

Spirit of the Wilderness Episcopal Church

September 25, 2022



Photo by Amy Sheblen

5th Sunday of the Season of Creation
Ministers: All who are a part of Christ's Body
Preachers: Buff Grace

Words of Welcome

Processional Music: Morning has Broken

Morning has broken, like the first morning. Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them springing. Fresh from the Word.

Sweet the rain's new fall. Sunlit from heaven, like the first dew-fall, on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness, of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning. Born of the one light, Eden saw play!

Praise with elation, praise every morning. God's recreation, of the new day!

Greeting and Collect for Purity:

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

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 you Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect for the day:

The Lord be With you:

An also with you.

Let us pray:

Loving God, you created a world with enough of for all of our need, but not enough for all our greed. Help us to challenge structures of injustice to commit ourselves to stand in solidarity with the poor and to bring hope to those who are sinking in despair through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm 146

Gradual—Caribbean Hallelujah

Halle, halle, halle—lujah; (x3)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Luke 16:19-31

Choir Anthem

Sermon

Hymn: (pg 436 in New Century Hymnal): God of Grace and God of Glory

- 1) God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;
Crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour
- 2) From the evils that surround us and assail the Savior's ways,
From the fears that long have bound us-free our hearts for faith and
praise
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days,
For the living of these days.
- 3) Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control,
Shame our reckless, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, make our broken spirits whole
Make our broken spirits whole
- 4) Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be
armored with all Christ like graces, in the fight to set us free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, in the quest for liberty,
In the quest for liberty.
- 5) Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the search for your salvation, be the glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
Serving you whom we adore.

Affirmation of faith:

O God, the source of our being and the goal of all our longing, we believe and trust in you. The whole earth is alive with your glory, and all that has life is sustained by you. We commit ourselves to cherish your world, and to seek your face. O God, embodied in a human life we believe and trust in you. Jesus our brother, born of the woman Mary, you confronted the proud and the powerful, and welcomed as your friends those of no account. Holy Wisdom of God, firstborn of creation, you emptied yourself of power, and became foolishness for our sake. You labored with us upon the cross, and have brought us forth to the hope of resurrection. We commit ourselves to struggle against evil, and to choose life. O God, life-giving Spirit, Spirit of healing and comfort, of integrity and truth, we believe and trust in you. Warm-winged Spirit, brooding over creation, rushing wind and Pentecostal fire, we commit ourselves to work with you and renew our world.

Prayers of the People

(In the silences please offer your prayers silently or aloud.)

Jesus says: You are the light of the world. A city build on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket but on the lampstand and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they might see your good works and glorify your father in heaven.

Holy One, we bring to you our beloved planet: (your prayers)

The light shines in the darkness:

The darkness cannot overcome it.

Holy One, we bring to you our world: (your prayers)

The light shines in the darkness:

The darkness cannot overcome it.

Holy One, we bring to you our nation: (your prayers)

The light shines in the darkness:

The darkness cannot overcome it.

Holy One, we bring to you our community: (your prayers)

The light shines in the darkness:

The darkness cannot overcome it.

Holy One, we pray for those who are suffering from loneliness, illness, hunger, and homelessness: (your prayers)

Where there is darkness,

May we bring your light.

Holy One, we pray for those seeking meaning and light in their lives: (your prayers)

Where there is darkness,

May we bring your light.

Together: Almighty God, you have poured upon us your light;

Grant that this light, enkindled in our

hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory:

Canticle of the Sun

The heavens are telling the glory of God,

And all creation is shouting for joy.

Come, dance in the forest, come, play in the field and sing,

Sing the glory of the lord.

Eucharistic Prayer

In heaven, beyond our seeing, the angels and saints are caught up in song.
And those we have loved and lost are part of that great company. They call us to be one with the harmony of heaven.

R: We give you thanks and praise.

So, gladly, we join our voices to those of earth, sea and sky, in the universal hymn of praise which echoes through time and eternity.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Eucharistic Prayer

Among friends gathered around a table...
As Jesus broke bread, we break this bread.
As Jesus shared wine we share this cup.
Risen Christ you see us as we are.
R: May we become what you are.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother God, 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Closing prayer:

Loving God, in this sacrament you have put yourself into our hands; now we put ourselves into yours. Take us, mold us and use us.

Blessing:

Recessional: We Are Marching

We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God

We are marching, (marching, we are marching) Oo,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching) Oo,
we are marching in the light of God

We are dancing in the light of God,
We are dancing in the light of God,
We are dancing in the light of God,
We are dancing in the light of God,

We are dancing, (dancing, we are dancing) Oo,
We are dancing in the light of God,
We are dancing, (dancing, we are dancing) Oo
We are dancing in the light of God,

We are singing in the light of God,
We are singing in the light of God,
We are singing in the light of God,
We are singing in the light of God,

We are singing (singing, we are singing)Oo
We are singing in the light of God,
We are singing (singing, we are singing)Oo
We are singing in the light of God,

We are praying in the light of God,
We are praying in the light of God,
We are praying in the light of God,
We are praying in the light of God,

We are praying, (praying, we re praying) Oo
We are praying in the light of God
We are praying, (praying, we re praying) Oo
We are praying in the light of God

Dismissal:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Please join us for treats and conversation after the service.

