



**St. George's**  
Episcopal  
Church

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# Celtic Evensong St. George's Episcopal Church

**May 24, 2020 - Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**5:30 pm - Online Worship**

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You are welcome at  
St. George's Church:  
Regardless of race,  
nationality,  
sexual orientation,  
gender expression,  
or tradition.

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# Seventh Sunday of Easter

## May 24, 2020

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**Welcome to our online service! During the prelude, we invite you to prepare for worship by observing silence or taking time for private prayer. We are glad you are here!**

### **Prelude**

*Silence*

### **Opening Reading: "The Real Work"**

Wendell Berry

It may be that when we no longer know what to do  
we have come to our real work,  
and that when we no longer know which way to go  
we have come to our real journey.  
The mind that is not baffled is not employed.  
The impeded stream is the one that sings.

### **Opening Acclamation**

Officiant: Alleluia, Christ is risen.

**All: The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

### **Hymn 178: "Alleluia, alleluia"**

*Alleluia No. 1*

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Give praise to his name.**

**1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth.**

**He is the King of creation.**

*Refrain*

**2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:**

**Jesus has died and has risen.**

*Refrain*

**3. We have been crucified with Christ.**

**Now we shall live for ever.**

*Refrain*

**4. Come, let us praise the living God,**

**joyfully sing to our Savior.**

*Refrain*

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## Call to Worship

*Adapted from Prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

One: In this community, we recognize the wilderness in the world.

**All: In this community, we trust that God is near.**

One: In this community, we hold on to hope.

**All: In this community, we hold on to our commitment to one another.**

One: In this community, we sing, "Alleluia!"

**All: In this community, we trust that love is stronger than fear.**

One: So in this community, we celebrate.

**All: In this community, we sing.**

One: In this community, we trust that nothing can separate us from God's love.

**All: Let us worship Holy God!**

## The Reading

John 17:1 - 11

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. "

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Silence is observed after the reading*

## Meditation

The Rev. Robert M. Miller

*Silence is observed after the meditation*

## Music for Meditation

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**Prayers for Ourselves and Others** *Please stand.*

Officiant: Almighty God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the Church, the world, and for all who serve you in them.

Leader: Loving God, enliven the Church for its mission.

**People: That we may be salt to the earth and light to the world.**

Leader: Breathe fresh life into your people.

**People: Give us power to reveal the risen Christ in word and action.**

Leader: God of Truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others.

**People: That all may act with integrity and courage.**

Leader: Give grace to all those whose lives are linked with ours.

**People: May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

Leader: Give comfort to those who are ill, those who have died, those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, and those who are facing uncertainty.

**People: Grant us grace and courage to care for one another in your name.**

Leader: God our Sanctuary,  
gather us when separated into your presence.

God our Physician,  
heal those who have contracted the virus.

God our Homeland,  
mother all who are quarantined.

God our Guardian,  
protect physicians and nurses.

God our Hope,  
assist researchers searching for a vaccine.

God our Mighty Fortress,  
preserve our societies from devastation.

God our Governor,  
guide the leaders of nations toward wise policies.

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God of Everlasting Arms,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
God our Creator,  
make once again a world of sabbath rest.  
God our Savior,  
redeem the suffering world by your cross.  
God our Light,  
shine your radiant peace into our darkness.  
O God, Holy and Undivided Trinity,  
bless and preserve us. Amen.

Officiant: Lord, you have called us to serve you. Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills, until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### **Additional Prayers of Intercession + Thanksgiving + Healing**

*During the instrumental music and hymn, and at any time hereafter, you are welcome to share a prayer request by submitting via the comment or chat function.*

### **Music for Meditation**

Hymn: "It is good to trust"

Taize

**It is good to trust in the Lord, our God,  
trust and hope in the Lord our God.**

*Please rise or rise in spirit.*

Officiant: Let us pray:

**All: Eternal Spirit Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven. The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

### **The Grace (please stand)**

See that ye be at peace among yourselves, and love one another. Follow the example of good men and women of old and God will comfort you and help you, both in this world and in the world which is to come.

In the name of God: Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer + Love-Maker. **Amen.**

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## The Peace

Christ the Good Shepherd is risen from the dead and binds us with a bond of love that cannot be broken. My sisters and brothers, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*All now exchange a sign of peace.*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. We invite you to share your gifts in support of our ministry within and beyond our congregation, especially during this time when we cannot receive those offerings in person. Make your offering online (<http://bit.ly/stggive>) or by mail to the church.*

## Announcements

*For the latest updates and messages of encouragement, check our website ([StGeorgesEpiscopal.net](http://StGeorgesEpiscopal.net)) and subscribe to our email newsletter (<http://bit.ly/stggenews>)*

Officiant: Let us now join in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

**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 from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Collect for Easter

Officiant: O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant: On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember the people who have given their lives while serving in our armed forces.

Leader: Let us pray.

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share in the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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We also remember those still serving in harm's way.

**Collect for Those in the Armed Forces of Our Country**

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Prayer for People Facing Great Uncertainty**

God of the present moment,  
God who in Jesus stills the storm  
and soothes the frantic heart;  
bring hope and courage to all  
who wait or work in uncertainty.  
Bring hope that you will make them the equal  
of whatever lies ahead.  
Bring them courage to endure what cannot be avoided,  
for your will is health and wholeness;  
you are God, and we need you. **Amen.**

*Taken from A New Zealand Prayer Book—He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa'*  
(adapted)

**Blessing offered by the priest**

The God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Savior Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do God's will, and the blessing of God almighty, the holy and undivided Trinity, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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**Hymn 42: "Now the Day is over"**

*Merrial*

**1 Now the day is over,  
night is drawing nigh,  
shadows of the evening  
steal across the sky.**

**2 Jesus, give the weary  
calm and sweet repose;  
with Thy tenderest blessing  
may mine eyelids close.**

**3 Grant to little children  
visions bright of thee;  
guard the sailors tossing  
on the deep, blue sea.**

**4 Comfort every sufferer,  
watching late in pain;  
those who plan some evil  
from their sin restrain.**

**5 Through the long night watches  
may thine angels spread  
their white wings above me,  
watching round my bed.**

**6 When the morning wakens,  
then may I arise  
pure, and fresh, and sinless  
in thy holy eyes.**

**The Dismissal**

Officiant: The Lord has made a promise to love you faithfully forever. Go out with joy and be led forth with Peace. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Postlude**

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## **Acknowledgments**

The Opening Prayer, "The Real Work", by Wendell Berry; Call to Worship adapted from Rev. Sarah Are's "Words of Worship", from A Sanctified Art; Prayers of the People - adapted, from Gail Ramshaw; The Prayer for the Evening and the Lord's Prayer from A New Zealand Prayer Book, Harper Collins, 1977. Prayers and blessings adapted from the following sources: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA; The Northumbria Community; the Iona Community.

*In this time of uncertainty and dynamic change, please know that although we cannot physically gather, God is ever-present. We are here too. If you would like someone to chat and pray with you, please submit a request online ([bit.ly/stgprayer](http://bit.ly/stgprayer)) and if it is an emergency (for e.g. sudden illness, death), please contact the pastoral emergency phone (540.361.8573) where you will reach a clergy person on call. Know that we are holding you in our prayers and look forward to a time when we will be able to gather again. God's peace be with you.*

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## **St. George's Episcopal Church**

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