

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Opening Hymn – 10,000 Reasons

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen**

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People And your glory all the day long.

Morning Poem by Mary Oliver (part one)

Every morning the world is created. Under the orange sticks of the sun the heaped ashes of the night turn into leaves again

And fasten themselves to the high branches—and the ponds appear like black cloth on which are painted islands

of summer lilies. If it is your nature to be happy you will swim away along the soft trails for hours, your imagination alighting everywhere.

Acts 17:22-31

Sequence Hymn

The Gospel according to John 14:15-21

The Sermon

Morning Poem by Mary Oliver (part two)

And if your spirit carries within it the thorn that is heavier than lead—if it's all you can do to keep on trudging—there is still somewhere deep within you a beast shouting that the earth is exactly what it wanted—

Each pond with its blazing lilies is a prayer heard and answered lavishly, every morning

Whether or not you have ever dared to be happy, whether or not you have ever dared to pray. (From her collection entitled Dream Work)

Closing Hymn – Love Divine

Closing Prayer—From the Search Committee

In support and prayer for the Holy Cross Rector's Search Team, Let us pray for guidance by saying together:

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldst have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Easter Blessing

“Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love, make haste to be kind. And may God's blessing, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

Blessing by The Rev. Bill Tully, adapted from Henri Amiel