



St. James' Earth Day Celebration
The Third Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2020
9:00am

Announcements

Prelude *Nimrod from the Enigma Variations* Sir Edward Elgar

Hymn *All creatures of our God and King* Blue Hymnal 400
vs. 1-4

Opening Acclamation

Clergy This we know, the earth does not belong to us,
All **we belong to the earth.**

Clergy This we know, all things are connected:
All **like the blood which unites one family.**

Clergy For we did not weave the web of life:
All **we are merely a strand of it.**

Clergy Blessed be our God.
All **For ever and ever. Amen.**

Clergy For God brought us into being
All **And called us to care for Creation.**

Glory to God

Glo - - ri - a, glor - - ri - a, in ex - cel - - sis De - o!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glor - ry in the high - est!

Glo - - ri - a, glo - - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Collect of the Day

Clergy The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Clergy Let us pray.

Bountiful Creator, you open your hand to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence, and grant that we may be faithful stewards of your abundance, for the benefit of the whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom all things were made, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Reading

I Kings 4:29-30, 33-34

A Reading from the First book of Kings.

God gave Solomon very great wisdom, discernment, and breadth of understanding as vast as the sand on the seashore, so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east, and all the wisdom of Egypt. He would speak of trees, from the cedar that is in the Lebanon to the hyssop that grows in the wall; he would speak of animals, and birds, and reptiles, and fish. People came from all the nations to hear the wisdom of Solomon; they came from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A Song of Creation

BCP p.88

Invocation

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

I The Cosmic Order

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, *
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.

Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, *
all winds and fire and heat. Winter and summer, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, *
drops of dew and flakes of snow.

Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, *
O shining light and enfolding dark.

Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

II The Earth and its Creatures

Let the earth glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,

and all that grows upon the earth, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, *
O whales and all that move in the waters.
All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, *
and all you flocks and herds.
O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

III The People of God

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Doxology

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Hymn

Many and great

Blue Hymnal 385

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:34-37

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Becky Coerper

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the 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 again 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 worshiped 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 life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader Let us pray.

In the light of your word and your call to care for creation, we come to say we are sorry, O God. We are sorry for the times we've been selfish, sorry for bad decisions we've made, sorry for people we've hurt, sorry for damaging your world.

In the silence, we seek your forgiveness for ourselves and we seek healing for the world.

(moment of quiet)

And now in thankfulness we pray: thank you, Creator God, for beauty: for the twinkle in an older person's eye, a child's shout of laughter; for greening trees and frozen waterfalls, stunning buildings and flowerbeds in summer.

All **Thank you God, for beauty.**

Leader Thank you, Creator God, for creativity: the skills of a tapestry weaver, the imagination of a web designer, the intelligence of scientists looking for cures and vaccines, thank you for all those who create: for bakers and dancers and crossword compilers, for spiders' webs and city murals.

All **Thank you God, for creativity.**

Leader Thank you, Creator God, for abundance: for seeds and raindrops, for grains of sand and infinite galaxies; for seagulls, plankton and shoals of mackerel, for wriggling worms and golden dandelions.

All **Thank you God, for abundance.**

Leader Thank you, Creator God, for your world, and our part in it. Thank you that you are The Maker, and we are makers too.

All **Help us to love creation as you love it, to take risks to value it as Jesus did, and draw us into the wildness and wonder of your Holy Spirit today and every day.**

Amen.

Anniversary & Birthday Blessings

May the strength of God pilot you, May the power of God preserve you, May the wisdom of God instruct you, May the hand of God protect you, May the way of God direct you, May the shield of God guard you against the snares of evil and the temptations of the world. May the Spirit of God bless you in the coming year.

Adapted from Patrick, c.389 - c.46

The Lord's Prayer

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

Clergy May the heavens bless you.
May sun shine on you.
May the rain dance on your upturned face
May the stars make you wonder and smile.

May the earth bless you, and may you bless the earth in planting and protest and sharing food.
And may God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer bless you now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

All things bright and beautiful

Blue Hymnal 405

Dismissal

Clergy Go now.
Go and revel in God's world.
Go and be creative.
Go and work for justice.
Go and love your neighbors.
God and walk with God.
Amen. Alleluia.

All **Amen. Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

Postlude

Festival Finale

Malcolm Archer

Additional sources for today's Earth Day liturgy:
General Convention 2018 Eucharist for the Care of God's Creation.
Iona Abbey Worship Book: Creation Liturgy