
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Piney Parish



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Officiant O Lord, open our lips
All **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
Officiant Give us the joy of your saving help
All **and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.**

PRAYER FOR PURITY

Officiant Let us pray.
All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

All Creatures of Our God and King

vv. 3-4

Swift flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for you Lord to hear,
alleluia, alleluia!
Fire, so intense and fiercely bright,
you give to us both warmth and light,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Dear mother earth, you day by day
unfold your blessings on our way,,
O praise him, Alleluia!
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,
let them his glory also show,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.
God of infinite mercy grant that we who know your pity may rejoice in your forgiveness and
gladly forgive others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

YOUNG DISCIPLES MOMENT

God Creates People

THE PSALM *Psalm 103:8-13*

- ⁸ You are full of compassion and mercy, *
 slow to anger and of great kindness.
- ⁹ You will not always accuse us, *
 nor will you keep your anger for ever.
- ¹⁰ You have not dealt with us according to our sins, *
 nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
 so is your mercy great upon those who revere you.
- ¹² As far as the east is from the west, *
 so far have you removed our sins from us.
- ¹³ As a parent cares for a child, *
 so do you care for those who revere you.

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

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Should I forgive as many as seven times?"

Jesus said, "Not just seven times, but rather as many as seventy-seven times. Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

When he began to settle accounts, they brought to him a servant who owed him ten thousand bags of gold. Because the servant didn't have enough to pay it back, the master ordered that he should be sold, along with his wife and children and everything he had, and that the proceeds should be used as payment. But the servant fell down, kneeled before him, and said, 'Please, be patient with me, and I'll pay you back.' The master had compassion on that servant, released him, and forgave the loan.

"When that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred coins. He grabbed him around the throat and said, 'Pay me back what you owe me.'

"Then his fellow servant fell down and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I'll pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he threw him into prison until he paid back his debt.

"When his fellow servants saw what happened, they were deeply offended. They came and told their master all that happened. His master called the first servant and said, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you appealed to me. Shouldn't you also have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' His master was furious and handed him over to the guard responsible for punishing prisoners, until he had paid the whole debt.

"My heavenly Father will also do the same to you if you don't forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Maria Kane

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

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 was made man. 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 Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Troy Pettersen

Officiant

Rejoice in the waters of life, those who honor God in all things, and raise your voices in prayer, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Intercessor

In thanksgiving for this holy day where we gather as a household of faith to hear the word of God with open minds and grateful hearts. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Church of Our Saviour, Brookland; Church of Our Saviour, Hillandale and Nuestro Salvador. Pray for inspiration for every person to take their next step toward Christ; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for the arms of forgiveness that embrace us in the midst of our sin, leading us to change, and filling us with the waters of mercy through which we will forgive others; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For honesty in government, and integrity in our dealings with one another, that trust may be restored between people and throughout the institutions of our society; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may commit ourselves to a life of simplicity, so that we may provide for the needs of the poor and hungry, as Jesus provided nourishment and hope to his followers; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may share our spiritual doubts with one another, convinced that in our mutual self-disclosure we will be strengthened in faith and grow in the conviction that God's love can forgive all things and transforms all life; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for those who are teachers and catechists in our Church; may they be given the blessing of knowledge and wisdom, as they bear the Christian message to those in their charge; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the dead may be redeemed from the grave, and wear the crown of eternal life; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

(Please add your intercessions and thanksgivings, silently or aloud.)

The Officiant will add a concluding collect.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant

As Christ teaches us, we pray:

All

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 CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said,
in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done.
We have sinned in ignorance:
we have sinned in weakness:
we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry.
We repent and turn to you.
Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of your name.
Amen.

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

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

PRAYER FOR A BIRTHDAY

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants *she/he/they* begin another year. Grant that *she/he/they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his/her/their* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her/their* life(ves); through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ANNIVERSARY

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Officiant During this time in which we cannot gather to celebrate the great sacrament of Holy Communion, let us offer our selves, souls, and bodies to God in this prayer for spiritual communion.

All In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessings of this life. We present to you our souls and bodies, with the earnest wish that we may ever be united to You.
We proclaim our trust in you and recall your mighty deeds on our behalf. We remember your death, we proclaim your resurrection, and we await your coming in glory.
Strengthen and sustain us with your grace, surround us with your love, and uphold us with your mercy. May we live in you and you in us, in this life and in the life to come.
Amen.

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be
 shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Question for Reflection

Why is my forgiveness of others so connected to God's forgiveness? Is every sin forgivable?

Household Prayer: Morning

Gracious and loving God, thank you for this day. Strengthen my resolve to love and show mercy throughout the day. Lead my feet to your holy dwelling place, and guide the work I have to do for today. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Merciful God, thank you for keeping me in the safety of your arms and for new mercies and the glory you showed through the day. Keep my family and me through the night. I thank and praise you! In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

PERMISSIONS

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Prayers of the People: *Planning for Rites and Rituals, Year A*, Church Publishing © 2019

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