us sing to the Lord;* let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving* and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God,* and a great king above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth,* and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his for he made it,* and his hands have moulded the dry land. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,* and kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.* Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Proclamation of the Word

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come

to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea. ACTS 8:26-40

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

The Reading of PSALM 22:24-30

My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: "May your heart live for ever!" All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord.

For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations. To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.

All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's for ever. They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

R All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gradual: Vocal solo by Freeman Piercey

The Gospel Reading

Reader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

JOHN 15:1-8

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed (BAS pg.52)

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.

Offertory Hymn

Offertory Hymn: CP # 431

Take Up Your Cross, the Saviour Said
verses 1 and 5

1. Take up your cross, the Saviour said,
If you would my disciple be;
Deny yourself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after me.

5. Take up your cross and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down;
For only those who bear the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

Prayer over the Offering: All things come of thee....

The Prayers of the People

Leader In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For peace from on high and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For our bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For this city (town, village, etc.), for every city and community, and for those who live in them in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For good weather, and for abundant harvests for all to share, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For those who travel by land, water, or air, for the sick and the suffering (especially...) for prisoners and captives, and for their safety, health, and salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **People** Lord, have mercy.

Leader For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the absolution and remission of our sins and offences, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For all who have died (especially. . .) let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader Remembering (. . .and) all the saints, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy name thou wilt hear their requests: fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting; for thou, Father, art good and loving, and we glorify thee through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Lord's Prayer (BAS pg.54)

Officiant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Commissioning

One: O most loving God, you are there for us:

All: You are strength, in tough times; you are comfort, in times of loss; you are a challenge, in apathetic times; you are faith, in doubting times; and you are Love, for us and with us – an integral part of us, at all times.

One: Go with us as we return to the world this morning.

Closing Hymn: CP # 601 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending
verses 1 and 3

1. God, whose giving knows no ending,
From your rich and endless store -
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
Costly cross, grave's shattered door -
Gifted by you, we turn to you,
Offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever,
Gracious Donor of our days.

3. Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
Gain through powers your grace conferred,
Ours to use for home and kindred,
And to spread the gospel word.
Open wide, our hands in sharing,
As we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
Serving you by loving all.