



All Saints Episcopal Church

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The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 17, Year A

August 30, 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

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 his 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

Jeremiah 15:15-21

In this first reading Jeremiah complains to the Lord about the pain and difficulties of his mission. He then received God's answer. The prophet has been called to preach a message of dark judgment to a people who are soon to be sent into exile. Despite persecution, the Lord's words were at first a joy to Jeremiah, but God has become like a treacherous brook—a stream that dried up when its waters were needed. Then the Lord tells Jeremiah that it is he who needs to turn again to God. The Lord will be with him, and he will be a wall of bronze against the people.

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.

Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the LORD:

If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.

And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 26:1-8

A plea for justice by one who serves the Lord well.

Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; *

I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

Test me, O LORD, and try me; *

examine my heart and my mind.

For your love is before my eyes; *

I have walked faithfully with you.

I have not sat with the worthless, *

nor do I consort with the deceitful.

I have hated the company of evildoers; *

I will not sit down with the wicked.

I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, *

that I may go in procession round your altar,

Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *

and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

LORD, I love the house in which you dwell *

and the place where your glory abides.

The Second Lesson

Romans 12:9-21

In this lesson Paul exhorts the disciples in Rome to live lives full of Christian dedication and virtue, overcoming evil with good. One hears strong echoes of Jesus' beatitudes. Also present is Paul's own emphasis on the central role of love together with the importance of a readiness to share in both the joy and sorrow of others. Blended with these teachings are some of the best of both Jewish and

pagan ethical counsel. The apostle concludes with the insistence that revenge cannot be a motivation of Christians; final justice must be left to divine retribution.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

In the gospel reading Jesus teaches Peter and the other disciples that the way of his ministry and theirs is the way of the cross. Peter had just confessed Jesus to be the Christ, but now he cannot accept the idea of the Christ being put to death. Jesus calls Peter "Satan" because his words represent a temptation to him. Jesus' way costs no less than everything and leads to the discovery of that which is priceless. In the end the Son of Man will come as judge to repay all people for what they have done.

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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*

As we gather separately and together in the Spirit, let us pray for the needs of the world, responding to each petition with the words, "In your steadfast love, receive our prayer."

Caring for the church around the world, we pray — for a spirit of ecumenical cooperation, for the health of congregations during this difficult time, for our bishops, priests, deacons, and lay leaders. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Savior;

In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Seeing before us your good creation, we pray — for the repair of what we have harmed, for polar ice, for lands dealing with oppressive heat, for fields ravaged by storms and fires. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Creator:

In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Facing so many international problems we pray — for the strengthening of democracies, for peaceful resolutions to conflicts, for the people of Belarus, Lebanon, and Yemen, for researchers seeking a vaccine, for racial justice within our nation, for our legislators to assist the lives of the poor, for an ethical election campaign. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our mighty Fortress;

In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Surrounded by people with great and hidden need we pray — for families frightened by the uncertain future, for those whose homes have burned down, for students deprived of effective education, for refugees and for prisoners. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Hope,
In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Aware of all who are sick and suffering we pray — for all who are facing the coronavirus, for those without medical care,
for those we remember here before you. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Healer;
In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Confident of your love for us, we pray also for ourselves:

A longer period of silence.

Hear us, God our Friend;
In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Mindful of all who have gone before us in the faith, we offer our thanks — for all the saints famous and forgotten, for medical workers who have died of the virus, for friends and family we have loved, for the promise of everlasting life with you. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Homeland;
In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

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

The Family of Vange Sandeen

Bob Champagne	Bob Pierpont	Ruth Gray	Dylan Allwine
Mark Luken	Rodney Morgan	Stephanie Schroeder	Shirley Bentley
Carolyn Toshney	Gina Vivian	Penny Meyer	Jan Sauda
Faye Juul	Penelope Bennis	Mary McAuley	Gwendolyn Deneault
Mary Ellen Davis	Prue Fitts	Judy Hess	Michael Dowd
Zell Kellogg	Joe Blackett	Jacqueline McLaughlin	

Note: The names on the prayer list have been updated to remove names that were added over a year ago. If you would like a name placed back on the list, please send the request to Debra at the office email address allsaints@metrocast.net. *Thank you*



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](#) 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.