The Order of Service: The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2020

Prelude  *It is well with my soul*  

arr. Roberta Rowland-Raybold  
Dr. Gukhui Han, Organ

Opening Acclamation  *(people unmuted)*

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

**Celebrant** Kindle in our hearts, O God, Christ’s flame of love that never ceases, that it may burn in us, giving light to others. May we shine forever in your temple, set on fire with your eternal light, even your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. (*St. Columba)*

Hymn  *Love divine, all loves excelling*  

*(Mute your device and sing loudly and joyfully)*

*Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all things life receive; suddenly return, and never, never let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfect faith-ful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, more thy temples leave. Thee we would be al-ways blessing, ly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; visit us with serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our thy salvation, enter every trembling heart. with-out ceasing, glory in thy perfect love. crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.  

*Hyfrydol*
Collect for Purity  *(people muted)*
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.**

Collect of the Day  *(people muted)*
**Celebrant**  God be with you.
**People**  And also with you.
**Celebrant**  Let us pray.
Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  **Amen.**

**A Reading**  *Acts 7:55-60 (people muted)*
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.  **Thanks be to God.**
Psalm 31
The cantor will sing first, then the congregation will repeat.

REFRAIN:

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness. Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.
Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

REFRAIN

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.
Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O God of truth.
My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me. Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.

REFRAIN

A Reading 1 Peter 2:2-10 (people muted)

A reading from First Peter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. Thanks be to God.
Anthem  *Jesus is the Way*

Karen Crane

When all is lost, in Him we’re found. Jesus is the Way, Jesus is the Way.
He plans our feet on solid ground. Jesus, He is the Way.
He is the Way, the Truth, the Life, leading us homeward ev’ry day
Keeping us ever in His sight. He is the way. Jesus, He is the Way.

We walk in peace, the Lord our guide. Jesus is the Way, Jesus is the Way.
Forever in His love abide. Jesus, He is the Way.
He is the Way, the Truth, the Life, leading us homeward ev’ry day
Keeping us ever in His sight. He is the Way. Jesus, He is the Way.

When troubles come, we will not fear. Jesus is the Way, Jesus is the Way.
We know the Lord is always near. Jesus, He is the Way.
When we have reached out journey’s end, Jesus is the Way, Jesus is the Way
We’ll spend eternity with our friend. Jesus, He is the Way.

He is the Way, the Truth, the Life, leading us homeward ev’ry day
Keeping is ever in His sight. Jesus is the Way. He is the Way!

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The Gospel  *John 14:1-14 (people muted)*

Celebrant  The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

People  Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus told his disciples, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.
Anthem  O Salutaris

O salutaris Hostia,
Quae caeli pandis ostium:
Bella premunt hostilia,
Da robur, fer auxilium.

Uni trinoque Domino
Sit sempiterna gloria,
Qui vitam sine termino
Nobis donet in patria.
Amen.

O saving victim,
Who opens the gate of heaven;
Hostile wars press,
Give strength, bear aid.

To the One and Threefold Lord
May there be eternal glory,
May he who gives life without end
To us may be grant in the Fatherland.
Amen.

The Sermon  (people muted)
Silence follows the sermon.

Affirmation of Faith  (people muted)
We believe in God
who is never confined to our imagining,
is never in bondage to our understanding
and never kept within our dwelling places.

Our God is mystery
of divine and human, bound together,
of power and vulnerability,
of crucifixion and resurrection.

Our God is the wonder
of truth and compassion,
of liberation and responsibility,
of eternal wisdom and amazing grace.

We celebrate this God who leaps free of all boundaries in love,
stretching out beyond any barricades
and in mercy bending deep
into fragile human hearts.
(Source: Celtic Daily Prayer, Vol. 2 in the Celtic Communion service)
Anthem  *How Deep The Fathers Love For Us*  
Stuart Townend  
Blair Webb, soloist

How deep the Father’s love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

Why should I gain from His reward?
I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
His wounds have paid my ransom

The Prayers of the People
(people muted; please hold down your space bar for the response: Peace be with them.)

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader  Risen Lord, you greeted all you met with a word of peace; give us your Spirit to pray for peace for all people.

For those who have lost their jobs or have closed their businesses, and for those working in service jobs, public safety, and healthcare under often unsafe conditions:  
Peace be with them.

For those who work at the centers of power and those who live on the margins:  
Peace be with them.

For those overcome by war, violence, and degradation:  
Peace be with them.

For those possessed by envy, rage, and hatred:  
Peace be with them.

For those overwhelmed by stress, isolation, fear, illness, loss, and despair:  
Peace be with them.

For those who desecrate the earth and those who cherish creation:  
Peace be with them.

For those held down by sin and those lifted up by grace:  
Peace be with them.

For those who have betrayed our trust and for those we have wronged:  
Peace be with them.
For our friends and all who warm us with love:
Peace be with them.

For those who show God’s love by caring for God’s people and all creation:
Peace be with them.

For those who have died:
Peace be with them.

For those whose joys and concerns we now raise up in prayer and thanksgiving.
(please hold down your space bar to unmute yourself and add your prayers and thanksgivings)

For those we have named aloud and those we hold in our hearts:
Peace be with them.

Celebrant Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:” Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

Lord’s Prayer (people unmuted)
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.

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

Blessing of the People
May the Creator bless you and keep you;
May the Beloved Compassion face you and have mercy upon you;
May eternal Spirit’s countenance be turned to you and give you peace;
This day and always. Amen.

The Peace
Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People  And also with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude Sunshine in my soul

arr. Mark Hayes
Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano