



All Saints Episcopal Church

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The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 10, Year A

July 12, 2020

Welcome

In this time of world-wide crisis, when it is not safe for the church to gather for worship as the body of Christ in person, we gather now to hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.

Opening Sentence

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

Collect of the Day

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Enriching Our Worship

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The Invitatory and Psalm

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord renews the face of the Earth:

Come let us adore him.

Venite

Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving

and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.

For you are a great God,

you are great above all gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth,

and the heights of the hills are yours also.

The sea is yours, for you made it,

and your hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For you are our God,

and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand.

Oh, that today you would hearken to your voice!

The Spirit of the Lord renews the face of the Earth:

Come let us adore him.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

First Lesson

Isaiah 55:10-13

In our Hebrew scripture lesson God's word proceeds purposefully in human affairs and achieves God's intentions as surely as seed and soil and water combine in the agricultural cycle to produce a good harvest. The people are to take joy in understanding God's work, though inscrutable at times, is being accomplished in their midst as certainly as it may be seen in the natural world.

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,

and do not return there until they have watered the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65: 9-14

A psalm of praise and thanksgiving to the savior, the mighty Lord, who creates the earth and causes it to bring forth abundantly.

You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

First Lesson

Romans 8:1-11

In this lesson Paul draws a sharp contrast between the mind set on the flesh, and the mind set on the Spirit. The person oriented only toward this temporal world with its rewards and pleasures can neither keep the law nor please God. Only through the grace of God in Christ can a fundamental reorientation toward God's Spirit occur. When God's Spirit quickens faith there is no longer any condemnation, for the Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead now indwells those so animated.

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be

fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel:

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

Our gospel is Jesus' parable of the sower, together with its interpretation. The story by itself may once have been used to stress how surprisingly fruitful God's power can be, quite apart from human expectations or control. With its explanation the parable was used as an allegory by early Christians to help them understand the missionary situation of the church. Because of the work of the devil and human weakness and sin, the word they preached did not always produce. But, in the right circumstances, its fruit could be anywhere from substantial to amazing.

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Reflection: *The Rev. Bill Petersen*

The Creed: *We profess our faith using the words of The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers: *We center ourselves in the peace and love of Jesus through prayer*

Although distant from each other, we are called to join together to pray for our needy world. In response to each bid, you are invited to offer your own prayers, silently or aloud, and to conclude each petition with the words Hear us, O God, our light and our shield: **your mercy is great.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rites and Rituals: Year A

Mercifully receive our prayers, O God, that we may know your ways and follow where you lead, responding, "Hear us, good Lord."

For those who are seeking a spiritual home, that they may be inspired to visit our churches and to receive a deep sense of God's presence through our worship together and the hospitality we share; let us pray. *Silence*

Hear us, good Lord.

That we may be set free from the need to claim our worthiness through possessions and position, so that we may discover, our true identity in the life and hope of the Holy Spirit; let us pray. *Silence*

Hear us, good Lord.

That the light of Christ will reveal the path to those for whom the shadows are long, the poor and desperate, the lonely and unemployed, the hungry and fearful, the refugee and homeless, the prisoner and those who live as if in prison, that we may not forget them; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

For our Commander-in-Chief and all who serve in the armed forces, that we may be thankful for their many sacrifices, and honor the service they render to our country and to the security of the world; let us pray. *Silence*

Hear us, good Lord.

For those who have died, that they may reside in that place where there is no sorrow or pain, but life everlasting; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

For safety for children who are on vacation, that they may have the chance to learn new skills, build healthy bodies, and develop new and lasting friendships; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we are bold to pray...

**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.**

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

There is a long-standing practice in the Episcopal Church to offer a means for people to receive Holy Communion spiritually when it cannot be received physically.

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

A Prayer for these times

From Pentecost Sunday through the first Sunday in September, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his Lutheran counterpart Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton welcome congregations and

individuals to regularly pray “A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God.” This prayer – crafted by a team of Lutheran and Episcopal prayer leaders in light of the COVID pandemic – is meant to unite us in common prayer and revive us for common mission, wherever and however we may be gathered.

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ’s body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Benediction and Dismissal

A Franciscan Blessing

May God bless you with a restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that you may seek truth boldly and love deep within your heart.

May God bless you with holy anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace among all people.

May God bless you with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, or the loss of all that they cherish, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and transform their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you really CAN make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God’s grace, to do what others claim cannot be done.

And the blessing of God ✠ the Supreme Majesty and our Creator, Jesus Christ the Incarnate Word who is our Savior, and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and Guide, be with you and remain with you, this day and forevermore. *Amen.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Send forth your Spirit, O God,
and renew the face of the earth.



Announcements

Please Continue To Pray For Those on Our Prayer List



Gwendolyn Deneault	Penelope Bennis	Debra and Family
Walter Spellman	Patricia Noxon	Bob Champagne
Vange Sandeen	Kathy Holloran	Judith Locke
Patsy Matthews	Rhys Eppich	Robert & Dian
Shirley Bentley	Mary McAuley	Michele
Marilyn Kay	Penny Meyer	Prue Fitts
Joe Blackett	Susie Tidd	Zell Kellogg
Judy Hess	Joe Nunnery	Michael Dowd
Debe Tetherly	Khadijah Goforth	Jacqueline Mclaughlin
Wayne S.	Mary Ellen Davis	Gina Vivian
Bobbie Sutherland	Mark Luken	George & Linda Pacheco
Bob Pierpont	Kate Blending	Carolyn Toshney
Stephanie Schroeder	Rodney Morgan	Ron Locke
Mick and Judy	Kathy Kibbey	Tyler Kott, Robin & Jim

Thank You for Giving During This Time of Pandemic

Thank you for all who have continued to support the work of All Saints during this time. You may make contributions by mail, using your financial institution's automated check writing service, or secure online giving via [Donate](https://www.wolfesaints.com/donate) at www.wolfesaints.com/donate

Creator of all we enjoy, we give you thanks for the countless people you have gathered to do your work as All Saints' Wolfeboro. We thank you for your Holy Spirit inspiring some as they longed for this church, others as they built this church and still others as they lovingly and boldly led this church through times of abundance and times of scarcity. Help us to be bold as we model giving of time and money during this time. Make our generous giving a symbol of both our faith and our gratitude. We pray in the name of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

