

Pentecost 20, October 18, 2020

Prelude

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be the one holy and living God

Glory to God, forever and ever

A Song of Praise (together) The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; It shall bloom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weary hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear!" Here is your God, coming with judgement to save you. Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf be unstopped. Then shall the lame leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in wilderness and streams in the desert; The burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground, springs of water. The ransomed of God shall return with singing, with everlasting joy upon their heads. Joy and gladness shall be theirs, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Collect of the Day (together)

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining, and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear, through Jesus Christ, Amen.

First Lesson: Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

- 1 God reigns; let the people tremble; *
God is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.
- 2 God is great in Zion *
and is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess God's Name, which is great and awesome;
God is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty Ruler, lover of justice, you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 We proclaim your greatness, O God, and fall down before your footstool; *
you are the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among your priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon your Name, *
they called upon you, and you answered them.
- 7 You spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.
- 8 "O Holy God, you answered them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds."
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of our God and worship on God's holy hill, *
for our God is the Holy One.

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Nicene Creed (*The people stand as they are able.*)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and became human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People (*The people stand as they are able.*)

Reader: Let us be filled with the Holy Spirit and pray for the common good of the whole human family. *In the pause after each bidding, add your own prayers either silently or aloud.*

We pray for the Church, the Body of Christ, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop and Nicholas, our Bishop; for the people of God, gathered from every nation under heaven; may we proclaim in every language, the dawning of a new age. In the **Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the Episcopal Church. In the **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the people and clergy of St. Luke's, East Greenwich, and St. Luke's, Pawtucket.

Reader: For this we pray.

People: **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

For the world: For the United Nations and for all dedicated to world peace; may the Spirit's call put an end to division and gather us as one. In this time of COVID, and in a world where racial inequality abounds, bring healing and give us courage to seek justice for all people. We remember especially.....

Reader: For this we pray.

People: **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

For creation: that each person may have a reverence for the earth, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and share the abundance of this earth with generosity and integrity. We remember especially_____

Reader: For this we pray.

People: **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

For those oppressed, afflicted or in need: that we may seek out those who feel unloved or neglected, the prisoner and the stranger, with welcome and care. We remember also those in need of prayer and healing, especially _

Reader: For this we pray.

People: **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

For the needs of the local community: for those whose labor is difficult, for those whose hearts are hurting, for those who are bereaved and for those who have lost their way. For those who serve this community in a wide variety of ministries especially..... May the spirit inspire all of us to place the

gifts we have received at the service of the common good.

Reader: For this we pray.

People: **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

For those who have died: that they continue to rest in your love, and discover the joys of eternal life, remembering today

Reader: For this we pray.

People: **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life, including those celebrating birthdays: Sue DeVoe, Andrea DiMasi Fournier, Greg Kammerer, Joan Youngken, Patrick Bell and Jennifer Brown.

Reader: For this we pray.

People: **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

All: O God, who created all people in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever widening circles of fellowship and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace *The people stand as they are able.*

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Eucharist

At the fraction:

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Response: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious God, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; in Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

The Blessing

Dismissal response: Thanks be to God.

Announcements: Please put offertory in the basket on the table upon entering or exiting.

