Prelude

The Acclamation

Presider  Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People  And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Opening Hymn 593  Lord, make us servants of your peace

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Collect of the Day

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

Presider Let us pray.
O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Lesson

Isaiah 55:10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65: 9-14

9 You visit the earth and water it plentifully;
you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.
10 You prepare the grain,
for so you provide for the earth.
11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
12 You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.
14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.
The Epistle

Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law--indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader   The word of the Lord.
People  Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 605  What does the Lord require

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The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!”

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Martha Berger

The Nicene Creed

Said by all.

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 the life of the world to come. Amen.
The Prayers of the People during Global Pandemic

Presider  O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble; in this challenging and uncertain time of global pandemic and public health crisis, we come before you offering our prayers on behalf of those in need, the Church and the world.

Deacon  For the Church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and serve as beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for Michael, the Presiding Bishop, Steven our Bishop, and all who minister in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For all affected by the coronavirus pandemic around the world. For the leaders of the nations that they may work together for the common good as the outbreak spreads. May barriers that divide be brought down and bonds of trust strengthened, to benefit the entire human family. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For our nation and its leaders. Grant our public health and government officials the will to act swiftly and decisively, with wisdom and compassion. We pray especially for Donald, President of the United States, and all who advise him; for Congress and our courts of justice; for governors and local elected officials; and for all candidates for public office. May each do their part to make us a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the world. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For all those who are sick with the virus. May they have access to medical care and regain their strength and health; grant them your healing grace. Give strength to all who are caring for loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For healthcare workers and all essential workers, who with hearts of service stand on the front lines, providing care and maintaining the systems that sustain us all. Grant them courage and protection. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For scientists and researchers around the world as they combat the virus, that their work may yield knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce its spread. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For the safety and well-being of all who travel and those who remain quarantined. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work and from the many strains and losses of this time. Call us to support one another in love, sharing resources as we are able. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For our churches and communities of faith, that they may reflect your love as they minister to the most vulnerable among us; fill us with your Holy Spirit as we work to be your healing hands and feet to all in need. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.
Deacon  For all those who mourn, that they may know the consolation of your love. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Deacon  For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal. Lord, in your mercy,

People  Hear our prayer.

Presider  Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Collect for the Human Family  BCP 815

Presider  O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer  Said by all.

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
Concluding Hymn 594  

God of grace and God of glory

1 God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, as sail his ways!
3 Cure thy children’s war-ring madness, bend our pride to thy con-trol;
4 Save us from weak res-igna-tion to the evils we de-plore;

crown thine an-cient Church’s sto-ry; bring her bud to glo-rious flower.
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
shame our wan-ton, self-ish glad-ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
let the gift of thy sal-va-tion be our glo-ry ev-er-more.

Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age, for the fac-ing of this
Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age, for the liv-ing of these
Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age, lest we miss thy king-dom’s
Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age, serv-ing thee whom we a-

hour, for the fac-ing of this hour.
days, for the liv-ing of these days.
goal, lest we miss thy king-dom’s goal.
dore, serv-ing thee whom we a - dore.

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Music: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932)
Participants in today’s service:
The Rt. Rev. Steven Andrew Miller, Bishop of Milwaukee
The Rev. Esther Kramer, Presider
The Rev. Martha Berger, Preacher
The Rev. Cliff Perkins, Deacon
Charles Q. Sullivan, Pianist
The Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller, Vocalist
Sharon Henes and Chris Warne, Readers
The Rev. Don Fleischman, Producer

Online worship committee members: The Rev. Ian Burch, the Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller, the Rev. Miranda Hassett, the Rev. Matthew Buterbaugh, the Rev. Don Fleischman, the Rev. David Simmons, the Rev. Seth Dietrich, the Rev. Oscar Rozo

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