# Ante Communion Service Seventh Sunday of Easter: May 29, 2022

Celebrant Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave birth,

our light and our salvation. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom

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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A moment of silence for self-reflection

Celebrant Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

People Gracious God, have mercy on us.

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 have not loved Creation with the love of the Creator.

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.

Celebrant Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit

be with you all. And also with you.

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.

# 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### 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.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

# 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel John 17:20-26

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### Sermon

## Hymn Be Thou My Vision

Acapeldridge

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, naught be all else to me, save that Thou art Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou my inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only first in my heart, high king of heaven, my treasure Thou art

High king of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all

Nicene Creed Said by all.

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **Prayers of the People**

Celebrant With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church,

those in need, and all of God's creation. In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the peace and unity of the world;

That a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For all who love and trust in God, that divisions may cease;

And that all may be one, as you and the Father are one.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; especially those suffering in Ukraine, For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. Silence.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them.

May they rest in your peace eternally.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray together:

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

We pray together for Christ's presence:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the bread and wine. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Celebrant: While we long to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body,

**People:** We become the sacrament of Christ's Body.

Celebrant: Let your lives be manna to feed our hunger for communion.

*People:* The love we share becomes bread for the world.

# **Blessing**

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be in you, among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

### Dismissal

Go in peace and hope and joy to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

# The Lord Bless You and Keep You [Lutkin]

Acapeldridge

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

Amen....