

TAKOMA PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Sixth Sunday in Eastertide
Jashemski Scholars Sunday

Sunday, May 17, 2020
Live-streamed at 11:00 a.m.

I believed – and still believe – that when all is said and done, none of us will be measured by how much we accomplish but by how well we love.

--Krista Tippett, Speaking of Faith

Three things in human life are important. The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. And the third is to be kind. --Henry James



(People who want to share a prayer during the Prayers of the People may write their petitions in the Chat format.)

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea.

“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Prayer of Approach

God our strength, you are the refuge of all who trust you. Fortify us with your goodness to live in quietness of spirit, that we may serve you all our days; through Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Word. Amen.

Opening Hymn 23

AUSTRIAN HYMN

God You Spin the Whirling Planets

God, you spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain,
Mold the mountains, fashion blossoms. Call forth sunshine, wind and
rain.

We, created in your image, would a true reflection be
of your justice, grace and mercy and the truth that makes us free.

You have called us to be faithful in our life and ministry.

We respond in grateful worship joined in one community.

When we blur your gracious image, focus us and make us whole.

Healed and strengthened as your people, we move onward toward
your goal.

God, your word is still creating, calling us to life made new.

Now reveal to us fresh vistas where there's work to dare and do.

Keep us clear of all distortion. Polish us with loving care.

Thus, new creatures in your image, we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ,
and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Amen.

Response of Joy 435

IN BABILONE

There's a wideness in God's mercy

Like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice

Which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows

Are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings

Have such kindly judgment given.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Worshippers may unmute themselves and share the peace.)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination 450 (sung)

SLANE

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word,
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.
Heart of my own heart whatever befall;
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

First Lesson

Genesis 4:1-16

Now Adam knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have produced a man with the help of the Lord." Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground.

In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering God had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it."

Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him.

Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the LORD said, "What have you done? Listen; your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground! And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."

Second Lesson

Luke 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" The lawyer answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And Jesus said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'

Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"

The lawyer said, "The one who showed him mercy."

Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Reflection on the Word

Sermon

The Measure of a Life

Jim Reisner

Hymn 766

MC KEE

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

The church of Christ cannot be bound
By walls of wood or stone.
Where charity and love are found,
There can the church be known.

True faith will open up the door
And step into the street.
True service will seek out the poor
And ask to wash their feet.

True love will not sit idly by
When justice is denied.
True mercy hears the homeless cry
And welcomes them inside.

If what we have we freely share
To meet our neighbor's need,
Then we extend the Spirit's care
Through every selfless deed.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Recognition of the Jashemski Scholarship Awardees

Prayers of the People

The Rev. John Seaman

The prayers in the chat box will be read with the response:

God of Wisdom,
hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

version by Parker Palmer

Heavenly Father, Heavenly Mother, Holy and Blessed is your true name.

We pray for your reign of peace to come.

We pray that your good will be done.

Let heaven and earth become one.

Give us this day the bread we need.

Give it to those who have none.

Let forgiveness flow like a river between us

From each one to each one to each one.

Lead us to holy innocence

Beyond the evil of our days

Come swiftly Mother, Father come

For yours is the power, mercy, the glory.

Forever your name is all in One. Amen.

The Offering Invitation

The Offertory

Charles Reisner and James Bingham

Doxology

327

LASST UNS ERFEUEN

Eternal are your mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends thy word:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore;
Till suns shall rise and set no more:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us. In the upside-down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but by what we can give away. Let us give away generously in all that we do that we may bless your church, your people, and your creation. Amen.

Announcements of the Community's Life

SENT IN GOD'S NAME

Sending Hymn 610

AZMON

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King
the triumphs of God's grace!

The name of Jesus charms our fears,
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health, and peace.

Christ speaks, and listening to his voice
new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice;
the poor in heart believe.

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.

To God all glory; praise, and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above
the church in earth and heaven.

Charge and Benediction

Community worship ends; discipleship & service begin anew.

Participants in this morning's service

Jim Reisner, Interim Pastor
Rev. John Seaman, Parish Associate
Music Director, Dr. James Bingham,
Liturgist, David Olson
Song Leader, Bruce Beran
Cinematographer, Gary Cardillo
Technician, Joe Reynolds

Announcements

The Stanley A. Jashemski Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1986 through the generosity of the family and friends of Stanley A. Jashemski, a physicist with deep appreciation for the arts. For many years he and his wife, Wilhelmina, then a professor of humanities and ancient history at the University of Maryland, sponsored a Sunday school forum in which young adults could explore their faith in an intellectually challenging environment. When Wilhelmina Jashemski died in 2007, the scholarship was renamed the Stanley A. and Wilhelmina Jashemski Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The Jashemski Committee, comprised of Bruce Beran, Dolores Beran, Lisa Kiely, Jodie Olson and Thomas Showalter reviewed applications and interviewed candidates. Successful applicants show outstanding intellectual ability and significant religious commitment. The committee is proud to name the following eight students as Jashemski Scholars for the 2020-21 academic year:

Samantha Kalibala - Takoma Park Presbyterian Church; Sophomore at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Samuel Lally - Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Alexandria, VA; Senior at Virginia Tech.

Mary McCoy - Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Alexandria, VA; Junior at Drexel University.

Alison Reynolds - Takoma Park Presbyterian Church; Senior at The College of William and Mary.

Jamie Smith - Takoma Park Presbyterian Church; Senior at Clark University.

Emma Teichert - Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church; Freshman at The College of Wooster.

Hannah Wilson-Black - Fairlington Presbyterian Church in Arlington, VA; Sophomore at University of Chicago.

Meriam Zegeye - Amanuel Ethiopian Evangelical Church in Alexandria, VA; Freshman at Georgetown University.

Calendar for the week of May 18 through May 24:

Monday, May 19 at noon:	Coffee Hour
Wednesday, May 21, 7 p.m.:	Pastor Nominating Committee
Wednesday, May 21, 7:30 p.m.:	Evening Prayer
Thursday, May 22, 6:00 p.m.:	Deacons Meeting
Sunday, May 24, 11:00 p.m.:	Worship on the Virtual Steps

Next Sunday, May 24, we will follow our tradition on Memorial Day Weekend by having a service of **“Worship on the Virtual Steps.”** Everyone is encouraged to bring a message to share. It can be a poem, a reading, a story, a song by voice or instrument, a sharing of a work of art. There will be no bulletin and no order of worship. We will be led by the Holy Spirit. Come and share.

Summer worship will continue to meet on Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

There are several ways to give to TPPC:

1. Mail checks to the church office (310 Tulip Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912).
2. Use your bank’s online bill pay feature: your bank may offer an option to send a check automatically each month, or to do a transfer directly to TPPC’s bank account. If the latter, you will need the routing number and the account number (To see where to find them on your check, [access this article from the Policygenius website](#)).
3. Give through our new online giving platform at <https://tinyurl.com/TPPOnlinegiving>. A link to online giving is also accessible on our current website and will be integrated into the new website.

If you have any questions contact Thomas Showalter (tshowal@gmail.com).