



Sixth Sunday of Easter Service  
Rite II  
10:30 am

# The Word of God

Prelude-*Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*-J. Biery

Wendi Gustafson- Organ

Opening Hymn- *I sing the almighty power of God*

Hymnal 398

1 I sing the al-might - y power of God, that made the moun-tains rise,  
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;  
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, but makes thy glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the lof - ty skies.  
he formed the crea-tures with his Word, and then pro-nounced them good.  
and clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;  
Lord, how thy won - ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye,  
while all that bor - rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

the moon shines full at his com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.  
if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!  
and ev - ery-where that I could be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***

BCP p. 355

*Officiant* 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.**

**Gloria**

Hymnal S204 - BCP p. 324

1. Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

2. We praise thee, we bless thee, we wor-ship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks

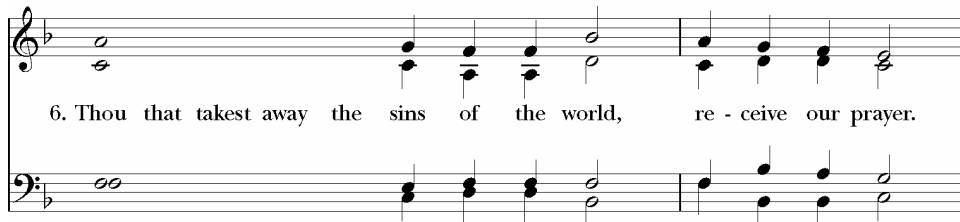
to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly King,

God the Father Al-might - y. 4. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther,




5. that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy up - on us.



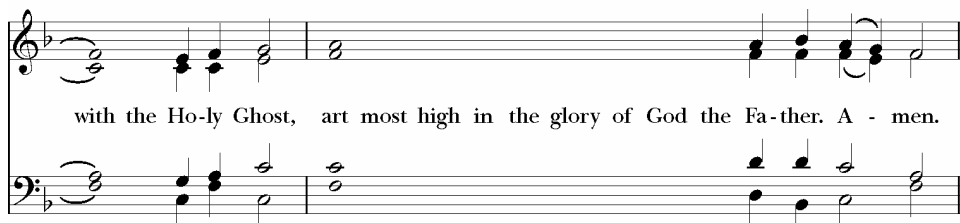
6. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



7. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Fa-ther, have mercy up - on us.



8. For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord; 9. Thou only, O Christ,



with the Ho-ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

### The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 225

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

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

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.**

*All are seated.*

## **The Lessons**

### **The First Lesson**

*Reader* A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (17:22-31)

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

*Reader*                   The Word of the Lord.

***People***                ***Thanks be to God.***

### **The Psalm Appointed**

*Reader* The portion of the Psalm appointed for today is Psalm 66 verses 7-18 on page 674 in the BCP. Let us read in unison.

***Bless our God, you peoples; \****  
***make the voice of his praise to be heard;***

***Who holds our souls in life, \****  
***and will not allow our feet to slip.***

***For you, O God, have proved us; \****  
***you have tried us just as silver is tried.***

***You brought us into the snare; \****  
***you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.***

*You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; \*  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.*

*I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, \*  
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.*

*I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; \*  
I will give you oxen and goats.*

*Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
and I will tell you what he has done for me.*

*I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
and his praise was on my tongue.*

*If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
the Lord would not have heard me;*

*But in truth God has heard me; \*  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.*

*Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
nor withheld his love from me.*

## **The Epistle**

A reading from the first letter of Peter (3:13-22)

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*Reader*            *The Word of the Lord.*

*People*            *Thanks be to God.*

*We will sing verses 1 & 2 before the Gospel and verse 3 after the Gospel is read.*



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the  
 2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the  
 3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the



chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the  
 branch - es of the Vine, to the Church in faith as -  
 cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and



wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger  
 sem - bled, to her midst as gift and  
 wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -



might: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.  
 sign: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.  
 pare: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

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*All stand*

**The Gospel**

*Officiant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (14:15-21).

**People** *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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."

*Officiant* The Gospel of the Lord.

**People** *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**Sermon**

Fr. Robert Certain

*All stand.*

*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 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.*

*After the Creed: You may sit, kneel, or remain standing for the Prayers.*

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

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.

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

*Officiant*      Let us pray.

**BCP p. 364**



*Officiant and People*

***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, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.***

**The Prayers of the People: Form IV**

**BCP. p 388**

*Reader* Let us pray for the Church and for the world, especially for the members of Church of the Ascension, Montell and Church of the Holy Spirit, Dripping Springs. For all the bishops and other ministers especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; David, our Bishop; Robert, our Interim Rector; our vestry, search committee, and staff. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy

***People Hear our prayer.***

*Reader* Guide the people of this land, and all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Especially Donald, our President; Greg, our Governor; and Don our Mayor, for the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad.

*Silence*

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy

***People Hear our prayer.***

*Reader* Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory, especially for Guadalupe Valley Christian Counseling Center and its work in our community.

*Silence*

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy

***People Hear our prayer.***

*Reader* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Reader*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for our families, friends, and neighbors; especially Susan Neuman, Ardith Perry, Penny Sengler, Ellen Wundt, Theresa Zapata, Jean Norris, for all who suffer from the effects of the novel coronavirus, and for our friends and family who are homebound or residing in care and recovery facilities, especially: Ann Benham, Audrey Herron, Betty Rainey, Judy McClendon, Patsy Creager, Ruth Burges, Karen Cook, and Rose Foegelle. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Reader*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Liz Hamlett, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

*Officiant*

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. ***Amen.***

**Peace**

*Officiant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Travel Prayers**

**Birthdays**

*Officiant and People*

***O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant Kim Mueller as she begins another year. Grant that she may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**Anniversaries**

*Officiant and People*

***O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon***

*your servants, Kelly & Mozzelle Dempster, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Travel**

*Officiant and People*

**O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel, surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

**Offertory Hymn- *Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart***

Hymnal 488

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,  
 all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!  
 thou my best thought, — by day or by night,  
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
 Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,  
 wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
 still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

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**The General Thanksgiving**

BCP p. 101

*Officiant and People*

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
 we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
 to us and to all whom you have made.  
 We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
 and all the blessings of this life;  
 but above all for your immeasurable love  
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;*

*for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
 And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
 that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
 by giving up our selves to your service,  
 and by walking before you  
 in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

**A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

**BCP p. 102**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

**Blessing**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**Closing Hymn- Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing**

**Hymnal 344**

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with  
 2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's  
 3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,  
 joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion  
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,  
in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,  
glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,  
O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.  
ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;  
may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

**Dismissal**

**BCP p. 366**

*Celebrant*

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People**

***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.***

**Postlude-***Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing – J.W. Kerr*

Wendi Gustafson- Organ

**Ministers in the Lord's Service**

Officiant- Fr. Robert Certain

Lay Reader- Chuck Ingersoll

Musicians- Leo Garcia, Choir Director/Cantor

Wendi Gustafson, Music Director/Organ

Camerasmen/Technicians- Aaryn Perry, Gil Merkle