

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

The Anglican Parish of Merrickville



Sunday February 7, 2021

An On-line Offering of Worship and Praise

The Morning Service

(Iona Worship Book)

Opening responses

Leader: The world belongs to God,

ALL: the earth and all its people.

Leader: How good it is, how wonderful,

ALL: to live together in unity.

Leader: Love and faith come together,

ALL: justice and peace join hands.

Leader: If Christ's disciples keep silent

ALL: these stones would shout aloud.

Leader: Open our lips, O God,

ALL: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Song: 482 *Come and Journey*

Come and journey with a Saviour
who has called us from our birth
who has washed us in the waters,
and who loved us on the earth

Refrain

Come and journey, come and journey
with a Saviour who has come.
We are all God's sons and daughters;
in the Spirit we are one.

Come and journey, journey outward,
telling others of his name,
telling others of his glory,
of his cross and of the shame.

Refrain

Come and journey, journey onward;
all our gifts we now shall bring
to the building of a city
that is holy, Christ its King.

Refrain

Confession

Leader: Holy God, Maker of all

ALL: have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor

ALL: have mercy on us.

Leader: Holy Spirit, Breath of life

ALL: have mercy on us

Leader: Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

Silence

Leader: Before God, with the people of God,
I confess to my brokenness:
to the ways I wound my life,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.

ALL: May god forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the spirit enable you to grow in love.

Leader: Amen.

ALL: Before God, with the people of god,
we confess to our brokenness:
to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.

Leader: May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

ALL: Amen.

Prayer for God's help

Leader: Move among us, O God; give us life:

ALL: let your people rejoice in you.

Leader: Make our hearts clean within us:

ALL: renew us in mind and in spirit.

Leader: Give us again the joy of your help:

ALL: with your spirit of freedom sustain us.

Leader: And now, as Jesus taught us, we say:

ALL: Our father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done on earth as in heaven,
Give us today our daily bread,

Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us,
Save us in the time of trial
And deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power
And the glory are yours,
Now and for ever. Amen.

Affirmation

Leader: With the whole church

ALL: we affirm
that we are made in God's image,
befriended by Christ, empowered by the spirit.

Leader: With people everywhere

ALL: we affirm
God's goodness at the heart of humanity,
Planted more deeply than all that is wrong.

Leader: With all creation

ALL: we celebrate
The miracle and wonder of life;
The unfolding purposes of god,
Forever at work in ourselves and the world.

Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31 (NRSV)

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³ who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

- 24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- 25 To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
- 26 Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.
- 27 Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- 28 Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
- 29 He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
- 30 Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
- 31 but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 147:1–11, 20c

(taken from the Inclusive Psalter 2016, as approved by General Synod)

1 Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
How pleasant it is to honour God with praise!

2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem *

and gathers the exiles of Israel.

3 The Lord heals the broken-hearted *

and binds up their wounds.

4 The Lord counts the number of stars *

and calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *

there is no limit to the wisdom of God.

6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, *

but casts the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *

make music to our God upon the harp.

8 The Lord covers the heavens with clouds *

and prepares rain for the earth,
making grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve humankind.

9 The Lord provides food for flocks and herds *

and for the young ravens when they cry.

10 The Lord is not impressed by the might of a horse *

and has no pleasure in human strength,

11 but finds pleasure in those who fear God, *

in those who await the gracious favour of the Lord.
Hallelujah!

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 forever. Amen

Song: 10 (Red song book) *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:29–39 (NRSV)

Leader: This morning's reading comes from the Gospel according to Mark
Listen now for the Word of God.

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹ He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸ He answered, "**Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.**" ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us

ALL: Thanks be to god.

Homily

Prayers of gratitude and concern

Collect

Merciful Lord,
grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Silence

Closing responses

Leader This is the day that God has made;

ALL: we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: We will not offer to God

ALL: offerings that cost us nothing.

Leader: Go in peace to love and to serve;

ALL: we will seek peace and pursue it.

Leader: In the name of the Trinity of Love,

ALL: God in community, holy and one.

Closing Song: 17 (Red Song Book) *Though the Mountains May Fall*

Refrain

Though the mountains may fall
and the hills turn to dust,
yet the love of the Lord will stand
as a shelter for all who will call on his name.
Sing the praise and the glory of God.

Could the Lord ever leave you?
Could the Lord forget his love?
Though a mother forsake her child,
God will not abandon you.

Refrain

Go to him when you're weary;
God will give you eagle's wings.
You will run, never tire,
for your God will be your strength.

Refrain