



*Instead of
the Brier shall
come up
the Myrtle.
Isaiah 55*

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

12 July 2020 AD

A LITURGY OF THE WORD

Concerning Today's Service

It has been determined that singing, since it projects the human voice, is an activity which enhances the spread of viral particles. Our use of music in the liturgy is being curtailed. When music is included, care has been taken to prepare and execute it in the most careful manner possible. Please sing along at home.

Prelude

Opening Hymn 632 “O Christ, the Word Incarnate”

- 1 O Christ, the Word Incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
we praise thee for the radiance that from the scripture's page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.
- 2 The Church from our dear Master received the word divine,
and still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging sea,
mid mists and rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.
- 3 O make thy Church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,
to bear before the nations thy true light as of old;
O teach thy wandering pilgrims by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended, they see thee face to face.

Opening Sentences

Priest: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

***People:* And also with you.**

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 402 “Let All the World”

[Antiphon:] Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!

- 1 The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! *[Ant.]*
- 2 The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
but, above all, the heart must bear the longest part.

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! [*Ant.*]

The Collect of the Day

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day is said.

Lesson - Isaiah 55:10-13

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

Gradual Psalm 65:9-14 *read in unison*

9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;

you make it very plenteous; *

the river of God is full of water.

10 You prepare the grain, *

for so you provide for the earth.

11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *

with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

12 You crown the year with your goodness, *

and your paths overflow with plenty.

13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *

and the hills be clothed with joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,

and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *

let them shout for joy and sing.

Epistle - Romans 8:1-11

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not

according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. *The Word of the Lord.* [People: Thanks be to God.]

Sequence Canticle *A Song of the Wilderness*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
It shall blossom abundantly, *
and rejoice with joy and singing.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, *
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weary hands, *
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! *
Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, *
and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.
Then shall the lame leap like a deer, *
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness *
and streams in the desert;
The burning sand shall become a pool *
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.
The ransomed of God shall return with singing, *
with everlasting joy upon their heads.
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, *
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 35:1-7, 10

The Holy Gospel - Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. [People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.] Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!” “Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”
The Gospel of the Lord. [People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.]

The Sermon *silence follows the sermon*

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.

Prayers of the People

After each petition is silence and the leader concludes: Lord, hear us.

*And everyone responds: **Lord, graciously hear us..***

The Lord's Prayer

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

Officiant and People say the Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 530 "Spread, O Spread"

- 1 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word,
spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound all may heed the joyful sound;
- 2 word of how the Father's will
made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
- 3 word of how the Savior's love
earth's sore burden doth remove;
how forever, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
- 4 word of how the Spirit came
bringing peace in Jesus' name;
how his never-failing love guides us on to heaven above.
- 5 Word of life, most pure and strong,

word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night all the world awakes to light.

Dismissal

Priest Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

We have a Care Team which is helping us stay in touch by telephone.
Call 843.999.0888 for anything whatsoever.

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.**

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

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

When we are unable to receive the Bread and Wine of the Holy Sacrament because of extreme sickness, physical disability, or, as in our present cause, the suspension of public worship to prevent the spread of infection, we can be assured that all the benefits of Communion are received. The following prayer may be said.

In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to God, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your abiding love. Amen.

A fuller expression of Spiritual Communion may be found at messiahmb.org under the "Library" tab.