



# Rogation Sunday

being the Sixth Sunday of Easter

17 May 2020 AD

## A LITURGY OF THE WORD *with the Blessing of Earth, Air and Water*

### *About Today*

*Rogation Sunday celebrates the many gifts that are ours from the good earth and of the lordship of God over all of creation. It is observed on the Sixth Sunday of Easter during the time of spring planting and is medieval English in origin. The word “rogation” comes from the Latin word “rogare” which means to beseech or to request.*

### Prelude

### **Opening Hymn 416** “For the Beauty of the Earth”

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies.  
*[Refrain:] Christ our God, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.*
2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,  
*(Refrain)*
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight,  
*(Refrain)*
- ...
6. For each perfect gift of thine, to the world so freely given,  
faith and hope and love divine, peace on earth and joy in heaven.  
*(Refrain)*

*Priest:* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People:* Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia

*The Celebrant says*

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.*

*Hymn of Praise:* **Hymn 8** “Morning Has Broken”

1. Morning has broken like the first morning,  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

- Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
 Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from Heaven,  
 Like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
 Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
 Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,  
 Born of the one light Eden saw play.  
 Praise with elation, Praise every morning,  
 God's re-creation of the new day!

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* *And also with you.*

*Priest:* Let us pray.                    *The collect is said by the Officiant.*

### **Lesson**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

*Acts 17:22-31*

*The Word of the Lord. [People: Thanks be to God.]*

### **Gradual Psalm 67 L.M.** *metrical version - tune: Truro*

1. May God be merciful to us,  
 Bless us, shine on us from above;  
 Let all earth's peoples know your ways,  
 All nations know your saving love.
2. Let all the nations praise you, Lord;  
 Let them be glad and sing your praise;  
 Let all the peoples of the earth  
 Observe the justice of your ways.
3. Let all the nations praise you, Lord,  
 And may the earth yield its increase;  
 Then God, our God, will bless our land  
 And nations worship you in peace.

### **Epistle**

*A reading from the First Letter of Peter.*

*1 Peter 3:13-22*

*The Word of the Lord. [People: Thanks be to God.]*

### **Sequence Hymn 398** "I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

1. I sing the almighty power of God, that made the mountains rise,  
 that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.  
2. I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;  
he formed the creatures with his Word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!  
3. There's not a plant or flower below, but makes thy glories known,  
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne;  
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,  
and everywhere that I could be, thou, God, art present there.

### **The Holy Gospel**

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. [People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.]*

*John 14:15-21*

*The Gospel of the Lord. [People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.]*

*Please see the Announcements regarding today's sermon by Fr. Welles.*

### **The Nicene Creed**

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 in 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.

### **Rogation Exhortation**

*followed by the Prayer of Blessing of Seed, Earth and Water*

### **Prayers of the People**

*The Leader concludes each petition with: O God of all,  
And everyone responds: **Hear our thanks and praise.***

**The Peace**    *Reach out to someone today to share God's peace.*

### **Hymn 291**    “We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

1. We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand;  
he sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

*Refrain:* All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;  
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.

2. He only is the Maker of all things near and far;  
he paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star;  
the wind and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed;  
much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread. *(Refrain)*
3. We thank thee, then, O Father, for all things bright and good,  
the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food:  
the gifts we have to offer are what thy love imparts,  
but chiefly thou desirest our humble, thankful hearts. *(Refrain)*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

*Officiant and People pray the Lord's Prayer.*

### **Invitation to Spiritual Communion** *is offered*

### **The Blessing** *by the Officiant*

### **Closing Hymn 400** “All Creatures of our God and King”

1. All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voices, let us sing: alleluia, alleluia!  
Bright burning sun with golden beams,  
Pale silver moon that gently gleams,  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



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4. Dear mother earth, you day by day  
unfold your blessings on our way; O praise him, Alleluia!  
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,  
let them his glory also show:  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5. All you with mercy in your heart,  
forgiving others, take your part, O sing now: Alleluia!  
All you that pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God, and cast on him your care:  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7. Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, Alleluia!  
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### **Dismissal**

*Priest* Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

### **Postlude**



The Sermon for today will be a letter sent to everyone this week. The “preacher” is Fr. George Welles. It is an ancient practice to offer teaching in the form of a letter as we see in much of the New Testament.

This mailing will contain seeds blessed during our Rogation celebration. Plant them as an expression of hope for the future. If you have not place to plant flowers, give them to a friend with a little plot of earth. On Sundays we receive the gifts of the people for the support of the church and its mission in the world. Please mail your gifts to **The Church of the Messiah, P O Box 70367, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572.**

Spiritual Communion may be found at [messiahmb.org](http://messiahmb.org) under the “Library” tab.

These are trying times. If you or someone you know has special needs, please contact Fr. Ferebee confidentially at 843.999.0888.