



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Contemplative Service

May 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome and Gathering

Opening Responses and Gathering Prayer

Leader: Alleluia! O God, may the empty tomb

People: **fill our hearts with faith. Alleluia!**

Silence

Leader: Jesus, our way, our truth, and our life; As the gift of our days unfold, open our hearts and minds to you, that we may see you clearly and follow where you lead; to you, risen Savior, we offer praise, now and always.

People: **Amen.**

The Word of God & Contemplative Reflection

Psalm 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Sacred Reading

A reading from the gospel according to John 17:6-19

Jesus prayed for his disciples, "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because

they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

Sharing of the Day: With God, with each other

- Is there a word or phrase that speaks to you in the Gospel?
- How is God asking you abide in resurrection hope in this moment?
- How does this call you to live more fully or differently as you abide in Easter?

Conclusion of Contemplative Reflection

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Prayers of Concern

Leader: Remembering God’s invitation to abide with Jesus in the spirit of Easter season let us confidently ask God for what we need.

Silence

Leader: Risen Christ, open our hearts to your grace and truth.

***All:* May we walk in newness of life.**

Leader: Teach us to love others and all creation in the power of the Spirit.

***All:* May we walk in newness of life.**

At this time, your prayers and thanksgivings are invited in the COMMENTS

Leader: Having asked for what we need, strengthen us witnesses to your love.

***All:* May we walk in newness of life.**

The Lord’s Prayer

***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.**

Collect

Leader: Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Sending in Service to the World**General Thanksgiving**

All: Jesus, strong deliverer and our lover,
as you sent Mary Magdalene to tell
the good news of your resurrection,
so fill and embolden us with your love
that we may be your faithful witnesses
in the world this week.
In your name we pray. Amen.

Blessing

Leader: On your journey of abiding
with Jesus this Easter season,
may you be a new creation,
Christ for those to who Christ shall send you,

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**

Dismissal

The service concludes

Leader: Go in Peace to love and serve our Savior. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God.** Alleluia! Alleluia!

Announcements



Late Spring Session
Tuesdays on Zoom
7:00 - 8 p.m.

May 21, May 28,
June 4, June 11

**Registration is open
for another opportunity
of small group
faith sharing.**

Spirit Chats Late Spring Session

Tuesdays- May 21, May 28, June 4, June 11 at 7:00 pm; Zoom link emailed upon Registration

Due to High Interest with a waiting list, we've scheduled another session of Spirit Chats. REGISTER today to join this exciting movement!

Spirit Chats are an opportunity for small group faith sharing. Have you ever experienced a “God-incident” in your life and wanted to share it but weren’t sure where or with whom? If you feel God has been moving in

your life, and you want to hear from others how God is moving in theirs, the Evangelism Task Force—a joint project of the Episcopal dioceses of Maine and New Hampshire—has an opportunity and an invitation for you to share your story during Spirit Chats. **Registration Link, [click here](#)** **Contact:** the Rev. Tim Higgins- revtimhiggins@gmail.com or the Rev. Alanna Van Antwerpen- avanantwerpen@nhepiscopal.org

Lunch & Learn: Season of Creation Wednesday, May 19th at 12:30pm on Zoom.

The liturgical Season of Creation is coming soon! What is it? How can you celebrate it in your church?

Come and hear how parishes in Maine and New Hampshire celebrated the annual worldwide liturgical Season of Creation (traditionally Sept. 1- Oct. 5) in 2023. Panelists will include clergy and lay people sharing their experiences with liturgy, preaching, faith formation, coffee hour engagement, and stewardship related to creation.



You are invited to
Lunch & Learn

**TO HOPE AND ACT
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

**Wednesday, May 29th
at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom**

You'll have the opportunity to ask questions and will leave with ideas and resources for celebrating the Season of Creation in your parish in 2024 hosted by the ECNH Earth Care Commission, Diocese of Maine, and SpiritBound Digital Mission. Register on [Zoom here](#).

Worship Gatherer

Presider: The Rev. Alanna Van Antwerpen, Missioner, SpiritBound Digital Mission

Worship Material

- Iona Abbey: Creation Liturgy and Extra Resources
- Daily Prayer for All Seasons: Easter- Discernment; Wisdom; Ordinary Time Creation- Perseverance & Renewal
- The Book of Common Prayer- Collects



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