

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
May 10, 2020
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

While in-person Worship services are suspended, Montgomery Presbyterian Church will be recording services. The following is an order of service that you can use to follow along with the recorded service, or use to read and reflect on your own. It will be posted on the church's Facebook page and You Tube. Please check email the church for links to the recorded service. Thank you for your cooperation and patience during this challenging time.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalms 31:1-3,5,15,16

- ¹In you, LORD, I have taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.
- ²Turn your ear to me,
come quickly to my rescue;
be my rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me.
- ³Since you are my rock and my fortress,
for the sake of your name lead and guide me.
- ⁵Into your hands I commit my spirit;
deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.
- ¹⁵My times are in your hands;
deliver me from the hands of my enemies,
from those who pursue me.
- ¹⁶Let your face shine on your servant;
save me in your unfailing love.

Opening Prayer

Julian of Norwich
(c. 1342 -1416)

In you, Father almighty, we have our preservation and our bliss. In you, Christ, we have our restoring and our saving. You are our mother, brother, and Savior. In you, our Lord the Holy Spirit, is marvelous and plenteous grace. You are our clothing; for in love you wrap us and embrace us. You are our maker, our lover, our keeper. Teach us to believe that by your grace all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well. Amen.

First Reading

Hebrews 12:1-8

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,
because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.”

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

Special Music

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am Lord)

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

Second Reading

John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

The grass withers and the flower fades,
But the word of our God endures forever.

Thanks be to God!

Message

Visions

Elder Beth Doebereiner

Prayers for the People

Catherine of Siena
(1347-1380)

Power of the eternal Father,
help me.
Wisdom of the Son,
enlighten the eye of my understanding.
Tender mercy of the Holy Spirit,
unite my heart to yourself.
Eternal God,
restore health to the sick
and life to the dead.
Give us a voice, your own voice,
to cry out to you for mercy for the world.
You, light, give us light.
You, wisdom, give us wisdom.
You, supreme strength, strengthen us. Amen

And now with the words Jesus taught us to say when we pray:

**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 debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.**

Amen.

Blessing and Charge

**Maria Ware
(1798)**

Lord, Hear; Lord, forgive; Lord, do.
Hear what we speak not; forgive what we speak amiss;
do what we leave undone;
that not according to our words, or our deeds,
but according to your mercy and truth,
all may work for your glory,
and the God of your kingdom,
through Jesus Christ, Amen.