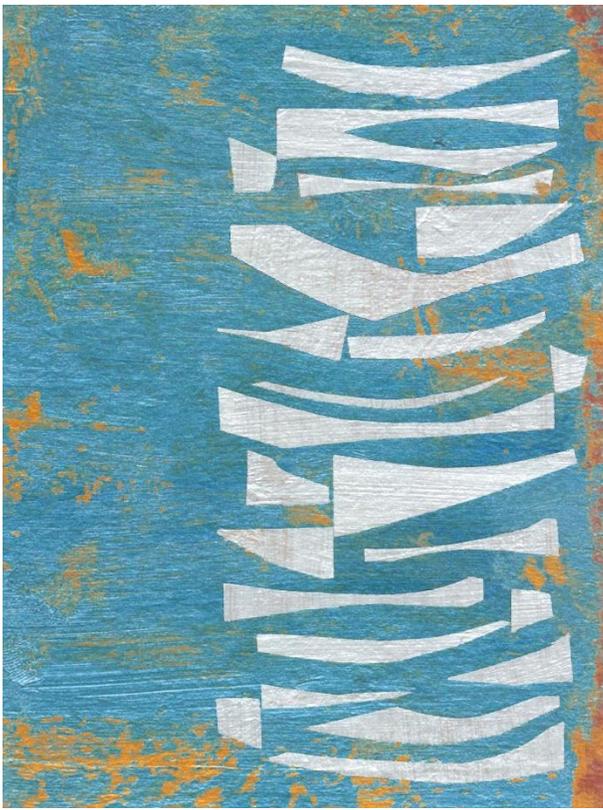


“Born of Water, Born of Spirit” Jan Richardson



Grace Episcopal Church

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 25, 2019 | 8:00am

Ministers | All of Us

Rector | Wren Blessing

Music | Martin Cockroft

A bell rings twice. We stand and say

Celebrant We are not alone.

People We live in God’s world.

Celebrant Holy One, we give you thanks, for

People the world is full of your love.

We continue standing and sing.

Opening Song | Be Still

by K. Sherman

Be still, be still, and know that I am God, Be

5
still, be still, and know that I am God

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

God of renewal, you say, “Here I am.” We gather to be with you as you are with us. Guide us to pray, work, and rest, and so understand ourselves to be repairers of the breach and restorers of streets to live in. **Amen.**

WE TELL THE STORY

We are seated for the reading.

The First Reading | Isaiah 58:9b-14

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;

and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;

(Reading continues on the following page.)

if you call the sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the Lord honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;
then you shall take delight in the Lord,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

After the reading, the reader will say
The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

We stand and say the psalm responsively.

Psalm | 103:1-8

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.**

He forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;

**He redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**

He satisfies you with good things,
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

**The Lord executes righteousness
and judgment for all who are oppressed.**

He made his ways known to Moses
and his works to the children of Israel.

**The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.**

We are seated for the second reading.

The Second Reading | Hebrews 12:18-29

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken-- that is, created things-- so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

We stand together and sing.

Gospel Song | **Let the Broken Ones Be Healed**

by Sandra Gay

Let the brok-en ones be healed. Let the lost be found and fed. Let the grace of God roll on. Let the
ri-ver rise and spread. Step in - to the stream with me. Let God's gra-cious pur-pose be!

The Celebrant then introduces the Gospel by saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

The Gospel | Luke 13:10-17

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

After the Gospel the Celebrant will say

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

OUR RESPONSE TO THE STORY

The Homily

Affirmation of Faith

We stand and say

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth,
of all humanity.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
Born of a woman's womb, servant of the poor,
he was tortured and nailed to a tree.
Knowing full passion and deep sorrow, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present,
and his Kingdom will one day be known.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church.
She is the Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Words & Music: Martin Cockroft

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the prayer. The first staff is a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (one sharp), and 2/4 time. The notes are: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), and a whole rest. The lyrics 'God please make a way for us' are written below the notes. The second staff is a harmonic accompaniment in treble clef, key of D major, and 2/4 time. The notes are: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), and a whole rest. The lyrics 'God please make a way for us' are written below the notes.

We gather silently in prayer.

Leader “If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness.”

Guide us and leaders of nations, businesses, and households to live patiently, and to grow in gentleness and faithful responsibility.

We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.

Leader God of love,
People hear our prayers.

Leader “Ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath Day?”

In your compassion protect and provide for refugees, for those who are traveling, and for all who are homeless or who long for safety. Strengthen us as we offer hospitality to those who need rest.

We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.

Leader God of love,
People hear our prayers.

Leader “Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe...”

Thank you for people near and far whose love sustains us. Thank you for those who welcome, encourage, and guide us.

We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.

Leader God of love,
People hear our prayers.

Leader “The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail.”

Comfort all who feel alone or discouraged today. We pray for those whose lives, homes, or communities are broken by violence. We lift up before you all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our prayer list.

We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.

Leader God of love,
People hear our prayers.

Leader “Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.”

Give us reverence for the earth you have made and unite us in caring for it.

We pause for prayers to be offered silently or aloud.

Leader God of love,
People **hear our prayers.**

Words & Music: Martin Cockroft

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The melody is simple, consisting of quarter notes and a final half note. The lyrics 'God please make a way for us' are written below the notes.

The Peace

We conclude these prayers with the sharing of God's peace.

Celebrant Now the peace of the Lord be always with you.
All **And also with you.**

WE GATHER AROUND THE TABLE

The people are invited to stand. The celebrant says

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon and stars; earth, wind and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away. And yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity lifting our voices to you as we sing:

Traditional Argentine. Translated by Josué Alvarez and Debi Tyree.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you!
 San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra!
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you!



My heart is glad to say the words you are ho - ly, Lord!
 Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res, Se - ñor!
 My heart is glad to say the words you are ho - ly, Lord!

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus, the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them and said: “Drink this, all of you. And whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now, gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet of the world.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ. By him and with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We are now invited to share the gifts of Communion.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Please know that at Grace Church all are invited to receive the bread and wine. This sacrament is God's free gift. Assist the Chalice Bearers by tipping the cup from the base. Please tell your server if you prefer a wafer that is free from gluten, soy, and dairy.

Music During Communion

*Following Communion we share silence with one another.
The quiet will last a few minutes and will begin and end with a bell.*

GOING OUT INTO GOD'S WORLD

Our Prayer after Communion

We stand and say together

**Eternal God,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

The celebrant offers a blessing.

May you know the peace of Christ, and the guidance of the Spirit. May God satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and the blessing of God, who was and is, and is to come be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Sorrow is Not My Name

~ after Gwendolyn Brooks

No matter the pull toward brink. No matter the florid, deep sleep awaits. There is a time for everything. Look, just this morning a vulture nodded his red, grizzled head at me, and I looked at him, admiring the sickle of his beak. Then the wind kicked up, and, after arranging that good suit of feathers he up and took off.

Just like that. And to boot, there are, on this planet alone, something like two million naturally occurring sweet things, some with names so generous as to kick the steel from my knees: agave, persimmon, stick ball, the purple okra I bought for two bucks at the market. Think of that. The long night, the skeleton in the mirror, the man behind me on the bus taking notes, yeah, yeah. But look; my niece is running through a field calling my name. My neighbor sings like an angel and at the end of my block is a basketball court. I remember. My color's green. I'm spring.

~ for Walter Aikens

*~Ross Gay, from *Bringing the Shovel Down*
(University of Pittsburgh Press, 2011)*