



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Nineteenth Weekend After Pentecost

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

October 10, 2020

SALUTATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

All **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR PURITY

Celebrant 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 *(spoken)*

Celebrant From the small to the great, and from the great to the small, sing to God,
for God has done marvelous things.

Let the electrons circle their nuclei,

Let the earth spin on its axis,

Let the moons orbit the planets,

Let the planets orbit the Sun,

Let the Sun spiral in its galaxy,

Let the galaxies revolve around their Creator,

Together for joy!

From the small to the great, and from the great to the small,
sing to God, for God has done marvelous things.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Author of creation: In wisdom you brought forth all that is, to participate in your divine being, and to change, adapt, and grow in freedom. You make holy the matter and energy of the universe that it may delight you and give you praise. We thank you for gathering all creation into your heart by the energy of your Spirit and bringing it through death to resurrection glory; through the One in whom all things have their being, Jesus Christ, your Wisdom and your Word. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:21-28a

Don't you know? Haven't you heard?

Wasn't it announced to you from the beginning?

Haven't you understood since the earth was founded?

God inhabits the earth's horizon—its inhabitants are like locusts—

stretches out the skies like a curtain and spreads it out like a tent for dwelling.

God makes dignitaries useless and the earth's judges into nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely is their shoot rooted in the earth

when God breathes on them, and they dry up;

the windstorm carries them off like straw.

So to whom will you compare me, and who is my equal? says the holy one.

Look up at the sky and consider:

Who created these?

The one who brings out their attendants one by one, summoning each of them by name.

Because of God's great strength

and mighty power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, Jacob, and declare, Israel,

"My way is hidden from the Lord, my God ignores my predicament"?

Don't you know? Haven't you heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth.

God doesn't grow tired or weary.

God's understanding is beyond human reach,

giving power to the tired and reviving the exhausted.

Youths will become tired and weary, young people will certainly stumble;

but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength;

they will fly up on wings like eagles; they will run and not be tired; they will walk and not be weary.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 98:1-4

(in unison)

¹ Sing a new song to God * who has done marvelous things.

² With your right hand, O God, and your arm,* you have won for yourself the victory.

³ You have made known your victory; *

your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of the nations.

⁴ You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,*

and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

THE GOSPEL

John 3:16-17

While this Scripture has been used as a way to “scare” people into a relationship with Jesus. In its original context, the Gospel writer was emphasizing that Jesus came to bring new life and hope to the world. A relationship with Jesus is an invitation to abundance; it’s not a scare tactic against hell.

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

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

God so loved the world that God gave God’s only Son, so that everyone who trusts in God won’t perish but will have eternal life. God didn’t send God’s Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Maria A. Kane

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith in the Triune God, the One who was, and is, and is to come.

All **You, O God, are supreme and holy.**

You create our world and give us life.

Your purpose overarches everything we do.

You have always been with us.

You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.

You came to us before we came to you.

**You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.**

You are with us now.

You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.

You empower us to be your gospel in the world.

You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We worship you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor

Caring God, we thank you for your gifts in creation:

for our world,

the heavens tell of your glory;

for our land, its beauty and its resources,

for the rich heritage we enjoy.

We pray:

for those who make decisions about the resources of the earth,

that we may use your gifts responsibly;

for those who work on the land and sea, in city and in industry,
that all may enjoy the fruits of their labors and marvel at your creation;
for artists, scientists and visionaries,
that through their work we may see creation afresh.

We thank you for giving us life;
for all who enrich our experience.

Silence

We pray:
for all who are deprived of fullness of life,
for prisoners, refugees, and those who are sick;
for those in politics, medical science, social and relief work, and for your Church, including the Diocesan Strategic Plan,
for all who seek to bring life to others.

Silence

We thank you that you have called us to celebrate your creation.
Give us reverence for life in your world.

We thank you for your redeeming love;
may your word strengthen us to love as you love us.

Silence

God, Creator, bring us new life.
Jesus, Redeemer, renew us.
Holy Spirit, strengthen and guide us.

*Please add your intercessions and thanksgivings, silently or aloud.
The Celebrant will add a concluding collect.*

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon God has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent, turn to Christ in faith and are themselves forgiving. In silence we call to mind our sins.

Silence

Let us confess our sins.

All **Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you.
We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation:
teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.
We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life.
We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control.
We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent
now for its protection. Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the
power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION

Celebrant 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All **And also with you.**

"TOGETHER FOR JOY" ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Birthday Prayer

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.

Anniversary Prayer

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; Lord God of our Mothers: Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

(a period of silence is kept)

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Upon the presentation of the bread and wine:

Behold you are: **may we become what we receive.**

THE COMMUNION

You may be seated. The Celebrant will bring the bread to your seat. We will not share wine at this time. This is called "Communion in one kind," and it is a full measure of grace.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for feeding us with this bread. May it strengthen us that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

THE DISMISSAL

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners: Lorraine Berry, Fred Ritter, Darlene & Joe Guy, Butch Keirse, Joyce Lyon, Dorothy Moore, Pam Smith, Laraine Tuttle, Re-Gathering Team

Homebound: Sally Barley, Donna Boswell, Diane Coon, Jack & Joyce Ferguson, Rodgers Johnson, Shauna Lavender, Lois Keech, Margaret Leman, Tom May, Jennie Purrington

Family and Friends: Rev. Larry H., Pat H., Harold W., Stephen H., Crystal V., Janet W., Val B., Andy and Beth M., Colleen

Armed Forces: Cameron Chase, Bebe Frierson, Zach Kettner, Megan Laurine, Casey Mills, Nate Ochsner, Garrett Roberson, Jr., Connor Runser

First Responders: Matt Backman, Liz Caswell, Chris Cox, Jimmy Cox, James Laurine, Kenny Levy, Jason Lyon, Pat Lyon, Luke Smith

NEXT OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, October 25, 11:00 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop of Washington

The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen, Assisting Bishop of Washington

The Rev. Dr. Maria A. Kane, Rector

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