

**Welcome** to our Mother's Day Sunday service. We gather on Online during the COVID-19 pandemic. I know that we are missing the hug and handshakes, our familiarity with our worship space. But take a moment to think of the Israelites in exile, in foreign land, and their many years of longing to return to Mt Zion again. However, in our loss of that, we appreciate the gift of life, the privilege of worshiping online and to share with others who are seeking for meaning and solace in this strange and challenging time. We offer healing prayers to God especially for Kate Clayborn, Gwen Black, Harriet King Duncan, Saunders Miller, Denise Brown, Lelia Crowders, John Lewis; John Schnick. We offer thanksgiving prayer for our spiritual leaders and the president. We welcome all who are worshiping with us for the first time. We remember all who have died.

### **GATHERING THOUGHTS**

**(Rose Royster)** As we gather here on Mother's Day, the Spirit is within us, between us, and beyond us, nudging us beyond the necessity of social distancing into the grace of spacious connecting, in which love, and compassion are shared. We journey from Easter Day to Mother's Day, from hope to the celebration of Motherhood, and from communion to communion.

**(Megan Patterson)** On this Mother's Day, we look with uncertainty beyond the old choices for clear-cut answers to a softer, more permeable aliveness which every moment is at the brink of death; for something new is being born in us if we but let it. We stand at a new doorway, awaiting that which comes...daring us to be human creatures, vulnerable to the beauty and fragility of existence, and learning to love.

### **PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

**Celebrant:** In this moment, of celebrating Mother's Day in a world ravaged by Coronavirus death and destructions in our world. We are gathered, welcoming love's return.

**All: Our hearts are lifted, we open our eyes, we welcome love.**

**Celebrant:** The tomb is empty, the stone laid back.

**All: The womb is full; the stones cry out for joy.**

**Celebrant:** Risen One, walk among us, speak your words of peace, release us from our fears, heal us from our wounds.

**All: Release us from our betrayals, our denials of love, so that we may participate in the fullness of life.**

*{A time of silence for personal prayers.}*

**Celebrant:** Holy dancer, You soar from the grave with cosmic rhythm, wiping earth's tears in heralding the dawn

**All: Hold our hands in the dance of justice. Weave our steps into spirals of hopefulness.**

**AMEN**

**AH #410** Faith of our Mothers.

### **The Liturgy of the Word**

#### **Proverbs 10:17-33**

Angela Patterson

- <sup>10</sup> A capable wife who can find?  
She is far more precious than jewels.
- <sup>11</sup> The heart of her husband trusts in her,  
and he will have no lack of gain.
- <sup>12</sup> She does him good, and not harm,  
all the days of her life.
- <sup>13</sup> She seeks wool and flax,  
and works with willing hands.
- <sup>14</sup> She is like the ships of the merchant,  
she brings her food from far away.
- <sup>15</sup> She rises while it is still night  
and provides food for her household  
and tasks for her servant-girls.
- <sup>16</sup> She considers a field and buys it;  
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
- <sup>17</sup> She girds herself with strength,  
and makes her arms strong.
- <sup>18</sup> She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.  
Her lamp does not go out at night.
- <sup>19</sup> She puts her hands to the distaff,  
and her hands hold the spindle.
- <sup>20</sup> She opens her hand to the poor,  
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- <sup>21</sup> She is not afraid for her household when it snows,  
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
- <sup>22</sup> She makes herself coverings;  
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- <sup>23</sup> Her husband is known in the city gates,  
taking his seat among the elders of the land.
- <sup>24</sup> She makes linen garments and sells them;  
she supplies the merchant with sashes.
- <sup>25</sup> Strength and dignity are her clothing,  
and she laughs at the time to come.
- <sup>26</sup> She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- <sup>27</sup> She looks well to the ways of her household,  
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

- <sup>28</sup> Her children rise up and call her happy;  
her husband too, and he praises her:  
<sup>29</sup> “Many women have done excellently,  
but you surpass them all.”  
<sup>30</sup> Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,  
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
<sup>31</sup> Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,  
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

**Psalm 98 Cantate Domino**

**Prof Lelia Crowders**

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

**All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

**1 John 5:1-6**

Dr. Cosette Livas

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

**Gospel: John 15:9-17**

**The Resurrection of Jesus**

Fr. Asonye

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

**Sermon**

Fr. Asonye

**Prayers of The People**

**Parish Prayer list**

Deborah Daniel

**Celebrant:** Risen Christ, Living Christ, as you dwell with us open our eyes to see the needs of your world, open our ears to hear the cries of the poor, of the suffering, and the marginalized.

**All: When we do not recognize you in those we meet, call to us by name as we walk beside them.**

**Celebrant:** Show us renewed life in unexpected places, when we are blinded by our assumptions and limited by our human vision.

**All: We pray for all who cannot imagine resurrection because their own lives are fraught with violence and oppression, sorrow, and grief.**

**Celebrant:** We pray for our world in the grip of Coronavirus pandemic, for people who are gravely ill and for those who grieve the deaths of the ones they loved.

**All: We are grateful beyond words for people who continue to work in health care, aged care, and other essential services risking their own health for the care of others.**

**Celebrant:** When the time of pandemic passes, encourage us to remember what we have learned about what is truly of value in life.

**All: Move us to walk in partnership with creation seeking the liberation of your people knowing that your Spirit will accompany us.**

**Celebrant:** Reassure us and renew us, as we recommit to lives of service lived without reservation, embracing your passion for justice and peace.

**All: Risen Christ, living Christ, on this Mother's Day may our world change because of your life in us. May our prayers stay with us in the season of resurrection and stir us to make real our dreams for a world reborn.**

**The Collect for Mother's Day:**

Paula Price

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**Celebrant:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Silence may be kept.**

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,**

**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 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.**

**The Priest/Celebrant:** Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

**The Peace:**

**The Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

**Mother's Day Poem**

Delores Duncan

**AH #505 Somebody Prayed for Me**

**The Holy Eucharist The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**The Celebrant proceeds**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Celebrant and People**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Celebrant Continue**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human

nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night He was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

### **Celebrant and People**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

### **The Celebrant continues**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. *AMEN.*

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

**People and Celebrant**

**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 Breaking of the Bread**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]*

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation:*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith,  
with thanksgiving.

**Allow time for family to partake of the body and blood.**

Let us pray.

**Celebrant and People**

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food**



**in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Go...to live fully to love wastefully to be all that you can be.

Go... with the love of Divine Presence enfolding you,

the peace of Jesus Christ within you, and the breath of the Holy Spirit inspiring your life. Amen.

**Celebrant** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People** Thanks be to God.

### **Adult Forum:**

Prayer for our Country

A Prayer of St. Francis

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

### **Important Announcement:**

- Vestry Meeting – May 10, 2021 by 7PM
- Virtual Governance Meeting May 10, 2021 by 5pm.
- Wednesday Worship and Bible Study 05/12/2021 @8PM.
- Happy Mother's Day to our Ladies.
- We are grateful to God for all your generosity. Thank you for your pledge, offering and donations of items.
- Meade Parking Lot is in bad shape - We need financial donation to fix it.