

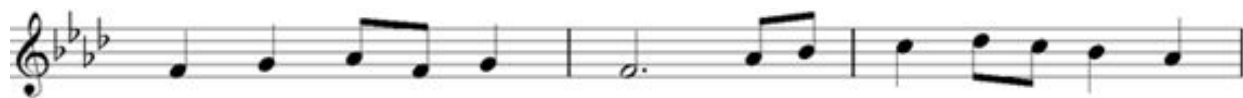
Prelude
Announcements
Opening Hymn



*1 Not here for high and ho - ly things we ren - der thanks to
 *2 the ro - yal robes of au - tumn moors, the gold - en gates of
 *3 of faith and hope and love un - dimmed, un - dy - ing still through
 4 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the
 5 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of
 6 to give and give, and give a - gain, what God hath giv - en



1 thee, but for the com - mon things of earth, the
 2 spring, the vel - vet of soft sum - mer nights, the
 3 death, the re - sur - rec - tion of the world, what
 4 sky, the fields are wet with dia - mond dew, the
 5 praise; see how the gi - ant sun soars up, great
 6 thee; to spend thy - self nor count the cost; to



1 pur - ple pa - gean - try of dawn - ing and of
 2 sil - ver glis - te - ring of all the mil - lion
 3 time there comes the breath of dawn that rus - tles
 4 worlds a - wake to cry their bles - sings on the
 5 lord of years and days! So let the love of
 6 serve right glo - rious - ly the God who gave all



1 dy - ing days, the splen - dor of the sea,
 2 mil - lion stars, the si - lent song they sing,
 3 through the trees, and that clear voice that saith:
 4 Lord of life, as he goes meek - ly by.
 5 Je - sus come and set thy soul a - blaze,
 6 worlds that are, and all that are to be.

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Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Celebrant: 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.

Trisagion (sung by a cantor)

Holy God, Holy and Might, Holy Immortal One
Have Mercy on Us.

Holy God, Holy and Might, Holy Immortal One
Have Mercy on Us.

Holy God, Holy and Might, Holy Immortal One
Have Mercy on Us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

The First Lesson

Lector: A Reading from Genesis

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b *Confitemini Domino*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the divine name; *
make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.

Sing to the Lord, sing praises, *
and speak of all the marvellous works of the Lord.

Glory in the holy name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Search for the strength of the Lord; *
continually seek the face of God.

Remember the marvels the Lord has done, *
the wonders and the judgements of the mouth of the Lord,

O offspring of Abraham the servant of God, *
O children of Jacob the chosen of the Lord.

The Lord is our God, *
whose judgements prevail in all the world,

who has always been mindful of the covenant, *
the promise made for a thousand generations:

the covenant made with Abraham, *
the oath sworn to Isaac,

established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,

saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance."

Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson

Lector: A Reading from Romans

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,


“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn



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 Gospel

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ According To Matthew

People: Glory to You, O Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Deacon: The Gospel of Our Savior.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily


The Apostles' Creed

We give our hearts to you, God Beyond Us, creator of heaven and earth.

We give our hearts to you, Jesus Christ, God Among Us, our model and savior. You were conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, were crucified, died, and were buried; you descended to the dead. On the third day you rose again; you ascended into heaven, you are seated at the right hand of God Beyond Us, and you will come again to judge the living and the dead.

We give our hearts to you, Holy Spirit, God Within Us. We give our hearts to the community of the church, to the communion of saints, to the practice of forgiveness, to the hope of the resurrection, and to the promise of life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;



there's a kind-ness in his jus - tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.



There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;
If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word;



Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: Beecher John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor: God, in whose image the whole human family was created, we pray for all whose lives have been forever altered by racial violence. In particular, today we remember George Floyd, beloved child of God. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We remember George Floyd's family and friends, beloved children of God each one. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We remember the protestors, beloved children of God, still gathering across the city, the state, and the country to demand justice and change. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We remember our public officials, beloved children of God, managing a global pandemic and a nationwide cri de coeur at once. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We remember our police officers, beloved children of God, whom we ask, often without appropriate training, to respond to human beings in their worst and most vulnerable moments. We remember the police officers who feel their loyalties divided or their cause unclear, who feel afraid for themselves, their brethren, their families, and their fellow citizens. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We remember every person in Columbus, and in the nation, beloved children of God. We have been traumatized, grief-stricken, enraged, and heart-sickened by the video of one neighbor slowly snuffing the life out of another, by riots and looting, by the sounds of flash-bang grenades, the sting of tear gas, the scent of smoke, and by our own helplessness. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We remember those who have pledged their lives to racist ideologies, beloved children of God. We acknowledge the pain they have caused to victims of violence, to their communities, to their families, and to their own souls. We acknowledge that each of us carries racist ideology within us, and we beg your mercy to free all your people from it. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We know that the sickness of racism is in this nation's very bedrock. Today we acknowledge and repent of the twin original sins of this nation: the genocide of the indigenous people of this land and the institution of chattel slavery. We know that the shockwaves from these sins still reverberate today, that the trauma from these sins live in our bodies, and that the pain we suffer now has its origin in those first treacheries. Let us pray

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We repent of laws that codify or allow unequal treatment based on race, ethnicity, religion, or skin tone. We repent of promises broken again and again. We repent of foreign policy that sees more value in some human lives than in others. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We repent of the role of the church, historically and presently, in supporting and emboldening these policies. We repent of the ways that we have made your church a home to oppression, exclusion, or indignity for any child of God. Let us pray.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We repent of the ill-use of your bounty: we hoard land and wealth, manipulate plants and animals, abuse your creation, and your most vulnerable people suffer the consequences.

People: Christ have mercy.

Intercessor: We pray for the people on our prayer list, especially....let us pray.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Intercessor: Oh God of infinite affection, you looked at all that you had made and called it good. By your grace, help us to look upon your creation and to see, with your mothering eyes of love, how good, how good, how good it is. Holy God, Holy and Might, Holy Immortal One

People: Have mercy on us.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

After the service, please join us for Coffee Hour Questions: Growing as Disciples from Our Homes. Go to www.ststephens-columbus.org to get the link.