Monday in Holy Week

March 25, 2024

7:00 p.m.

A service of prayer in the tradition of Taize
In-Person and Live-streamed

Welcome to our Holy Monday Worship

On this first evening in our Holy Week journey we worship in the Taize tradition. This ecumenical worship style originated in a monastic community in France in 1940: Brother Roger developed this approach to worship, emphasizing simple, repetitive songs, prayer, and peaceful meditation; many Christians have traveled to the Taize community since that time to experience the spiritual power of this approach to prayer. It has been said that the goal of Taize worship is to hold ourselves quietly in the presence of Christ, that the Holy Spirit may pray through us. The prayers from this evening's service are taken from the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, 11A Evening Liturgy. Please note that our worship is live-streamed to Facebook.

Our Mission

We believe God is calling us to cultivate a community of love, joy, hope, and healing. Jesus is our model for a life of faith, compassion, hospitality and service. We strive to be affirming and accessible, welcoming and inclusive; we seek to promote reconciliation, exercise responsible stewardship, and embrace ancient traditions for modern lives.

Welcome

The Rev. Heather J. Blais

Opening Prayer

This is the time when light fades and shadows lengthen and sounds are subdued all as God intended.

Amen.

This is the time when bodies relax, minds unwind, and tiredness comes all as God intended.

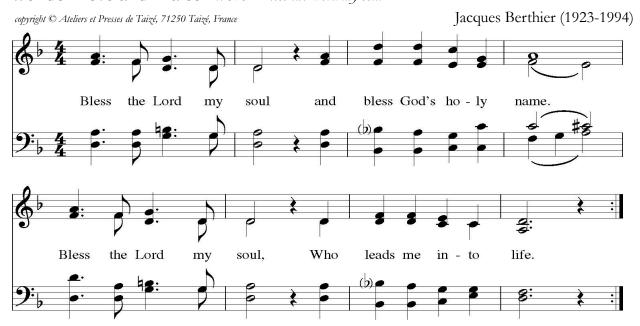
Amen.

This is the time when others greet the morning while we meet the night, and the world continues to sing, in all the accents of creation, a love-song to its Maker.

Blessed be God's Name.

Reynolds Whalen & Kathryn Aubry McAvoy

Wonder Love and Praise - #825 Bless the Lord my soul



Tonight's passage from Mark's Gospel describes the events of Monday during Jesus' final week.

A reading from Mark:

The next day, after leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. From far away, he noticed a fig tree in leaf, so he went to see if he could find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing except leaves, since it wasn't the season for figs. So he said to it, "No one will ever again eat your fruit!" His disciples heard this.

They came into Jerusalem. After entering the temple, he threw out those who were selling and buying there. He pushed over the tables used for currency exchange and the chairs of those who sold doves. He didn't allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. He taught them, "Hasn't it been written, My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations? But you've turned it into a hideout for crooks." The chief priests and legal experts heard this and tried to find a way to destroy him. They regarded him as dangerous because the whole crowd was enthralled at his teaching. When it was evening, Jesus and his disciples went outside the city.

<u>Heather</u>

Come, brother Jesus, be our guest, Stay with us for day is ending.

Bring to this place your poverty, for then shall we be rich.
Bring to this place your pain, that in sharing it, we may also share your joy.
Bring to this place your understanding of us, that we may be freed to learn more of you.
Bring to this place your Holy Spirit, that we and all things might be made new.

With friend, with stranger, with the unknown and well known ones be among us tonight, for the doors of this house are open, and the doors of our hearts we leave ajar.

Silence (5 minutes)



Translation: Where true charity and love abide, God is there.

A reading from Isaiah:

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;

a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<u>Heather</u>

What if the darkness covers us and the day around us turns to night? Darkness is not too dark for God to whom dark and light are one.

Let us pray

You never sleep, God. You are always awake, always watching, always willing the world and its people to turn in the right direction.

So tonight, will you comfort those who cannot sleep because of illness, or worry, or fear; or for reasons they cannot understand.

Silence

God be near them.

God be near them.

And tonight will you be close to those who wait patiently or impatiently for a birth or a death,

for a visit, or for the pieces of their life's jigsaw to fit together.

Silence

God be near them.

God be near them.

And tonight will you be close to those who wonder, who look for inspiration, who long to be with the one or the ones they love, who hope to recognize the right time when they can say 'I'm sorry,' or 'I love you,' or even 'Enough is enough.'

Silence

God be near them.

God be near them.

And God, listen to us as we share with you whatever joys or sorrows, discoveries or questions we will take with us into the night.

Silence

God be near us.

God be near us.

Into your hands we commit ourselves our souls, our bodies, our minds, our future for all things come from you and are best kept in your care.

Amen.

Silence (5 minutes)

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)



Scripture

Psalm 36:5-9 St. Helena Psalter

Steve Hussey

A reading from the Psalms:

Your love, O God, reaches to the heavens, *

and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,

your justice like the great deep; *

you save all your creatures, O God.

How priceless is your love, O God; *

your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

They feast upon the abundance of your house; *

you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the well of life, *

and in your light we see light.

The Lord's Prayer

Heather

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Silence (5 minutes)

Closing Prayer <u>Heather</u>

For the day now done thanks be to God.

For the rest before us thanks be to God.

Because God never sleeps so that we can, thanks be to God.

But before the day is done, let God's holy name be praised; And let God's people say Amen. Amen.

This concludes this evening's service.

Thank you for your presence and blessings on your journey through Holy Week.

Journey through Holy Week

All services are in-person and live streamed to Facebook.

Holy Tuesday—March 26 at 7:00 p.m.

A healing service where the community is invited to gather together to offer healing, hope, and thanksgiving.

Holy Wednesday—March 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae comes to us out of the Monastic tradition of the Daily Office for Holy Week from the Middle Ages. It is a liturgy of sung Lessons and Psalms, with the gradual extinguishing of candles, that invites us into the mystery of the Triduum.

Maundy Thursday—March 28 at 7:00 p.m.

This service features music, the ceremony of the foot washing, anointing oil, a celebration of the institution of the Eucharist, and the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday—March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

This service commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus, and includes a reading of the Passion gospel, music, and solemn prayers.

Easter Vigil-March 30 at 7:00 p.m.

This service is the primary celebration of Easter, beginning in darkness. The worship features the kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet, music, readings from the Hebrew Scriptures, the renewal of our baptismal vows, and the Eucharist.

Easter Sunday—March 31 at 10:00 a.m.

A celebration of Christ's resurrection with music and Holy Eucharist, followed by an Easter egg hunt on the lawn.

The Episcopal Church of Ss. James & Andrew

8 Church Street, Greenfield, Massachusetts 01301 413-773-3925 office office@saintsjamesandandrew.org

www.saintsjamesandandrew.org Facebook: saintsjamesandandrew

Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Closed Holidays)

Clergy

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas J. Fisher, Bishop The Rev. Heather J. Blais, Rector The Rev. Jimmy Pickett, Missioner