Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church

in Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Seventh Sunday

in Easter

May 29th, 2022

CHRIST *EPISCOPAL* CHURCH

Cape Girardeau, Missouri

We are a community forgiven and loved by God,

joyfully called to the work of reconciliation.

christchurchcape.org

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude

Mary Mims, Organist

Processional Hymn

#450 All hail the power of Jesus' name

Collect of Purity

All standing, the Presider says

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
People: **Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Presider: 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**.

Invitatory and Psalter

Presider: Lord, open our lips.
People: **And our mouth shall proclaim you praise.**

Gloria

Cwm Rhondda (*on p. 10)*

Collect of the Day

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray:

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**.

Psalm Appointed

Presider: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen**

First Reading — Acts 16:16-34

With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi in Macedonia, a Roman colony, and, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm — Psalm 97

Dominus regnavit

1 The Lord is King;
let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.

4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.

5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.

7 Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O Lord.

9 For you are the Lord,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.

10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

Canticle K — A Song of Our Adoption

Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *
for you have blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, *

that we should be holy and blameless before you.

You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ, *
according to the good pleasure of your will,

To the praise of your glorious grace, *
that you have freely given us in the Beloved.

In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ,*
the forgiveness of our sins,

According to the riches of your grace *
which you have lavished upon us.

You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, *
the mystery of your will,

According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, *
as a plan for the fullness of time,

To gather together all things in Christ, *
things in heaven and things on earth.

The Second Reading Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21

At the end of the visions I, John, heard these words:

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."
And let everyone who hears say, "Come."
And let everyone who is thirsty come.
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The People stand for the Hymn and the reading of the Gospel.

The Sequence Hymn

#495 Hail, thou once despised Jesus

Third Reading — John 17:20-26

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

""Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Presider: The Word of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon — Tyler Helm

Affirmation of Faith

Presider: Let us affirm our faith: Do you believe in God?
People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
People: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Presider: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Presider then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Presider

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.

The Prayers Of The People

Reader: We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity. Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations. Jesus, Lord of life,

People: In your mercy, hear us

Reader: Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry and nourish us all with your word. Jesus, Lord of life,

People: In your mercy, hear us.

Reader: Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way. Deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life. Jesus, Lord of life,

People: In your mercy, hear us.

Reader: Jesus, Good Shepherd, who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick, especially those we name _____ and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures. Jesus, Lord of life,

People: In your mercy, hear us.

Reader: Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you. We pray especially for ____. Raise us with them to eternal life. Jesus, Lord of life,

People: In your mercy, hear us, accept our prayers, and be with us always. Amen.

Presider: Be present, O Risen Christ, in this your Church's Easter praise. May we, like Mary Magdalene, the other Mary, and all witnesses to the resurrection see the tomb empty, and joyfully believing, walk in newness of life. Grant that our anthems of joy may give honor to the mystery of your redeeming love and that our proclamations of your victory over death may reflect the majesty of your eternal glory. In your most holy Name we pray. *Amen.*

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

We greet each other in the name of the risen Christ.

The Offertory Hymn

#318 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

All: Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

All: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Presider: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Presider concludes with one of the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21

Recessional Hymn

#477 All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine

Dismissal

Presider: Our worship is ended our service in the world to the risen Christ now begins. Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Mary Mims, Organist

Servers

Presider	Gina Thomas
Preacher	Tyler Helm
Verger	Chris Masters
Reader	Toni Alexander
Greeter	Monica Waldon
Altar Guild	Mary Alice Regenhardt
St. Isidore's Guild	Bruce Mims
Vestry Counter	Julie Wittenborn-Sikorski
Organist	Mary Mims

Unless otherwise noted, all hymns are taken from
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LEVAS *Lift Every Voice and Sing II: An African American Hymnal*
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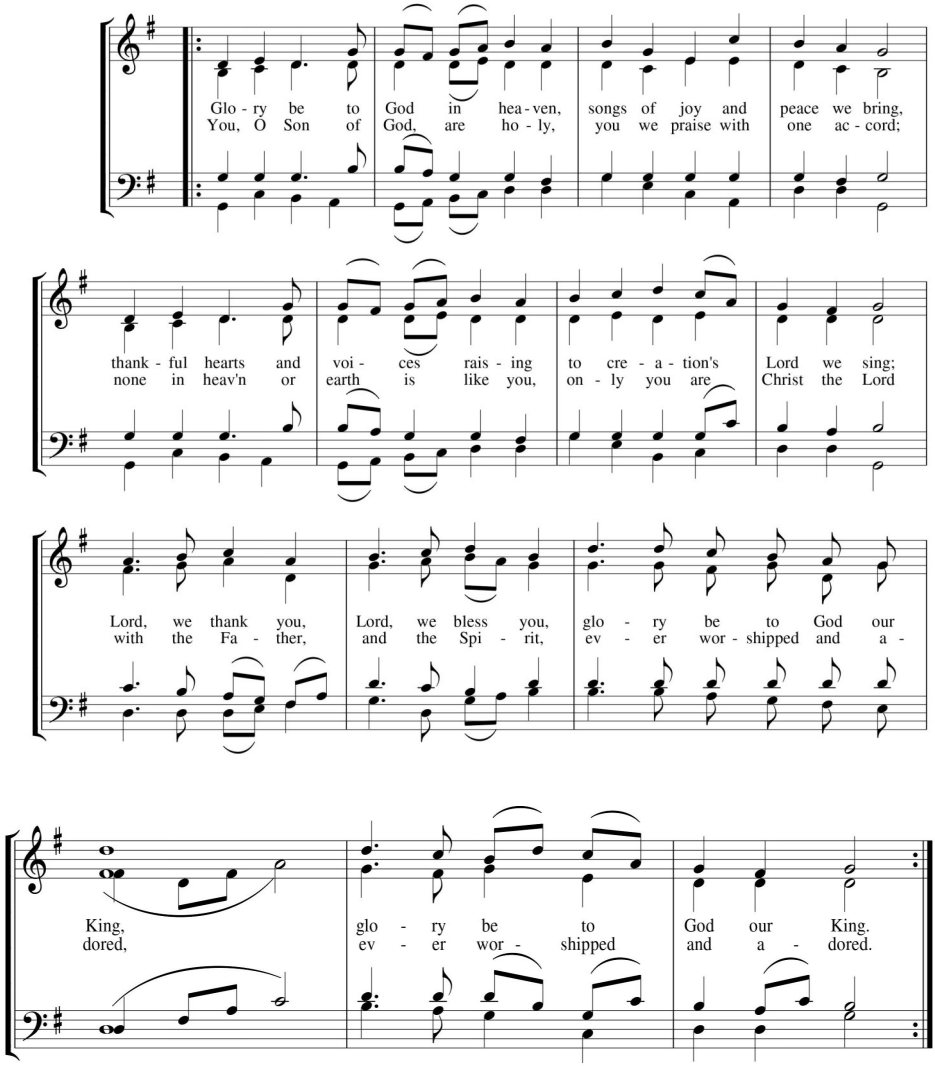
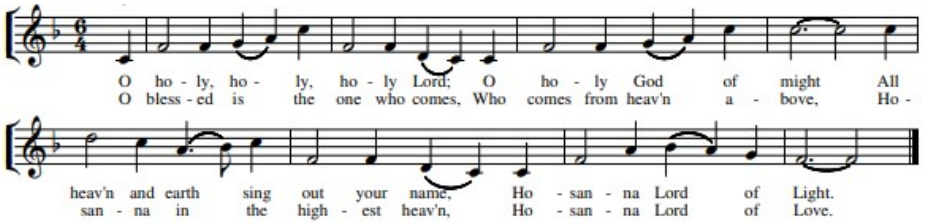
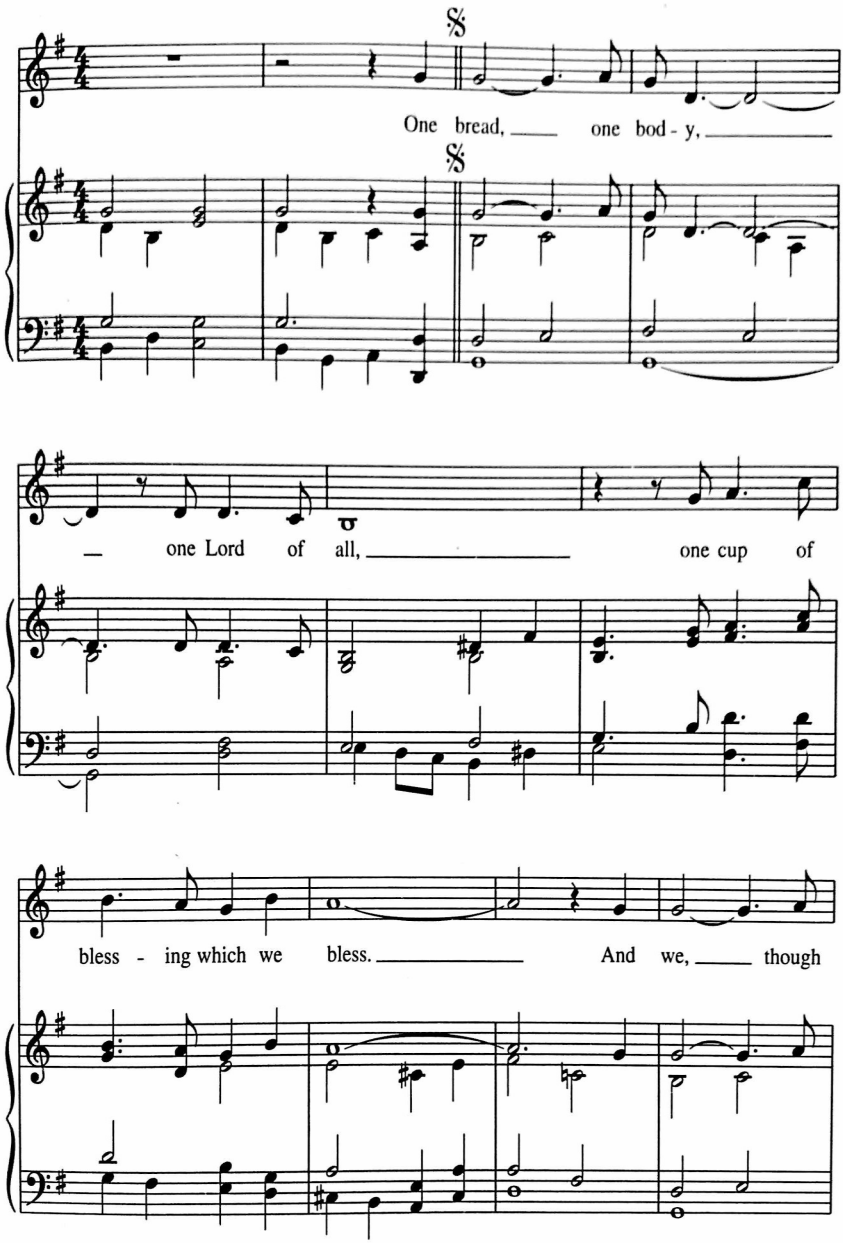
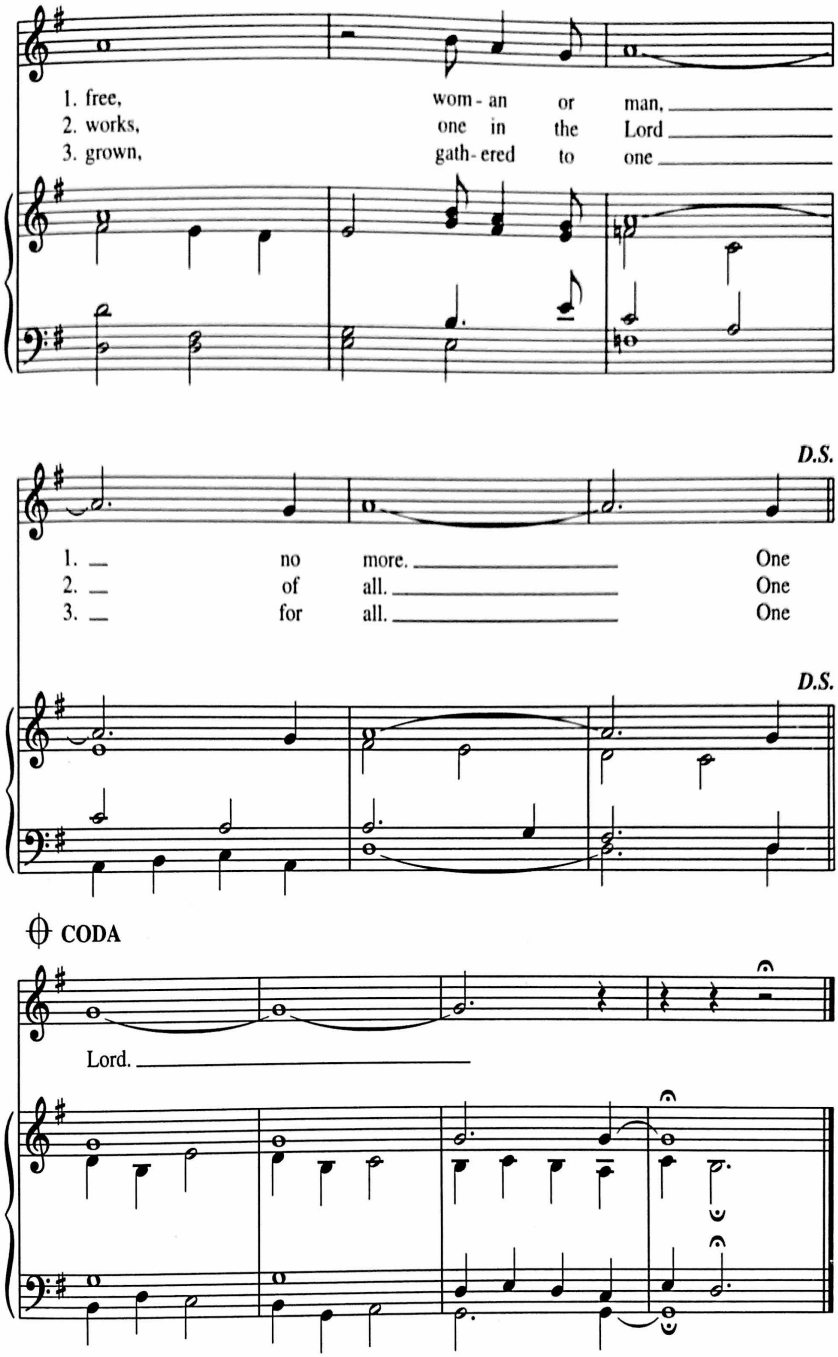
Cwm Rhondda Gloria

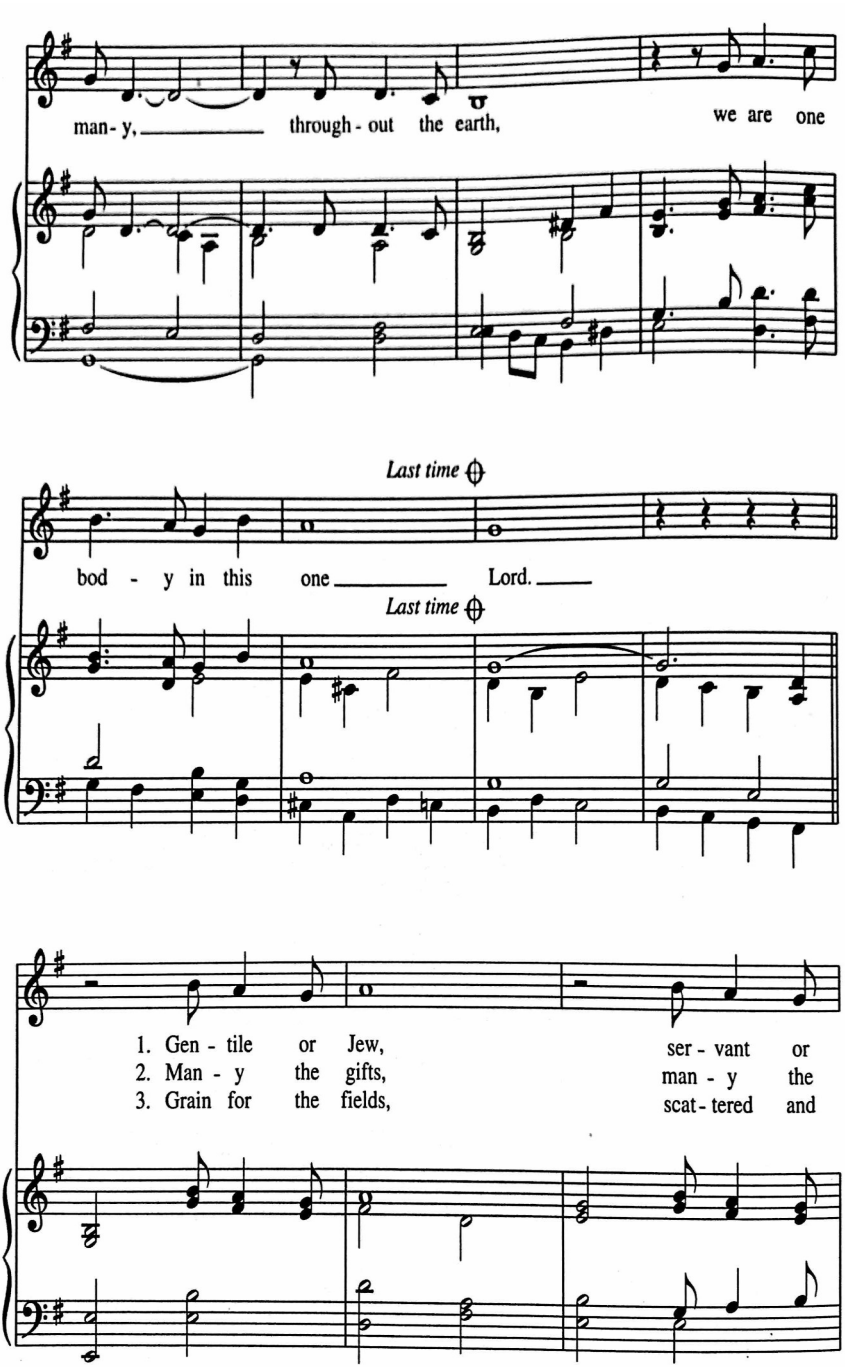


Land of Rest Sanctus




One bread, one bod - y,
one Lord of all, one cup of
bless - ing which we bless. And we, though


1. free, wom - an or man,
2. works, one in the Lord
3. grown, gath - ered to one
D.S.
1. no more. One
2. of all. One
3. for all. One
D.S.
CODA
Lord.


man - y, through - out the earth, we are one
Last time
bod - y in this one Lord.
Last time
1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the
3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and

Notes on the Service

Seventh Sunday in Easter

Acts 16:16-34 • Ps: 97 • Rev 22:12-14,16-17,20-21 • Jn 17:20-26

This past Thursday was Ascension Day, commemorating the return of the risen Christ to the Father forty days after Easter. The 1549 collect both re-fers to that exaltation of Christ's humanity, and also prays for the Spirit to strengthen and to exalt us. Thus, the collect also anticipates next Sunday's feast, Pentecost, when the Spirit did come to Jesus' followers. That anticipation accounts for a nickname for today, Expectation Sunday.

Today's passage from Acts takes up where last Sunday's about the trans-port of the Way to Europe and its first convert there at Philippi left off. Also like last Sunday's, the narrative is in the first person ("we came") which suggests that these parts of Acts were copied from someone's diary, pos-sibly Luke's. Further like last Sunday, baptism is administered without in-struction classes, and to whole households, presumably including child-ren. This convert Paul and his companions have saved from death, for the Romans expected a jailer whose prisoners escaped to kill himself.

Psalm 97:2-5 sounds like the earthquake which freed Paul. Verse 10b "he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked" might fit several close calls of Paul. "Confounded be all who worship carved images" might fit both the "channeler" and magistrates who beat Paul because he had exorcized her. Ps 97 was originally a Hebrew hymn celebrating the LORD's rule over all. The Christian liturgy uses it for the ascended Messiah who is now worshiped as the all-ruling Alpha and Omega.

At Revelation's end the ascended Christ promises to come again. Omitted by the lectionary are three verses cursing idolaters and anyone who adds to or deletes from the words of the Book [including lectionary compilers?]. The closing exclamation, "Amen, Come, Lord Jesus," in Aramaic Maranatha, was a cheer among early Christians. Paul closes I Corinthians with it, also. Most first-generation believers expected Christ to return promptly.

An exception, John does not talk about Christ's second coming. Instead John stresses Christ's eternity. Thus on the Sunday after Ascension we read a section of John known as Christ's high-priestly prayer interceding for his followers and for their followers forever, that they all may be one. Jesus first interceded thus during the watch before his arrest. Christ's unending plea for those he left behind is important to recall, most important for converts such as Paul's jailer, who was one of "those who believe... through [the apostles'] word. " Here below and there above Christ is praying that "they also whom thou hast given me may be with me where I am, to see my glory," a prayer echoed by today's proper preface.

Rev. Stephen Weissman
Asheville, North Carolina

Thank you for coming to Christ Episcopal Church.

We hope to see you again soon.

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CHURCH

Cape Girardeau, Missouri

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