

# THE DIVINE SERVICE

May 17, 2020

## The Sixth Sunday of Easter

### *In Preparation*



*Please observe silence as you read, pray, and meditate.*

#### **PRELUDE**

*Voluntary* – Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)

Michael Phillips

#### **WORDS OF PREPARATION**

1 Peter 3:13-22

Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, 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 having been subjected to him.

#### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Lord, because you have promised to give what we ask in the name of your only-begotten Son, teach us rightly to pray and with all your saints to offer you our adoration and praise; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

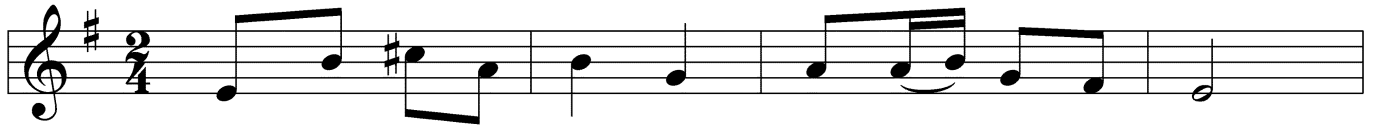
# The Service of Entrance



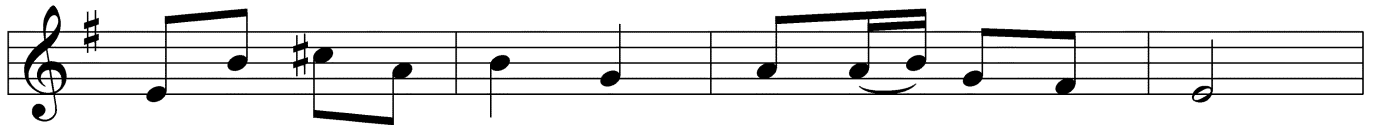
## ❖ HYMN OF INVOCATION

Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, c. 530-609

Traditional French melody



1. "Wel - come, hap - py morn - ing!" age to age shall say;  
2. Mak - er and Re - deem - er, life and health of all,  
3. Thou, of life the au - thor, death didst un - der - go,  
4. Loose the souls long pris - oned, bound with Sa - tan's chain;



hell to - day is van - quished, heav'n is won to - day.  
thou, from heav'n be - hold - ing man's a - bas - ing fall,  
tread the path of dark - ness, sav - ing strength to show;  
thine that now are fall - en raise to life a - gain;



Lo! the Dead is liv - ing, God for ev - er - more!  
of the Fa - ther's God - head true and on - ly Son,  
come then, true and faith - ful, now ful - fill thy word,  
show thy face in bright - ness, bid the na - tions see;



Him, their true cre - a - tor, all his works a - dore.  
man - hood to de - liv - er, man - hood didst put on.  
'tis thine own third morn - ing; rise, O bur - ied Lord.  
bring a - gain our day - light: day re - turns with thee.

Minister: Praise the Lord in his sanctuary, praise him in his mighty heavens.

**People: Let everything that has life and breath praise the Lord!**

Minister: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Minister: Let us pray.

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

... world without end. **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Nikolaus Decius, 1531

German chorale, 1540



Pure and sin-less Lamb of God, who on the cross did suf - fer. Pa - tient, still, and  
low - ly, thy - self to scorn did of - fer. Our sins by thee were ta - ken, or  
hope had us for - sak - en: have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus!

Minister: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Minister: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

Minister: Hear the Word of the Gospel: “Christ has died for our sins and been raised for our justification.” All you who repent of your sin and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation, rejoice and be glad and give glory to the Lord who has taken away all of your sins in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

❖ Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People: the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Minister: O Lord, open our lips,

**People: and our mouth will declare your praise.**

❖ THE GLORIA AND HYMN OF GRATITUDE

2nd cent.

Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the be-  
gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

Latin hymn, 4th or 5th cent.

Nikolaus Herman, 1560

1. That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the sun shone  
2. *He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the*  
3. O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, do thou thy -  
4. *O Lord of all, with us a - bide in this our*  
5. All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to thee, who,  
out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing eyes re - stored,  
*glo - rious wounds a - bide; the to - kens true which made it plain*  
self our hearts pos - sess, that we may give thee all our days  
*joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield*  
dead, a - gain dost live; all praise to God the Fa - ther be  
the glad a - pos - tles saw their Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!  
*their Lord in - deed was ris'n a - gain. Hal - le - lu - jah!*  
the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise. Hal - le - lu - jah!  
*thine own re - deemed for - ev - er shield. Hal - le - lu - jah!*  
and Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly. Hal - le - lu - jah!

# *The Service of the Word*



## ❖ THE PSALTER

Psalm 66:1-8

Minister: Be joyful in God, all you lands;

**People: sing the glory of his Name; sing the glory of his praise.**

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

**because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.**

All the earth bows down before you,

**sings to you, sings out your Name."**

Come now and see the works of God,

**how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.**

He turned the sea into dry land,

**so that they went through the water on foot,**

**and there we rejoiced in him.**

In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations;

**let no rebel rise up against him.**

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.**

## THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 17:21-31

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

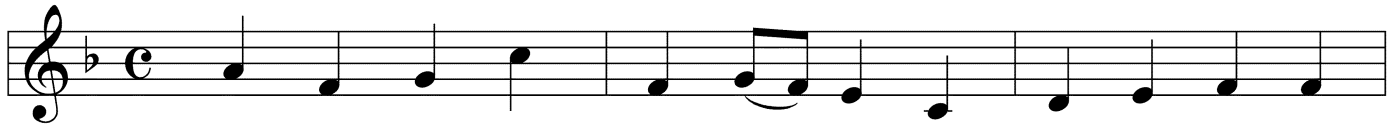
Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ.

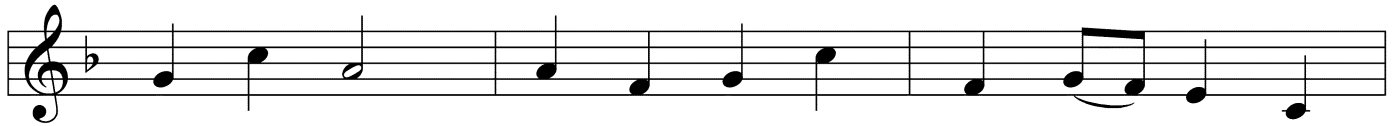
❖ OUR RESPONSE

Heinrich Held, 1620-1659

*Neu-vermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693*



1. Come, oh come, O quick-'ning Spir - it, God be - fore the  
 2. On - ly that which you de - sire be our ob - ject;  
 3. Bless - ed Spir - it, still re - new - ing all who dwell up -  
 4. Help us keep the faith for - ev - er; let not Sa - tan,



dawn of time! Fire our hearts with ho - ly ar - dor,  
 with your hand lead our ev - 'ry thought and ac - tion,  
 on the earth, when the e - vil one as - sails us  
 death, or shame draw us from you or de - prive us



bles - ed Com - for - ter sub - lime! Let your ra - diance  
 let them be at your com - mand. All our sin - ful -  
 help us prove our heav'n - ly birth; arm us with your  
 of the hon - or of your name. When the foe would



fill our night, turn - ing dark - ness in - to light.  
 ness e - raise with the in - crease of your grace.  
 might - y sword in the le - gions of the Lord.  
 lure us hence, be, O God, our sure de - fense.

## WELCOME

## INTERLUDE

## PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION AND THANKSGIVING

Ruling Elder Dan Allen

**Unison: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## ❖ THE EPISTLE LESSON

Hebrews 1:1—2:4

**Minister:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God!

## ❖ PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## MORNING SERMON

Rev. Eric Landry

*The Christian in a Time of Crisis  
What is God teaching us about himself?*

Hebrews 1:1—2:4

## *The Service of the Table*



## ❖ CORPORATE CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**Unison: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead;**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

❖ **Minister:** Christ is risen!

**People:** He is risen indeed!

**Minister:** Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of friendship such as the ancient words that the church has used over the centuries, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the response, "And also with you." During this time, please greet one another verbally and refrain from shaking hands or other physical contact.*

Minister: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof;

People: **the world, and they that dwell therein.**

### HYMN OF GRATITUDE TO GOD

John Bunyan, 1628-1688

Sussex Folk melody



1. He who would val - iant be 'gainst all dis - as - ter,  
2. Who so be - set him round with dis - mal sto - ries  
3. Since, Lord, thou dost de - fend us with thy Spir - it,



let him in con - stan - cy fol - low the Mas - ter.  
do but them - selves con - found his strength the more is.  
we know we at the end shall life in - her - it.



There's no dis - cour - age - ment shall make him once re - lent  
No foes shall stay his might, though he with gi - ants fight:  
Then fan - cies flee a - way! I'll fear not what men say,



his first a - vowed in - tent to be a pil - grim.  
he will make good his right to be a pil - grim.  
I'll la - bor night and day to be a pil - grim.



- ❖ Minister: Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

DOXOLOGY

*Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623*

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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- ❖ **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Minister: The Lord be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God!

**People: It is good and right to do so!**

Minister: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God; but chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS

William Mathias, 1934-1992

organ:  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
organ:  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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# INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

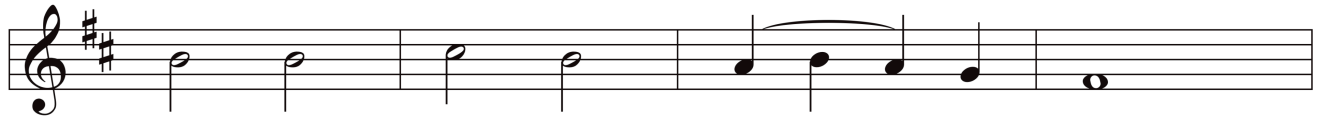
In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." (1 Cor. 11:23-25)

Latin hymn, 6th cent.

Bohemian Brethren, 1566



1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
2. Praise we him, whose love di - vine  
3. Where the pas - chal blood was poured,  
4. Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,  
5. Might - y Vic - tim from the sky,



praise to our vic - to - rious King,  
gives his sa - cred blood for wine,  
death's dread an - gel sheathes the sword;  
pas - chal vic - tim, pas - chal bread;  
hell's fierce pow'rs be - neath you lie;



who has washed us in the tide flow - ing from his  
gives his bod - y for the feast, Christ the vic - tim,  
Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that  
with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na  
you have con - quered in the fight, you have brought us



pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!  
life and light. Al - le - lu - ia!

6. Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And your saints in you shall rise.  
Alleluia!

7. Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in you to be.  
Alleluia!

8. Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ DEPARTING HYMN

Johann Lindemann, 1549-1631

Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556-c. 1622

In thee is glad - ness a - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,  
sun - shine of my heart. By thee are giv - en the gifts of  
heav - en, thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls thou  
wak - est, our bonds thou break - est; who trusts thee sure - ly has built se -  
cure - ly; he stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are  
pin - ing to see thy shin - ing, dy - ing or liv - ing to thee are  
cleav - ing; naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

An elder will be available at the front of the sanctuary immediately after the service concludes to pray with you and help answer questions you may have about the Christian faith or Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

## LESSONS

### **Psalm 66:1-8**

Be joyful in God, all you lands;  
sing the glory of his Name; sing the glory of his praise.  
Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!  
because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.  
All the earth bows down before you,  
sings to you, sings out your Name."  
Come now and see the works of God,  
how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.  
He turned the sea into dry land,  
so that they went through the water on foot,  
and there we rejoiced in him.  
In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations;  
let no rebel rise up against him.  
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.

### **Acts 17:21-31**

All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually 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 are indeed his offspring."

"Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

### **John 14:15-21**

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

### **Sermon Lesson – Hebrews 1:1—2:4**

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”? <sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” <sup>7</sup>Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire.”

<sup>8</sup>But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. <sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.” <sup>10</sup>And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; <sup>11</sup>they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, <sup>12</sup>like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.” <sup>13</sup>And to which of the angels has he ever said, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”? <sup>14</sup>Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

<sup>2:1</sup>Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. <sup>2</sup>For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, <sup>3</sup>how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, <sup>4</sup>while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.